

Cooperation with Other Governments; Neutral Europe; Sweden, Vol. 1, Folder 2

000830

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

HM-665

PLAIN

Stockholm via London

Dated October 18, 1944

Rec'd. 11:14 a.m., 19th

*Over Ref B4  
Mr. Bell*

*File*

Secretary of State

Washington

4235, eighteenth

**CONTROL COPY**

Swedish politics today's Nazi DAGSPOSTEN is only paper mentioning Communist NYDAGS article yesterday concerning inter alia American role in Baltic refugee developments, see our 4219. Article headlined "NYDAG demands lives of 30,000 Balts" and subheadings are "Moscow organ attacks Government and American Legation" and "Baltic refugees are war criminals! sensational reproach of American Legation". DAGSPOSTEN writes Bolshevism's and Cheka's threat drove these people from their national home and subjected them terrible hardships. Swedish Moscow organs violent attack on Sweden's care these refugees obviously inspired from higher up. NYDAG openly admits Balts have fled from Germans thereby indirectly conceding twas fear of Bolsheviks which caused flight. What particularly irritated NYDAG - is what irritates papers foreign principal - is fact considerable numbers  
Baltic

000831

-2-, #4235, eighteenth, from Stockholm via London

Baltic intelligentsia including politicians intellectuals industrialists obtained Swedish asylum. NYDAG'S wrath understandable. Cheka's presumptive victims escaped and NYDAG threatens Sweden with Moscow's wrath because this allowed occur. Not leastly sensational in NYDAG'S inspired article is tone used towards American Legation. Paper accuses Legation of having participated in particularly effective manner in Baltic national opposition's activity and in connection organization Balts flight from Bolsheviks. NYDAG reports one Minister or recently proclaimed Estonian National Government is Legation employee and Baltic emigration financed with 900,000 kroner from Legation. This information which must presuppose NYDAG'S been apprised of inside goings on at American Legation via special channels to another Legation isn't exactly unsensational. Moscow organ, moreover, orders Minister Johnson to answer serious charges made while paper simultaneously has effrontery maintain that from Swedish viewpoint it is plain these machinations must be condemned. This delicate affairs further development awaited with interest.

JOHNSON

BB

100832

RECEIVED OF MEMORANDUM RECEIVED

*I was R/H H-P*

*File*

FROM: AMLEGATION, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: October 18, 1944  
NUMBER: 4231

**CONTROL COPY**

U. URGENT

Our press telegram 4219, dated the 17th embodied the translation of an article in the October 17 NY DAG, a newspaper of the Swedish Communist movement. This article attacked the Swedish Government and involved the Legation.

The baselessness of the charges will be noted by the Department. It appears that the paper is trying to provoke me into making a statement, which <sup>action</sup> appears unnecessary to me, and unless there should be additional developments which would appear to make it advisable to reverse my decision, I propose to make no reply. In this Legation there is no employee who was or could have been an Estonian Government member. A daughter of Laretel, who was formerly Estonian Minister to Sweden, is a telephone operator here. It is believed that at present one of the Estonians who made up the September 20 government referred to in article three is in Sweden, but I am advised that since last June none of my staff members has been in touch with any of them even personally.

Estonian evacuation to Sweden has involved several organizations and has been on a considerable scale. The role which War Refugee Board representative here played in rescuing victims of Nazi oppression from Baltic countries was on a entirely nonpolitical basis and was quantitatively smaller by comparison. In rescue operations of the

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

100833

representative of SAS, which are designed to facilitate the rescue of victims of Nazi oppression, the refugees' attitude toward the USSR has not even been considered.

In separate press telegram Legation is reporting a long article in DAGPOSTEN, a Nazi newspaper of this mornings date in which the NY DAG article is quoted.

From Estonian source Legation was already in receipt of report that Swedish officials are currently being urged by Swedish Legation at Stockholm to (1) prevent Baltic leaders domiciled in Sweden from contacting Baltic refugee camps in Sweden and (2) to secure recognition of Soviet citizenship or at least stateless state of Baltic refugees by Swedish Government. Possibly the present article is part of this campaign; a warning against complicity in Baltic politics may be its purpose. From our viewpoint it is a provocative lie in any case.

JOHNSON

10-26-44

JCR:EMS

RECEIVED  
OCT 31 1944  
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE  
REFUGEE DIVISION  
RECEIVED

000034

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

TK-398

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

PLAIN

Stockholm via London

Dated October 17, 1944

Rec'd 8:20 p.m. 18th

*was Ref Bd  
Mr. Pehle  
als*

Secretary of State

Washington

X  
4219, Seventeenth.

**CONTROL COPY**

Swedish politics today's NYDAG frontpagedly carries following article under heading "Baltic Fascists in Large Numbers to Sweden" and subheading "Swedish Authorities and American Legation as Organizers?" During present year in neutral Sweden an extensive pro-Fascist and anti-Soviet Baltic organization has been secretly developed. Its chief purpose is conspiracy against USSR by organizing political centers in collaboration with German and Swedish Nazis and some simple anti-Communist "democrats" to conduct hostile propaganda against USSR and organize emigration from Baltic States to Sweden. Thus far approximately 30,000 Balts been received Sweden as refugees. Some are harmless people who have taken opportunity escape war and eat full meal in Sweden. Such elements should enjoy available help and receive work and obviously they can be sent home when peaceful reconstruction era arrives. They unconstitute essential problem which is Fascist

7 0 0 8 3 5

-2- #4219, Seventeenth, from Stockholm

Fascist core of Baltic emigration consisting persons intending remain Swedish. They will become Baltic irredentists and center for anti-Soviet politics which will harm and irritate Swedish policy and interests in east. Everyone knows how badly Swedish authorities treated anti-Fascist refugees during early years and it is only recently they have received better treatment. Situation entirely different regarding Baltic refugees and Swedish authorities facilitated their journey every possible way. Reliable information indicates Swedish authorities positively assisted in organization Baltic emigration to Sweden. 6000 to 7000 Estonian Swedes shipped here with German approval. Estonians and Latvians selected by leaders of organization in Sweden been brought here according plan. Swedish General Staff ought explain why special "reception officer" sent Gothland and what his instructions are regarding Baltic refugees. Swedish Navy permits itself be photographed by press connection its strenuous services rendered Baltic refugee boats. Such boats have come here, unloaded and received fuel for return journey. It would be proper for Government state what is occurred and what's correct regarding all this. Socialistic Republics, Estonia, Lithuania following plebiscites been annexed to USSR over 4 years. Swedish Government acknowledged this status de facto and de jure. How can Swedish Government permit or perhaps allow

7 0 0 8 3 0

-3- #4219, Seventeenth, from Stockholm

allow Swedish authorities to collaborate with deportation organized in Sweden of populations from Soviet territories? Twon't do offer excuse that it's from German-occupied areas where from refugees been saved because most of them for over three years adjusted themselves to German occupation and only just as Germans were driven out felt they ought flee. Prominentest refugees were well regarded by Germans wherefore this isn't generally a flight from Germans. (Following under subheading "American Legation Involved" is direct quotation): When Estonia was liberated from Germans and Republic's lawful government returned to Tallinn a "national" phantom government suddenly arose in Estonia; that is to say Estonian people have never seen this "government" but Swedish press obligingly played it up as a political reality. Since then, however, nothing's been heard of Government in question but our investigations into matter led us to American Legation Stockholm (Three preceding words underscored) where an Estonian employer has same name as one of "Ministers" of phantom government. It's definitely stated to be a case of one and the same person. On this score a statement by American Minister Mr. Herschel Johnson is eminently desirable. It is indeed a question of relations vis-a-vis United States' great ally. American Minister ought at same time tell public whether it was with his knowledge

7 0 0 8 3 7

-4- #1219, Seventeenth, from Stockholm

his knowledge that over 900,000 Swedish kronor (amount underscored) have been paid by an employee of his Legation for the organization of Baltic emigration to Sweden. We must presuppose that the minister is unaware of matter and we hope our information will cause him to investigate what kind of business a number of his employees are conducting. (Following concluding paragraph is italicized) What has been said above will suffice for today. We await with interest what Swedish Government and American Minister have to say in matter. From Swedish viewpoint it's plain these machinations must be condemned. We don't have to concern ourselves with the view that emigration of 30,000 to 40,000 Balts-and Finns-is going to complicate the solution of postwar employment problems but we can keep exclusively to question of political consequences which must be involved when Sweden houses a counter-revolutionary reservoir if we wish to have reason enough for condemning this entire traffic.

JOHNSON

LMS

100832

*B. Van Dyke*  
*Pelle*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: September 29, 1944  
NUMBER: 3959  
x

**CONTROL COPY**

According to the agent of British Secret Service handling matters in connection with Norway, he has been informed by Dr. Malm, new director of Norwegian Legation's "Sambandskontoret" that the Government of Sweden will not allow Quisling refugees to come into Sweden from Norway after October 1. In addition, Dr. Malm stated that the Swedes are going to install two new refugee reception camps near the frontier of Sweden and Norway.

In an effort to decide whether they shall be rejected and handed over to the Swedish police or accepted as loyal Norwegians, the cases of all refugees who have been found by preliminary investigation to be of questionable character will be reviewed by a committee made up of Dr. Malm and two other members of the Norwegian Legation.

Our informant was advised by Dr. Malm that he calculated that in order to evade compulsory labor conscription in Norway, 3,000 young men had gone into hiding. Around 1,200 had entered Sweden of this total. A certain number found it possible to obtain work on farms, among those remaining in Norway. It is known, however, that a sizable part of these refugees were ranging the Bushrod Territory. They have set up an organization

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By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

000030

No. 3959 - page #2

up an organization which operates independently, raiding towns to secure food and even stealing 200,000 kroner in cash from a bank recently.

JOHNSON

DGR:GPM

9-30-44

000840

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF

1944 AUG 17 PM 2 40  
AIRGRAM

COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS  
(LIAISON)

From

Stockholm

Dated: August 7, 1944

Rec'd August 17, 1944 8 am

~~RESTRICTED~~

Secretary of State,

Washington.

A-708, August 7, 12 noon.

Reference is made to the Department's circular airgram dated July 17, 1944, 9:20 a.m.

There are listed below all telegrams sent through June 30 in the interest of the War Refugee Board. Telegrams sent thereafter in the Board's interest will be taken up in the accounts of the Legation for reimbursement by the Board.

List of Telegrams Sent to the Department

<u>Number</u>	<u>Date</u> - 1944
480	February 13
481	" 13
503	" 15
784	March 7
908	" 16
1126	April 3
1164	" 5
1181	" 7
1209	" 8
1235	" 11
1236	" 11
1255	" 13
1271	" 14
1289	" 15
1342	" 18
1345	" 18
1355	" 19

000841

- 2 - A-708, August 7, 12 noon

Stockholm A-708

<u>Number</u>	<u>Date</u>
1379	April 21
1382	" 21
1433	" 24
1435	" 24
1534	May 1
1565	" 3
1583	" 5
1622	" 8
1628	" 8
1667	" 11
1668	" 12
1689	" 12
1719	" 15 (Charged to Treasury Dept. on voucher No. 196 in June accounts)
1738	" 16
1740	" 16
1744	" 16
1771	" 19
1772	" 19
1820	" 22
1859	" 25
1877	" 25
1926	" 31
1952	July 1
1966	" 2
1967	" 2
2009	" 5
2028	" 6
2037	" 7
2069	" 9
2098	" 12
2100	" 12
2113	" 12
2120	" 13
2122	" 13
2187	" 17
2215	" 20
2224	" 20
2231	" 21
2238	" 21
2239	" 21
2271	" 23
2277	" 23

000842

- 3 A-708, August 7, 12 noon

Stockholm A-708

<u>Number</u>	<u>Date</u>
2300	June 26
2316	" 26
2343	" 27
2344	" 27
2360	" 28
2362	" 28
2381	" 30
2382	" 30
2388	" 30
2396	" 30

List of Other Telegrams Sent

<u>Number</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Destination</u>
2	May 3	Ankara
12	June 30	Lisbon

JOHNSON

LV 1:ao

100843

WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

WAR REFUGEE BOARD PLATON WASHINGTON, D. C.

1944 AUG 7 PM 2 50

Stockholm via London  
1944 AUG 8 AM 11 16  
Dated August 5, 1944

Rec'd 2:10 p.m., 6th.

**CONTROL COPY**

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

2958, Fifth.

Swedish politics UPSALA NYA states foreign power acquiring control of Aalands would be favorable position for attacking Sweden and could seriously impair Swedish Navy movements. Aalands from barrier between Bothnian Gulf and Baltic so important any one controlling barrier could close sea routes on both sides. 1921 Aalands Convention prescribes signatories should appear League Nations Council should risk arise of convention being unobserved. Literally interpreted this means Sweden would be legal ground for and might be obliged to make representations in present threatening situation. Such representations would be addressed Britain and Russia (six). Germany needn't be considered because it withdrew from League Nations. Safeguarding Aalands may demand swift action. British seapower is presently barred from Baltic and same applies Russia

*File (Mr. Pehle)*

000844

-2- #2958, August 5, from Stockholm via London.

applies Russia while Finnish Gulf still contested. Formally can be said Britain Russia Finland as belligerents aren't entitled safeguard Aaland's neutrality. Sweden from juridical and practical viewpoints is power best suited for assuming task. Such attitude by Sweden with British Russian approval could benefit those parties and also Finland which seeking leave war. Germany from international law standpoint couldn't regard Swedish military guarantee for Aalands neutrality as hostile act.

TIDNINGEN referring reports regarding possible German occupation Aalands to safeguard iron ore traffic between Luleaa and Germany states motive cited reveals utter ignorance actual conditions in Baltic. Actually for as long as it's compatible with Swedish commercial interests to export iron ore from Luleaa to Germany traffic whether by Swedish or German ships may proceed inside Swedish territorial waters from Luleaa to Blekinge coast and is or ought to be immune to belligerent measures. Traffic is protected by Swedish neutrality patrols in sea and air. South of Oeland and Blettinge traffic must cross international waters where it subject attack without Swedish neutrality being violated. German occupation Aaland for purpose safeguarding ore

000845

-3- #2958, August 5, from Stockholm via London.

safeguarding ore traffic thus totally unnecessary. Presence German troops and naval and air forces in Aaland even if allegedly concerning protection military transports might easily develop into action directed against Sweden. Same thing applies to possible Russian attempt occupy Aalands and to Russian attacks on shipping in Swedish waters. If Sweden's commercial interest in exporting ore to Germany should cease which would be case if German coal exports to Sweden terminated by Russian advance into upper Silesia, then ore traffic would cease. This would remove objective for Russian attacks which in 1942 caused repeated violation Swedish neutrality. While traffic continues, however, southern Baltic is only area where under international law, Russians may attack traffic. It's German problem meet that threat.

SVENSK UTRIKSHANDEL. General Swedish Export Association organ discussing post-war Swedish Russian trade states Russian purchases Sweden will be limited certain specialties if Russia continues receiving American Lend-Lease shipments. Reportedly Americans now contemplate extending arrangement for two years after war's termination. If extension effected, it will seriously affect Sweden's trade.

Conference

000846

-4- #2958, August 5, from Stockholm via London.

Conference resolution advocating early liquidation  
BIS states Bank badly misused by Germans and urges  
Sweden sever its relations with Bank. Matter now  
immediately important as Bank's two British members  
haven't resigned. Only neutral representative on  
board is Swedish Riksbanks head Ivar Rooth. When  
British directors signal their intention retire,  
Swedish representative also ought resign because it's  
wiser leave voluntarily than be thrown out. /X

During past few days over two hundred Estonian  
refugees arrived Gotland in small boats and this week's  
total expected exceed four hundred. Refugees include  
all classes but many seem prosperous.

Two Liberators and three Mustangs landed Skanme  
yesterday with crew members practically uninjured.

JOHNSON

LMS

000847

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

War Ref  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

DSH-490  
Distribution of  
true reading only by  
special arrangement.  
[REDACTED]

Stockholm

Dated July 21, 1944

Rec'd 5 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
JUL 22 1944  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

for Security Information  
to be sent to the  
Director of Security  
Information  
[REDACTED]

Bd  
(m  
Belle)

2716, July 21, 5 p.m.

THIS IS OUR NO. 58 FOR WRB.

Have heard nothing further concerning remittance  
of \$10,000 mentioned in WRB 38. (Department's 1313  
of July 1, 9 p.m.). Also nothing further concerning  
\$50,000 mentioned in WRB 41 (Department's 1353 of  
July 7, 7 p.m.). Chief Rabbi Ehrenpreis has heard  
nothing concerning \$10,000 mentioned in WRB 44  
(Department's 1351, July 7, 5 p.m.). Please advise  
if there has been any change of status as to the  
availability of these funds.

Wallenberg has now been in Budapest for approxi-  
mately a week.

JOHNSON

RB  
WTD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
JUL 23 1944  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

000040

DEPARTMENT

This telegram must be paraphrased before being transmitted to anyone other than a Government agency. (UNPROTECTED)

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

July 3, 1944  
8 P.M.

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

**CONTROL COPY**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
JULY 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

AMLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM.  
1337

FOR THE MINISTER.

The Governments of the United States and Great Britain have agreed, in furtherance of their joint policy to use every available means consistent with the successful prosecution of the war to bring about the rescue of victims of enemy oppression in imminent danger of death, jointly to approach the Swedish Government in regard to the reception and care of refugees with a view to renewing assurances previously made concerning additional imports, if needed, to assist the Swedish Government in meeting the needs of refugees admitted to Sweden.

After conferring with your British colleague, who has already received general instructions in the matter, a joint approach should be made to the Swedish Government in the sense of the following:

QUOTE The Governments of the United States and Great Britain desire to confirm the statements made in the joint communication from the two Governments dated January 19, 1944 in regard to increases in Swedish blockade quotas, if required, in the event that it should become possible for the Swedish Government

000844

-2- #1327, July 3, 8 p.m., to Stockholm.

Government to afford asylum to additional children evacuated from Germany or German-occupied territories.

The Governments of the United States and Great Britain wish to express again their admiration for the humanitarian policy followed by the Swedish Government in affording asylum to refugees, both child and adult, from Denmark, Finland, and other areas under German domination and wish to renew assurances previously made that should the Swedish Government so desire, the Governments of the United States and Great Britain are ready to give prompt and sympathetic consideration to requests for increases in Swedish blockade quotas in order to ease the burden on Swedish resources resulting from the temporary care of refugees already received in Sweden and those who may subsequently be received under the liberal and humanitarian Swedish policy in this regard. UNQUOTE.

A similar joint approach is being made to the Government of Switzerland. Joint approaches also are being made to the Governments of Turkey, Spain, and Portugal expressing the hope that they will adopt a more liberal policy as regards the reception and temporary care of refugees and offering to arrange for the provision of such additional imports and funds

-3- #1327, July 3, 3 p.m., to Stockholm.

as may be required to ease the burden on local resources arising  
from the care of such refugees as may be received.

HULL  
(GLE)

S:P:EDK:EHJ

7-1-44

NOE

WRB

S/CR

BC

EIT

000851

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

**CONTROL COPY**  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

BE-420  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. ( [redacted] W)

Stockholm  
Dated June 23, 1944  
Rec'd 3:20 a.m., 24th

*(Mr. Bible)*

Secretary of State  
Washington

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

2277, June 23, 11 p.m.  
FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Legation has fully communicated to and discussed  
with Foreign Office contents of WRB circulares 14th  
and 15th and is exploring with Swedish Government  
all possible means by which further aid in the rescue  
and relief of victims of enemy persecution can be given  
by it. Foreign Office has not made reply before several  
days holiday commencing today but has promised prompt  
answer.

JOHNSON

BB RR

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

700852

MMS

Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (S) (W)

June 23, 1944

Noon

AMLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM  
1246

The cable below for Olsen is no. 30 of War Refugee Board  
and refers to your 27 (2098 to Department) of June 12.

You do not indicate whether Department's 950, Board's  
10, of May 19 from Kubowitzki was delivered to Storch and,  
if not, the reasons for nondelivery. In any case, would  
appreciate receipt Bohm report earliest possible opportunity.  
Regarding business man about to take trip, it may be possible  
to contact through him apparently appropriate persons con-  
fidentially to ascertain whether they are able to help.  
The following have been suggested to us as possibilities,  
though nothing is known of their present views or associa-  
tions, and if man in question is entirely reliable, you  
might consider asking him to talk with them. We believe  
them to have been given to us in good faith by persons deeply  
interested in the problem, but we cannot assure reliability  
of descriptions given. The names and descriptions are: In or  
near Budapest: (1) Dr. Sandor Ember, Parliament member said  
to be well connected with various present government members  
and prepared to intervene if well paid; (2) Dr. Bertalan  
Gecse, alleged to have good connections with many government  
officials including some ministers and to be trustworthy; (3)  
Dr. Lajos Huezovsky, said to be member of present government  
who, for a consideration, may be helpful; (4) Kalman Konkoly-Thege, member  
of Parliament, and wife, said to have good connections with  
various members of present government; (5) Margit Schlachte,  
alleged to be member of Parliament high in Catholic councils  
and with much influence in Catholic quarters; (6) Count or  
Baron Anton Szigiel or Szigray, said to be aristocrat with  
substantial means who is probably not in sympathy with  
excesses; (7) Count Andor Telski, who is said to be Chairman  
Office for Foreign Trade unless recently removed; (8) Graf  
Lajos Kalman Tizza, said to be broad-minded aristocrat, related  
to Northy by marriage and stepson of Ivan Rakovsky, former  
Interior Minister whom he dislikes; and (9) Jeno Vasarhelyi,  
alleged to be president Kispest Textile Works, who is in  
close collaboration with Germans but probably be willing to  
aid in exchange for compensation and future security assurances.  
In or near Gyor: László Fejes, alleged to know farmers  
and to be agile organizer; contacts being made through his

capacity, executive

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter 1-11-73

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

000853

capacity, executive Magyarovar Manure Manufacturing Company. He is stated to have operated Jewish labor camp on humanitarian basis and likely to be willing for adequate compensation to organize secret refuges. In or near Szolnok: (1) Dr. Imre Muryadi, stated to be lawyer having close connections with present government; (2) Gyorgy Vitez Sebo, alleged to be Shell Oil Company agent, good organizer and favorably known to district military and civilian officials. In or near Miskolc: Dr. Janos Soltesz, stated to have good connections with present government although not in accord with excesses thereof.

The foregoing should, of course, be checked against any information you have available. It is possible that additional names with no other message will be sent you periodically.

If exploration of these possibilities can be undertaken by business man please advise Board. If not, kindly advise regarding possibility of other means of exploration.

HULL  
(GLW)

WRB:MMV:KG  
6/20/44

NOR

SE

S/CR

A-B

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akain, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gasto, Hodel, Laughlin, Legger, Lufford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Penle, Sargoy, Siandish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files.

000854

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

June 21, 1944

8 p.m.

REPRODUCTION OF THIS  
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arrangement. (W)

*5 - War Ref  
Bd (m)  
Pihle*

RECEIVED  
JUN 22 1944

ALLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM,

1236 \*

The following WRB cable no. 29 is for Olsen from  
the War Refugee Board.

Otto Rahl, Rindögatan 16, Stockholm, reported  
experienced in assisting Nazi oppression victims by  
obtaining proof of Central American nationality for  
them. Reliability cannot be assured. You may make  
use of his assistance, should you deem it desirable,  
if you feel satisfied after making complete investigation.

HULL  
(GLW)

WRB:MMV:KG  
6/20/44

HLC

NOE

S/CR

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

000855

DMR-902  
Distribution of true reading  
only by special arrangement  
( )

Stockholm

Dated June 21, 1944

Rec'd 2:00 p.m.

Secretary of State  
Washington  
U.S. URGENT

2231, June 21, 1 p.m.

X  
Please repeat to War Refugee Board as Legation's  
number 31.

Mr. Boheman has informed me that Mr. Raoul Wallenberg will be appointed an Attache to the Swedish Legation at Budapest for the specific purpose of following and reporting on situation with respect to persecution of Jews and minorities. It is likewise intention of Foreign Office to secure if possible an appointment as representative of other Swedish Red Cross for Professor Maltz, a Swede who is now teaching in University of Budapest. Professor Maltz will not be connected with Swedish Legation but will cooperate closely with Wallenberg (by 2069, June 9, 6 p.m.). As Wallenberg's functions in Budapest will be purely official and he has for time of appointment severed all business connections, Boheman does not anticipate any trouble in his securing the necessary visa. He said if the visa is refused the Swedish Government will simply refuse in turn to receive the Hungarian Charge d'Affaires. Mr. Boheman made it clear that Foreign Office and his government are disposed to cooperate as fully as possible in all humanitarian endeavors and the appointment of this Attache is undoubtedly an evidence of official Swedish desire to conform to the wishes expressed in Department's telegram 1010, May 25, 2 p.m.

Olsen and I are of opinion that War Refugee Board should be considering ways and means of implementing this action of Swedish Government particularly with respect to financial support it may be possible to arrange for any concrete rescue and relief progress which may be developed.

JOHNSON

WTD  
EFH

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Sargoy, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H.D. White, Files

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

Classification of this  
document is by special  
arrangement

Dated June 17, 1944

Paul Phillips

Secretary of State

Washington

2167 June 17 2 p.m. (SECTION 088)

X

Will be enumerated principal features of John's report of the situation in Hungary which has been forwarded airmail by pouch leaving here June 20.

This is per 58 for MEM supplementing par 27 (Legation's 2068 June 12 P a m)

Number of refugees in Hungary estimated to require relief and protection placed at more than one million. Group comprises following citizens:

Political refugees, Social Democrats, 1. Serial Communists and others, three thousand.

Esc. Hungarian Jews who escaped from German Austria, Slovakia, Romania and other neighboring countries, twenty thousand.

Hungarian Jews, eight hundred thousand, plus an additional two hundred thousand involved through Bessarabia and other lands and deserts.

Polish citizens and Polish soldiers, were approximately twenty thousand but impossible to determine how many are still alive.

Official regulations against Jews issued through May include dispossession of flats, confiscation of cash and securities; dispossession of agricultural properties, personal and house hold effects, closing of approximately forty five thousand stores; destruction of all books by Jewish authors, conscription of all persons between 18 and 49 for forced labor.

All committees have been instructed to take their Jewish population in concentration camps and ghettos.

A secretary of

JOHNSON

RJA WMB  
CC Sec'y, Abrahamson, Kahn, Barnstein, Cohn, Dubois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lerner, Luxford, Mann, Hannon, Marks, McCormack, Sargoy, Smith, Stauden, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fohle, Wilcox.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

SSK - 468  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement ( )

Stockholm

Dated June 17, 1944

Rec'd 8:10 p.m.

Secretary of State  
Washington

2187 June 17, 6 p.m. (SECTION TWO)

State for Jewish Affairs personally made tours of inspection to determine whether regulations were carried out, thereafter made public announcements of great success of program. It was announced that 320,000 Jews had been placed in concentration camps in provincial areas east of Theis. Reports of cruelty, torture, murders and suicides appear confirmed.

Swedish Foreign Office has, in approximately 800 individual cases, instructed its Legation in Budapest to advise Hungarian authorities that such persons have protection of Swedish Government and have been promised entry visas. This has been helpful in certain cases, in others of no avail.

Following recommendations are made in report as to rescue operations:

To have neutral countries, on basis of Hungarian official declaration that its Jewish problem can only be solved by evacuation of this element, offer to supply haven for these refugees and to assist in their evacuation. It is not considered likely that Hungarians would permit politically compromised Jews to depart, but there is a chance they would permit other groups in which neutral countries have expressed a protective interest to depart, also others who are eligible to go to Palestine, and still other groups to be determined by negotiations. Evacuation would require some bargaining with certain German officials and evacuation operation in general unquestionably will be expensive.

JOHNSON

WSE  
RHP

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Lufford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormac, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

FIG. 484  
Distribution of true read-  
ing only by special ar-  
rangement. (SECRET)

Stockholm

Dated June 17, 1944

Rec'd 8:47 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

2:57, June 17, 3 p.m. (SECTION THREE)

Report contains following suggestions for relief operations:

Food and medicine is of tremendous urgency for people in concentration camps and ghettos, much of which could be obtained locally if properly organized. Similarly, distribution of local currency for needy cases would be most helpful. Much of the activity can be coordinated through a temporary committee designated by Minister of Interior on May 13 for management of Jewish problems, called Committee of the Union of Hungarian Jews. It presided over by Samu Stern, Chairman of the Jewish community in Budapest, and Peto Kovacs as Vice President. Committee members are Karoly Wilhelm, Bela Herand (Chief Rabbi), Rabbi Samu Kahana Frank, Pulop Obudai Freundig Gaor (?) (Freudiger) (President of the local Jewish community), Hauder Korak (author), Dr. Jose F. Nagy (head physician of the Jewish Hospital) and Dr. Janos Gabor (attorney).

(END OF MESSAGE).

JOHNSON

HS  
EVE

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel,  
Laughlin, Lesser, Lurford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Sargey, Smith, Standish,  
Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

June 7, 1944

1 p.m.

*114*  
This telegram must be  
paraphrased before being  
communicated to anyone  
other than a member of  
staff.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
JUN 9 1944  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

**CONTROL COPY**

AMLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM.

1140 X

From War Refugee Board for Johnson for Olsen.

War Refugee Board has no assigned jurisdiction at present in general field mentioned in your 1719 May 15 (WRB no. 13). This is WRB Stockholm cable no. 19.

Assuming that your questions have to do with Europe generally exclusive of Sweden and other neutral countries problems will be handled by military authorities, UNRRA and Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees all of whom have had discussions and made plans.

✓  
STETTINIUS  
ACTING  
(GHW)

S/CR

WRB:GLW:KG  
6/5/44

NOE

LA

11095

CABLE TO STOCKHOLM

From War Refugee Board to Johnson for Olsen

According to present arrangements and understandings,  
general problems mentioned in your no. 1719, May 15, (WRB no. 13) will  
be handled by military authorities, UNRRA and IGC, all of  
whom have had discussions and made plans. At present WRB  
has no assigned jurisdiction in <sup>general</sup> fields mentioned.  
THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 19

\*\*\*\*\*  
May 23, 1944  
10:05 a.m.

*aa*  
Abrahamson: PH:lab 5/19/44

000861

*War Ref Bd  
Mr. Pelt  
Kopyone*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Stockholm  
DATED: May 23, 1944  
NUMBER: 984<sup>x</sup>



To Johnson For Olsen From War Refugee Board

Reference your No. 1622, May 8, concerning request for funds for two Swedish committees with which Rabbi Ehrenpreis has been working. The matter has been discussed with several American organizations. Feeling here is that relief and rescue activities with respect to refugees in Rumania, Slovakia, Hungary and southern France can most effectively be handled from Switzerland to which large sums are being remitted regularly from the United States for such purposes. Would appreciate your views on this subject. In the meantime, American organizations very interested possibilities accelerated rescue and relief work from Sweden in Poland and Baltic area and funds will be available for that purpose. Please discuss again with Ehrenpreis and report possibilities and amount needed.

DOA  
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C  
RECEIVED  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
WASHINGTON D.C.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO STOCKHOLM NO. 15

HULL

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

000862

CABLE TO STOCKHOLM

From War Refugee Board to Johnson for Glean

Reference your no. 1622, May 8, concerning request for funds for two Swedish committees with which Rabbi Ehrenpreis has been working. The matter has been discussed with several American organizations. Feeling here is that relief and rescue activities with respect to refugees in Rumania, Slovakia, Hungary and southern France can most effectively be handled from Switzerland to which large sums are being remitted regularly from the United States for such purposes. Would appreciate your views on this subject. In the meantime, American organizations very interested possibilities accelerated rescue and relief work from Sweden in Poland and Baltic area and funds will be available for that purpose. Please discuss again with Ehrenpreis and report possibilities and amount needed.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO STOCKHOLM NO. 15

\*\*\*\*\*  
May 20, 1944  
2:30 P.M.

JK LSK

FH:lab 5/19/44  
LSL

100863

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*War Ref. Bd. File*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

VMT-126

PLAIN

Stockholm

Dated May 15, 1944

Rec'd 9:25 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

<sup>X</sup>1719, fifteenth.

Our No. 13. FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

The question is frequently raised here as to what concern the WRB will have with the problems of bringing immediate relief to the European refugee groups at the moment hostilities cease, as is generally known the bulk of these refugees will be in critical need of medical attention, of food and clothing and of housing. Thousands of them will want to return to their homelands immediately and will cause a tremendous transportation problem. Thousands of others will be looking for new domiciles. It is generally considered here that failure to have a plan prepared for immediate action will result in losses of thousands of lives, since these people are dying off so rapidly that even a month's neglect will mean substantial losses. Accordingly there are numerous Swedish organizations engaged in promulgating plans for immediate postwar action. The Swedish

Government

000864

-2- #1719, fifteenth, from Stockholm

Government itself has made a large appropriation for these purposes and has appointed a commission to develop programs. They are obviously interested in what the United States is planning along similar lines, and would like to cooperate. It is not clear to us what we should advance at the War Refugee Board jurisdictional field in these activities as contrasted with UNRRA or IGC. Please instruct.

JOHNSON

HTM

100865

*was Refugee Ed  
mvp  
1 copy only*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: May 8, 1944  
NUMBER: 1822  
X

**CONTROL COPY**

Following is for attention of WRB, and refers to our telegram No. 8.

Marcus Zhrenpreis, Chief Rabbi of Sweden, and I have held extensive discussions. At present he is presiding over two Swedish committees which are actively engaged in relief operations for Jews in Europe, a special committee for saving Jewish children, and executive Committee for Relief of Jews in Europe. Approximately half a million kronor have been expended on following activities in recent years:

One. Relief for Rumanian Jews. Providing refugees returning to Rumania from Transmistria with substantial amounts of local currency which enabled them to purchase necessities, was most recent help. With good prospects, efforts are being made now to expand this activity into Bulgaria and Hungary.

Two. Assistance to Jews in Poland through contact in Cracow with Judi Scheunter Schutzungstelle. Shipment of paper clothing and medicine in March 1944 was most recent help.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972 Three.

000866

Three. Local currency, food parcels and medicine are sent to the Resienstadt, to refugee groups in Shanghai, to Jewish refugees living in Italy, Germany, and France, and to Jewish prisoners of war in Finland.

Four. Jewish children in Rumania, Slovakia, Hungary, southern France, and Shanghai are given assistance. Much of current activities of these two organizations has been made possible by Swedish Foreign Office with which they have strong position, particularly Ehrenpreis. Communication with enemy and occupied territory for example, has been made possible through facilities of Foreign Office with Swedish Missions in these countries, the Swedish Ministers in those posts have in most instances, themselves provided every possible assistance for execution of operations mentioned above.

At present time the two organizations are short of funds and it is strongly urged that they be sent fifty thousand dollars. They have worked closely in the past with Hias and the Joint World Jewish Congress. The leaders of these organizations are known personally by Ehrenpreis. Latter understands necessities of this type of problem and appears to be extremely capable. It is believed that with proper financial support his activities can be expanded to considerable degree. In addition to

current

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current relief activities, we are now working with  
Ehrenpreis on methods of accomplishing certain  
evacuation programs.

JOHNSON

RECEIVED  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE  
DIVISION  
MAY 19 1958

88 01 WA 01 YAM AP

100868

*Sweden  
copy in file*

**CONTROL COPY**

DSH-843

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (SC-00)

Dated May 1, 1944

Rec'd 5:44 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
MAY 2 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

1534, May 1, 4 p.m.

This is number 6 for War Refugee Board.

Information reported in Department's 755 (War Refugee Board's 6) appears to be in error since there is no knowledge of any such ships locally. Reports may be based on fact that in June 1943 approximately 5 tons of used clothing arrived from the United States on Swedish vessel destined for Polish war refugees. Such clothing is now stored in free harbor awaiting authorization from London and Washington to distribute same to needy in Poland. Polish Legation here recently cabled Polish Embassy in Washington to renew request for authorization to distribute this clothing.

JOHNSON

WTD  
JRL

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

7 0 0 8 1 5

*war Ref. Bd  
and Rella*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMLEGATION, STOCKHOLM  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: April 29, 1944  
NUMBER: 1512

**CONTROL COPY**

Estonian refugees arriving in Sweden report as follows: Youths conscripted and sent by the Germans to the Narva front never come back. At present there is a greater number of Estonians hiding in the forest than during the Russian regime as most Estonians whom Germans intend sending Germanyward flee to the forests. Generally it is not the wish of fleeing fugitives to go to Finland but to Sweden. Allegedly to Helsinki, all Estonians returned or removed to rear and there are no longer any Estonians fighting on the Finnish front. In order to fetch Estonian fugitives, it is understood that Swedish authorities are placing no obstacles in preventing Estonian fishing craft from leaving Swedish waters at their own risk. Including fuel oil cost, fishermen charge 1500 Reichmarks per adult. For children there is no charge made. Usually landings are made at islands by the "Scarlet Pimpernel" Estonian fishermen. In order to penetrate further into the country where the Germans have increased control the compatriots on the Estonian side often wear women's clothing. Letters from local Estonians are also carried by fishermen. Bundles of clandestine mail are thrown overboard if chased on the high seas as it is tied in bundles with heavy stone attached by long rope.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972 **Soviet**

100870

Soviet currency is alleged to be easily disposed of in Sweden, which is not the case of Reichsmarks, and fugitives fleeing Swedenward are advised to convert their Reichsmarks to Soviet currency before departure. They find this is not true upon arrival in Sweden.

It is alleged by some Estonian refugees that the USSR Legation, Stockholm, tried to establish modus whereby all Estonian refugees from German occupied Estonia equipped themselves preferably in Sweden with Soviet passports. Accordingly, it is said that when such refugees arrive in Sweden, Swedish police ask if they prefer Soviet or alien passports issued by the Swedish authorities. It is believed thus far that no Estonian refugees prefer passport of the Soviet. It is possible that few seamen at present in Sweden are in possession of previously obtained Soviet passports.

With regard to Admiral Pitka's return Estonia from Finland, as reported both German and Swedish controlled press, Estonian refugee asserts that if Pitka returned Estonia it may be assumed intended to disappear there and become an active leader in the underground forces. That Pitka again returned to Finland was also stated by another refugee.

JOHNSON

RECEIVED  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
APR 11 1945

100871

*War Refugee Board  
New York*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

*copy only*

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington,  
TO: AMLEGATION, Stockholm,  
DATED: April 25, 1944  
NUMBER: 755

CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
WASHINGTON D.C.

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN

It has been reported that several Polish ships carrying food and clothing originally intended for Polish civilian population have been tied up for some time at Stockholm and that their cargoes have either been warehoused or remain in their holds. Please ascertain if this report is correct and, if so, the names of the ships involved; the nature and whereabouts of cargoes; dates when voyages interrupted; causes therefor and efforts, if any, to secure clearance.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 6

HULL

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

000872

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN, STOCKHOLM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

It has been reported that several Polish ships carrying food and clothing originally intended for Polish civilian population have been tied up for some time at Stockholm and that their cargoes have either been warehoused or remain in their holds. Please ascertain if this report is correct and, if so, the names of the ships involved; the nature and whereabouts of cargoes; dates when voyages interrupted; causes therefor and efforts, if any, to secure clearance.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 6

\*\*\*\*\*

April 24, 1944  
10:30 a.m.

*R.S.L.*  
LSLesserials 4/22/44

100873

~~CONTROL COPY~~

No. 3223

Stockholm, April 24, 1944

Subject: Transmission of Original and Copy of a Communication to the War Refugee Board. *dw*

The Honorable  
The Secretary of State,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit the original and copy of a communication to the War Refugee Board, enclosing certain general information regarding the situation of Jews in Sweden and the position of stateless refugees in Sweden. It is requested that the original be transmitted to the War Refugee Board.

Respectfully yours,

HERSCHEL V. JOHNSON

Herschel V. Johnson.

Enclosure:

Original and copy of a communication to the War Refugee Board

File 848/CIO/be

Original and hectograph to Department

000874

848/ICO/be

Stockholm, Sweden,  
April 24, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle,  
Executive Director,  
War Refugee Board,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

As of possible interest to the Board, I attach a copy of a summary of the situation of Jews in Sweden, prepared by a member of one of the Mosaic organizations here.

Recently I asked Miss Filseth of the Socialstyrelsen to give me a summary of the position of stateless refugees in Sweden, a copy of which is also attached.

Sincerely yours,

Iver C. Olsen,  
Special Attache for  
War Refugee Board.

Enclosures:

- 1 - Copy of a summary of the situation of Jews in Sweden.
- 2 - Copy of a summary of the position of stateless refugees in Sweden.

GOPY/be

Stockholm, April 19, 1944

Am/L

✓  
South African Jewish War Appeal  
P.O.Box 8991  
Johannesburg

Dear Sirs,

✓  
Through the Royal Foreign Office the Jewish Congregation of Sweden has been informed that you have asked the Swedish Consulate General in Pretoria for a report on the situation of Jews in Sweden. Since it is taken for granted that you are chiefly interested in getting information about the situation of the different groups of refugees in this country, the undersigned, who is secretary of the committee appointed by the Jewish Congregation for the relief of the refugees in Sweden has been instructed to inform you as follows.

Before the outbreak of the war, approximately 3,000 refugees of Jewish descent were staying in Sweden. Among these emigrants, mostly hailing from Germany and Austria, a - comparatively speaking - great number were depending entirely or in part - on our assistance. In August 1939 those assisted by us could be classified in three groups:

a) Completely destitute persons, whose number amounted to about 230. The main part of this group consisted of persons without labour permit, or, because of illness, advanced age or other circumstances unfit for work.

b) About 300 Chaluzim.

c) About 460 Jewish children. These children had been taken to this country as transmigrants in order to enable their parents left in Germany to effect their own emigration overseas or to Palestine and have the children join them later on.

Thus, in the early autumn of 1939, the Swedish-Jewish Aid Organisation had to take care of all together 1,000 persons.

The first refugees who were forced here by the war-conditions were Poles and among them a comparatively great amount of Jews. Most of them wanted to continue via Sweden to other European or Overseas countries. However, quite a considerable group of these potentially transmigrant Jews remained in this country and many of them became dependent on our assistance. In due course, though, the Polish Legation has taken charge of these refugees.

The situation for those refugees in Sweden who intended to continue migrate underwent a fundamental change, when as a result of the events in the spring of 1940 sailing from Scandinavia to non-European countries became almost impossible. As a consequence, from that time on the refugees wanting to leave for the United States or other American

countries

countries were forced to travel the eastern route (via Finland, Russia, Japan) which, of course, meant an extremely great strain on our financial resources. Before the outbreak of the German-Russian war we had also been able to start a contingency of Chaluzim and Aliyah-children on their way to Palestine via Russia, Turkey and Syria (Iraq).

When as a further result of the war the route via Russia was stopped further emigration from Sweden was made impossible and similarly, of course, transmigration. Therefore, from that time on our work has been chiefly limited to different forms of direct relief.

Since the end of 1941, it has not been at all possible for Jews still living in Germany or German occupied countries to immigrate to this country in a legal way.

In the autumn of 1942 a new influx began, caused by the persecution of Jews in Norway. These Jewish refugees crossed the frontier illegally mostly with the assistance of Norwegian patriots. The number of Jews from Norway who took refuge in Sweden amounted to 690, while the remainder of Norwegian Jewry - about 800 - was deported to Germany. Those/the Jews, escaped from Norway to this country, who were Norwegian citizens were given financial and social aid by the Refugee Office of the Royal Norwegian Legation to Sweden; the stateless refugees were assisted by the proper Swedish authorities. At the time we contributed a lump sum for providing the last mentioned category with clothes and other necessities.

When about a year later the persecution of Jews in Denmark began, Jewish relief work in Sweden was set a new great and difficult task. Within a single month about 6,000 Jews managed - also in the case with the help of native patriots - to escape across the sea from Denmark to Sweden. It may be supposed that of Denmark's Jews about one thousand have been deported. Immediately on the arrival of the Danish Jews in Sweden provisional accommodation in camps was found for the majority of refugees; some of the refugees with special connections to people in this country were to a certain extent allowed to choose their domicile freely. For some months aid to Jews from Denmark was supplied from both public and Jewish sources; afterwards the Danish Legation in Stockholm has undertaken the burden of the assistance of these Jews as well as of stateless Jews migrated from Denmark. However, the resources of the Danish Refugee Office are limited and have to be administered carefully. We, therefore, have undertaken to grant additional aid to these Jewish refugees. Thus, we have established three homes for aged people, given scholarships and to a very large extent given clothing help and provided for lodgings. Besides, we have appropriated money for Jewish religious purposes, especially for religious instruction and for the extra expenses arising from the orthodox manner of living. This extensive refugee aid exceeds very substantially the sum set aside in our general budget for such purposes so that at the end of last year we were forced to make an appeal to all Swedish Jews for contributions which met great response. We may mention that in addition we have received considerable contributions from Jewish organisations in England, the U.S.A. and Palestine.

To

To give you an idea of the approximate economic extent of our activities, we submit some figures pertaining to 1943.

Our total income amounted to ca. Kr. 1,225,000:-. The Swedish Government appropriates a certain amount for aid to Refugees; a State contribution of Kr. 150,000:- is included in this sum. The remaining income is derived from congregation taxes, voluntary contributions and donations from abroad. On the debit-side current relief constitutes the by far largest item. At present we are keeping 7 homes for children. Though the Chaluzim are earning most of their living themselves, we are forced to give them current financial assistance for social (e.g. maternity help) and Jewish-cultural purposes. Our total expenses during 1943 amounted to ca. Kr. 850,000:- so that in the beginning of 1944 there remained a balance of Kr. 375,000:-. However, we cannot regard this sum as an asset in the proper sense, because we have already pledged ourselves to the Danish Refugees Office to pay a sum of Kr. 330,000:- for different purposes in 1944. Because of the extremely increased expenses we have been forced to raise the already comparatively high congregation taxes by 25%.

Our survey of the Swedish-Jewish relief-work would not be complete without mentioning something about our efforts in favour of distressed Jews outside Sweden.

In the autumn of 1941 the German authorities, as mentioned above, proceeded to prohibit Jews in general from leaving Germany or the occupied territories. Simultaneously - as is well known - deportations began in a large measure. Though there was minimal chance to succeed we tried to save individual Jews by obtaining entrance permits from the Swedish authorities. Beyond that, in exceptional cases, Jews who had especially close connections with Sweden have been granted Swedish citizenship. However, all these efforts to get the Jews into this country met with very little success.

Within our limited means, we endeavoured to help utterly destitute Jews outside Sweden by sending them money and food. Money was sent, among other places, to Palestine, France, Rumania, the Government General (Gracow), the Protectorate Bohmen-Mahren (Theresienstadt), Shanghai. The total expenses for this non-Swedish help amounted to about Kr. 320,000:- last year. This sum was raised partly by private voluntary contributions, partly by the Swedish branch of the organisation "Save the children" which placed funds to the amount of Kr. 165,000:- at our disposal.

Generally speaking, the situation of the Jewish refugees in Sweden may be described as being good. The economic situation of the refugees is improved because the general conditions have given increased opportunities for work so that quite a number of formerly unemployed refugees can now earn their own living.

Of course the Jewish immigration of these last years - having added some 10 - 12,000 Jewish refugees to our congregations which normally consisted of together 6 - 7,000 Jews - has given rise to antisemitic propaganda in certain quarters.

However,

However, antisemitism can not be said to be deeply rooted in Sweden.

The Swedish authorities have constantly shown great understanding and given extensive cooperation to our efforts. One outstanding instance is the way the Danish refugees were received and assisted. Many non-Jewish private groups have also been of great assistance.

We hope that the outline of our work which we have tried to give to you in this letter is the information you desire and are glad to supply any additional information you may wish. The information contained in this letter is for your private use only and not intended for publicity. You would greatly oblige by cabling acknowledgment of receipt.

I have the honour to be, dear Sirs,

Very respectfully yours,

Franz Arnheim  
Secretary.

000079

COPY/be

The position of stateless refugees in Sweden.

The stateless refugees in Sweden can be divided into the following groups:

1. The stateless refugees who arrived in Sweden from the middle of Europe after 1933.
2. The stateless refugees who escaped from Norway after the ninth of April 1940, and found asylum in Sweden, and those who have escaped in 1942 and later on, chiefly Jews, on account of programs.
3. The stateless refugees from Denmark, arrived in Sweden after the first of October 1943, chiefly Jews on account of the programs.
4. Stateless refugees from other countries who during the war have been "washed ashore" in Sweden.

A rough estimate shows that the total number of refugees of all nationalities staying at present in Sweden amounts to between 40-50,000 of which some thousands, probably between 7-8,000 are stateless. Most of these have by and by found themselves jobs and work. The last statistical review shows that of all refugees staying in this country only about 3,000 are permanently public charges.

Of Group 1, it is considered that the most have been given work, or have got their means granted by the Swedish Authorities and other organizations.

Of Group 2, arrived about 600 refugees from the ninth of April 1940 to the end of 1943 in Sweden. Of these about 50 have gone overseas, which leaves 550, including 350 Jews.

Of these stateless refugees, the Royal Norwegian Legation Refugee Department in Stockholm has consented to help those who have stayed in Norway continuously for at least twenty-five years before their escape to Sweden, when they feel like Norwegians, and it is not on purpose that they haven't applied for Norwegian citizenship before. The other stateless refugees, however, are referred to The Swedish Kungl. Socialstyrelsen.

Of Group 3, It is difficult to give exact numbers, as the Royal Danish Legation Refugee Department in Stockholm does not distinguish between Danish and stateless refugees. One can however, with certainty estimate that about 2,000 stateless refugees have arrived in Sweden from Denmark.

Of Group 4, there are several minor groups of refugees who in the course of events have arrived here from many different countries, and the number of whom it is difficult to give. Some must still be regarded as citizens of foreign countries, but under the present conditions they have no Legations of their own to address to. F. inst. the refugees from the Baltic States have here in Sweden been given aliens passports.

Ad. Passports

Ad. Passports.

An exceptional position have the checz refugees who, both in Norway and in Denmark for some years have been regarded as "stateless". In Sweden however, these refugees have been granted Checz citizenship by the Czech Legation in London. The Polish Legation in Stockholm has also supplied the Polish refugees with passports.

All the other stateless refugees have become Swedish aliens passports.

Ad. financial support.

All matters concerning financial support are dealt with by the Swedish authorities through the Kungl. Socialstyrelsen, and this support is given following approximately the same rules as for the usual unemployed. The amount in question is much lower than the rates held by the Refugee Departments of the Royal Danish and Norwegian Legations respectively.

Alterations have been suggested in this respect, and has been attempted from different sources to effectuate a rise in the financial support already granted. This action has, however, gained no results, as it has officially been pointed out that refugees can not expect better conditions than the Swedish unemployed.

Ad. juridical rights.

The refugees have no authority to which they can address for juridical aid. In most cases they are referred to the goodwill and help of civilians, and they are often prevented from the full maintenance of their legal rights as the necessary connections are missing. For instance, the refugees who are kept in prison or held by the authorities for political or other reasons, could become free if they had some place to live, or if some authority was present which could undertake their interests, as to get them work, or give them any possibility to become independent.

Ad. Moral support.

Usually it is not the financial support which is most decisive, or of the greatest importance for the refugees. As often it is important that they have some institution or persons with whom they can discuss their difficulties and position as a whole. Their problems can seem mere trifles for others, but for themselves these often appear large and even insurmountable. They need someone who can advise them, settle their difficulties and make things easier for them. They have thus usually no one to tell them what they can do, or what they ought to do, so that they in most cases have no clear conception of their legal claims on the civil authorities, according to international law, owing to their inability to master all regulations in languages foreign to them. In short they need someone who can take all such matters in hand for them. As a result they feel isolated and put aside.

Ad. Schools

Ad. Schools and education.

While the refugees who are members of a community and who have their legation and their citizenship in full order, have certain advantages as to the continuation of their studies and education in general which have been interrupted by the present conditions, the stateless refugees are at a grave disadvantage in this regard, certain few exceptions not considered. The same applies to registration work in the civil service, which is practically closed to stateless refugees, in spite of their eventual full competence.

Ad. working possibilities.

According to the new Swedish regulations dating from the end of 1943, Danish and Norwegian refugees can accept every kind of work, temporary or of a more permanent nature, without working certificate. This does not apply to the stateless refugees. These must in each and every case claim for such a certificate through the Kungl. Socialstyrelsen, for which they often have to wait quite a long time, and which can be difficult to obtain.

\* \* \* \*

To summarize: There is urgent need for some central institution which can deal with all problems concerning the stateless refugees, an institution which for instance can effectuate better living circumstances for them, establish contacts between them and the organizations and associations which can be to any help to them, establish contacts which can be helpful for them, settle all complications and questions towards the civil authorities, etc.

Another question which now awaits its solution is the problem of the return of the stateless refugees to their native countries or to other countries after the war.

This problem, which is of first rate importance, must be tackled before the war is over, as it otherwise will become completely overlooked in the flood of all other tremendous problems rising then, exactly as was the case after the last war.

One can erect three main groups of these stateless refugees:

1. The stateless refugees who in spite of many years stay in the country haven't obtained citizenship. Those stateless refugees should now already get some assurance, that they have somewhere to go after the war.
2. Refugees from Germany, Austria, Czechoslovakia, and other countries who have arrived in Sweden, often through many other countries, and who now mostly are declared stateless. This applies to the largest part of them, not considered the Czech refugees as mentioned above. Many of these Czechs, however, have no wish whatever, to return to Czechoslovakia, but want to remain in Sweden, Denmark or Norway. These refugees are equally circumstanced as

the

the refugees in group 1. Consequently all possibilities for their return to the countries they want to stay in, must be investigated immediately and eventual guarantees for their rights and their juridical position in these countries as to working possibilities and all other advantages corresponding to those held by the citizens of the countries in question, must be secured.

One must also try to secure an opportunity for the previously German and Austrian citizens to retain their original citizenship, if they so want. Many of them, however, will not wish to return to their native countries. They have settled, got friends, and have built up a new existence which they won't give up.

\* \* \*

Beside the problems treated above there are other urgent tasks of post-war relief work. For instance all those suffering mentally and physically from deportations. Those who will survive all inhuman treatment will naturally be to consider as stateless. These persons cannot be considered in full yet, but it is of vital importance to prepare everything for their definitive solution as soon as possible.

\* \* \*

(Signed) Tove Filseth

1945 MAY 10 AM 11 10

WASHINGTON D.C.  
MVB REFUGEE BOARD  
RECEIVED

1100883

(2)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

*File with cable  
to Lesser on  
this subject  
(attached)*

DATE April 22, 1944

TO Mr. Lesser

FROM Mr. McCormack *P. J. McCormack*

Reference your conversation with Dr. Kubowitzky, World Jewish Congress, Mr. Zollinger, ICRC Delegate in the U. S., made the suggestion that perhaps War Refugee Board could arrange to have the two Polish ships, reputedly in Swedish waters, off-loaded in Sweden and the supplies therefrom packaged and turned over to the ICRC for distribution.

*7*

00000

MESSAGE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: April 19, 1944  
NUMBER: 1345

Reference Department's 502, dated March 24.

The March 24 statement of the President regarding refugees and Nazi persecutions lost part of its potential publicity because it was released to Sweden via Benter on March 25 which was a holiday and important morning papers were not published. Two afternoon papers, however, AFTONBLADET and ALLRHANNA, carried the statement complete. The statement was carried prominently by DAGENS NYHETER and to a lesser extent by STOCKHOLMS TIDNINGEN, THE FOLLOWING DAY. Outside of Stockholm there was little coverage in Sweden.

Since interest of the press in this connection appeared to be centered on Palestine-Hungarian-Jewish question, Swedish editorials only referred to statement indirectly. At a time when the President was urging all free peoples temporarily to open their frontiers to victims of Nazi oppression there was a general unfortunate reaction to the closing of Palestine.

Over short, medium and long wave lengths, excerpts of the President's statement were given in official Swedish news broadcasts in the Swedish language.

The statement has been relayed through underground channels to Norway and Denmark by the Legation's press section and it is believed the statement will come to the attention of occupation forces of Germany. The ENKTOVER ATLANTEN, a Danish-Swedish newspaper for refugees in Sweden, also published the statement. In order to get copies of this paper into Denmark they must be smuggled.

Informal requests by the Legation that prominent Government official publicly comment on statement were not productive (see the Legation's cable of April 11, no. 1236).

The appointment of Ivar Olsen as representative of the War Refugee Board, press release via Benter, resulted in interviews which were carried prominently by almost all Swedish papers. The statement Olsen made to the press referred to the President's statement and also activities of the Board.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

By airmail we are forwarding a despatch which transmits significant clippings.

JOHNSON

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akkin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Haide,  
Laughlin, Lesser, Lufford, Mann, Hannon, Marks, McCorrack, Paul, Pollak, Rains,  
Bargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. B. White, Fehle, Files.

*War Refugee Act  
Mr. [unclear]  
copy only*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: April 18, 1944  
NUMBER: 1342 x

**CONTROL COPY**

An appeal to the Government of Germany to permit refugee children to proceed to Sweden has repeatedly been made by the Government of Sweden during the past year according to Soderblom (War Refugee Board's number 2, number 654 dated April 12 from the Department). It appeared for a while that arrangements would be successful for the evacuation of large numbers of Belgian and French refugee children but the Government of Germany at the last moment on the ground that transport facilities for the evacuation of the children could not be spared, stopped the proceedings. It was added by Soderblom that the Government of Sweden is constantly following the matter and as soon as there seems to be a sporting chance that the Germans might consent the question will again be pressed. Since military requirements are now so overburdening transportation facilities that it is actually almost an impossibility for a civilian to get permission to travel, it is Soderblom's opinion that there is no chance whatever that the Germans would consent to make them (transportation facilities) available. It was Soderblom's desire that the fact be emphasized that the Government of Sweden is not overlooking any opportunity, that it has appealed and will continue to appeal to the Government of Germany to allow travel to Sweden of refugee children.

JOHNSON

DORIMPL  
4/20/44

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date 8/13/97

RECEIVED  
APR 20 1944  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

10088

CONTROL COPY

2 - War Refugee  
Bill (Mr. Pehle)

GLR-134  
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (BR)

Stockholm

Dated April 15, 1944

Rec'd 12:56 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

1289, April 15, 1 p.m.

OLSEN'S No. 3 FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD

RECEIVED  
OFFICE OF STATE  
APR 16 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
RECORDS

Answering WRB No. one. Name Sloty appearing in Legation's 1164, April 5 which has now been numbered as Olsen's No. one must have been error in transmission since we received name correctly as Stoltz. It was Senator Georg (repeat Georg) Branting who did not know Dolivet but is cooperating fully. Hjalmar Branting died several years ago.

*Mr. Tolson*  
*Mr. E.A. Tamm*  
*Mr. Clegg*  
*Mr. Glavin*  
*Mr. Ladd*  
*Mr. Nichols*  
*Mr. Rosen*  
*Mr. Tracy*  
*Mr. Carson*  
*Mr. Egan*  
*Mr. Gurnea*  
*Mr. Hendon*  
*Mr. Pennington*  
*Mr. Quinn*  
*Mr. Nease*  
*Mr. Gandy*

Messages have not been delivered to Branting, Jenson, Holowaty, and Wolbe. Still endeavoring to deliver remainder.

Washington press release announcing my designation as representative of War Refugee Board given wide publicity in all local newspapers together with my supporting statement expressing my pleasure at being able to work with the Swedes in this humanitarian field

where

-2- #1289, April 15, 1 p.m. from Stockholm

where Sweden had made a great record. Stressed that I would work with religious and charitable organizations and made no reference to Swedish Government. Have been swamped by a flood of refugees, leaders in humanitarian efforts, job seekers, press and photographers. Local interest and enthusiasm is excellent.

JOHNSON

REP

1 0 0 8 8

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: April 13, 1944  
NUMBER: 1255

On April 12 we communicated to Soderblom the substance of Department's cable of April 10, no. 533, and we received assurance that Swedish Government will make every effort to hasten action by German Government with respect to safe conduct for SS TARI.

The second demarche will include support of request for safe conduct for BELLACITA mentioned in Department's telegram of April 5, no. 593. On or about April 8 was made the first Swedish demarche.

JONESON

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pahl, Files.  
cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin,  
Lesser, Lutzford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Paul, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith.

*an Refugee Board  
M. Kelle  
copy only  
Files*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

TO: American Legation, Stockholm ✓  
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: April 12, 1944  
NO.: 654  
X

**CONTROL COPY**

The following is WRB No. 2 from War Refugee Board  
for the Minister.

We refer to your telegram of February 13, 1944,  
No. 480.

You stated, inter alia, with reference to the Swedish  
treatment of problems affecting refugees that the Swedish  
Government's refusal to approach the Government of Germany  
with an appeal that refugee children be allowed to come  
to Sweden was based on the belief that the Germans would  
refuse the request if it were made. The report of Janu-  
ary 20 from London expressing the opinion that it seems  
to be worth while to encourage the Government of Sweden  
to make an approach to German authorities and request  
that up to 20,000 refugee children of all nationalities  
be released has been noted by us.

When concern was expressed by the Swedish Government  
that the possibility of refugees escaping unnoticed might

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972 be

70089

be jeopardized by an approach to the German Government on this matter, mass evacuation of Danes was in progress, which evacuation has now been finished. Since the conditions outlined in your telegram of May 19, 1943, No. 1610 will be met by arrangements which the War Refugee Board will undertake to make with reference to the suggestion, such alarm should now be obviated. We request you to approach the Government of Sweden on the basis outlined above.

It is requested that all developments in this matter be brought to the attention of the Department.

WASHINGTON, D.C.  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
RECEIVED

APR 17 11 10 28

110891

# 654  
4/12

TO: Mr. Warren

FROM: J. W. Pehle

It will be appreciated if you will have the attached  
cable dispatched at once to Stockholm.

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

EFrains:ms 4/11/44

CABLE TO JOHNSON AND OLSON, STOCKHOLM

In your No. 480 of February 13th, with respect to Swedish treatment of refugee problems, you said, inter alia, that the Swedish Government had refused to appeal to Germany to permit refugee children to come to Sweden on the grounds that it was clear that Germany would turn down such an appeal if made. A report has now been received from London expressing the opinion that present circumstances make it appear worthwhile at this time to encourage the Swedes to approach the German Government and request the release of up to 20,000 refugee children of all nationalities.

The fear of the Swedish Government that such an appeal would jeopardise the possibility of refugees escaping unnoticed should now be obviated since the mass evacuation of Danes which was then being undertaken has now been completed. The War Refugee Board will undertake to make arrangements intended to meet the conditions discussed in your telegram No. 1610 of May 19, 1943 relating to this suggestion, and you are requested to approach the Swedes on this basis.

Please advise the Department of all developments.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE no. 2

April 12, 1944

11:00 a.m.

*EMT*

EF:ains:ms 4/11/44

5/2/44

TELETYPE SENT

14  
138 (in 8.11)

CHH

PLAIN

April 12, 1944

# CONTROL COPY

File

AMLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM.  
X 1212, twelfth  
OLSEN FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Name of sender of message referred to in Legation's 1164,  
April 8, is Stolz (repeat Stolz) and not (repeat not) Sloty.  
This may explain why receiver did not know identity of sender.  
Please advise which messages have been delivered. This is WRB  
Cable No. 1.

In order to avoid confusion in connection with its cables  
to representatives in the field, the Board, commencing with this  
cable, intends to number its cables to each representative con-  
secutively. In replying to Board cables kindly refer to the  
WRB designation. You should also consecutively number all cables  
to the Board.

HULL  
(GLW)

WRB:GLW:KO  
4/12/44

11089

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM FOR OLSEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Name of sender of message is Stolz (repeat Stolz) and not  
(repeat not) Slotty. This may explain why receiver did not know  
identity of sender. Please advise which messages have been  
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"In order to avoid confusion in connection with  
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commencing with this cable, intends to number its  
cables to each representative consecutively. In reply-  
ing to Board cables kindly refer to the WRB designation.  
You should also consecutively number all cables to the  
Board."

April 11, 1944

5:00 p.m.

LSLesser:ls 4/11/44

*R. S. L. Johnson*

110890

*wa Refugee Bd  
Mr. Pills*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: April 11, 1944  
NUMBER: 1236

*1 copy being*

CONTROL COPY

On numerous occasions various Foreign Office officials have been informally pressed to have a prominent Minister of Government make public statement for use in connection with publicity program, since receipt of Department's 502, March 24. Today advice was received from Engod, head of Juridical Department of Foreign Office, that the Foreign Minister and Minister of Justice had informed him that the Swedish Government is of the opinion that such public statement would not serve to increase Sweden's effective accomplishments in succoring refugees and that in fact a counter productive effect would be the result of such a statement. It was also stated by the Ministers referred to that the attitude of Sweden towards persecutions and continuing efforts of Swedish representatives throughout Europe to evacuate Jews are to the German Government well known. In conclusion the Minister stated that the Swedish Government wholeheartedly desires to do everything within its power to give refuge to persecuted peoples and it has been found that by doing work quietly the most effective results have been accomplished.

APR 12 11 00  
RECEIVED  
REFUGEE BOARD

JOHNSON

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

10089

LC - 25

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

Ankara

Dated April 10, 1944

Rec'd 6:48 a. m., 12th

Secretary of State,

Washington.

642, April 10, 9 p. m.

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Ankara's 31.

Baron dePlaten, Second Secretary of the Swedish Legation in Ankara, still offers hopes for the availability of a Swedish vessel to transport refugees from Constanza to Haifa. This would be in addition to the TARI or any others, the SS BARDALANDA now in Istanbul is not fitted with equipment or life saving devices for refugee conveyance. Platen will explore the possibilities of reequipping the vessel for this purpose. The BARDALANDA is scheduled to sail today to arrive in Piraeus (Athens) on April 25 and scheduled thereafter to sail for Constanza. Platen believes that Stockholm could be induced to have this vessel return to Istanbul and thence to Constanza to embark refugees to Haifa. I have not been informed except indirectly through the State Department radio bulletin regarding the reply of the Swedish Government to our request through the Swedish Minister here and your request through Washington for a Swedish boat. In spite of any refusal by the Swedish Government I recommend that the Board urge Stockholm to give instructions to make the BARDALANDA available the latter part of April. This of course is not in lieu of the proposed trip of the SS TARI but in addition thereto.

STEINHARDT

BB

Miss Chauncey, Abrahamson, Akain, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luskford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Murphy, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files

CONTROL COPY

2 - War Refugee Bd  
Mr. Cehle

LC - 436

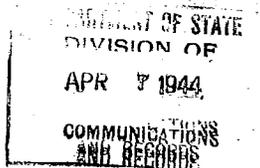
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency. (BR)

Stockholm

Dated April 5, 1944

Rec'd 7:43 a.m., 6th

Secretary of State,  
Washington.



1164, April 5, midnight

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD FROM OLSEN

Certain of messages from Dalivet, Deutsch and Sloty have been delivered but in general experiencing considerable difficulty in that names and addresses are incorrect, or messages as yet undeliverable due to fact that many Swedes are now vacationing. In one instance at least receiver did not know identity of sender which made undesirable impression.

Rabbi Wolbe will forward message in few days and states he can supply full details regarding the situation in Shanghai. He states it a certainty that Shanghai is badly in need of funds. He considers Lithuanian situation extremely critical and perhaps hopeless but will report further.

Elise

-2- #1164, April 5, midnight, from Stockholm

Elise Ottesen Jensen will also canvass possibilities with her associates and report in a few days. In meantime it can be said that funds sent her are being employed only to help Norwegian refugees already in Sweden. They are not available to finance evacuation since funds are under supervision of Rikssbank and subject to restriction that they be expended in Sweden with complete reporting requirements. Consequently funds for evacuation presumably will have to be provided through other channels. She considers prospects of further evacuation good.

In general suggest that messages be screened carefully for accuracy and to determine whether sender really has influence and prestige with receiver since this is extremely important locally. In that connection would suggest that Tracy Strong of International Young Men's Christian Association and Vail of Quakers probably have great influence with important people here, particularly the former.

JOHNSON

RR

000900

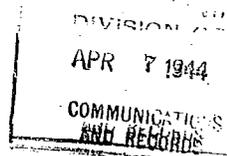
LC - 436  
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other than a Governmental  
agency. (BR)

Stockholm

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Rec'd 7:43 a.m., 6th

Secretary of State,  
Washington.



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hopeless but will report further.

Elise

000901

-2- #1164, April 5, midnight, from Stockholm

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JOHNSON

RR

HO - 280

**CONTROL COPY**

*War Refugee Board  
Bd/m  
Peka*

PLAIN

Stockholm

Dated April 1, 1944

Rec'd 4:46 a.m. 2nd

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS  
APR 3 1944

Secretary of State  
Washington

1110, First.

TO SECRETARY MORGENTHAU FROM OLSEN

*File  
JOS 7*

Should like very much to make every effort to carry out directive of the War Refugee Board and otherwise to fulfill to best of my ability your instructions of January 29 forwarded to me through Minister Johnson. My other duties are developing rapidly and additional designation will unquestionably entail considerable additional work and time, but believe work can be handled. If it is found that new duties scatter my efforts to the extent that no single (responsibility?) responsible is being discharged satisfactorily Minister will make appropriate recommendations to Secretary of State and War Refugee Board. It is believed that my Treasury experience in relief and refugee matters together with the counsel Minister Johnson has always been ready to give me as to approaching local problems most effectively will enable me to press this program energetically

000903

-2- 1110, 1st, from Stockholm

energetically although we are both aware of its many complexities. This is in reply to your cable of March 30.

✓  
JOHNSON

EH

000904

**CONTROL COPY**

*2 - W - Refugee Bd  
(Mr. Peck)*

DMH-344

PLAIN

Stockholm via London

Dated March 29, 1944

Rec'd. 3:45 P.M. 30th.

DIVISION OF

MAR 31 1944

COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

1067, 29th.

Swedish Politics

DAGENS 29th: New York correspondent reports War Refugee Board's rectification Stockholm AP telegram incorrectly reporting Swedish Government's rejection American proposal regarding usage Swedish tonnage evacuation Jewish refugees. DAGENS adds Swedish Minister Washington assured Board Swedish Government prepared do everything possible support Board's efforts. Report Board's Swedish negotiations if first published concerning its activities. Swedish Foreign Office stated investigation disclosed suitable tonnage unavailable.

Our 639. Foreign Office announced British Government's expression regret reply Swedish protest against plane trespass over southern Sweden February 24/25.

Our 1038. AFTONTIDNINGEN 28th referring appointment Gunnar Haeggloef as Swedish Minister Netherlands Belgian Government's London outposts latter is exile government and not Leopold who

100905

-2- 1067, 29th, Stockholm via London

not Leopold who prisoner within Belgium. Appointment re-introduces Czechoslovakian representation question Stockholm. 'Twas natural Sweden's representation Czechoslovakia recalled when country ceased exist spring 1939 and nothing indicated republic restorable near future. Nor did country have exile government then. Situation now changed and appears certain Czechoslovakia will realise and confirm treaties concluded by Benes. Sweden ought reconsider representation question particularly because resumption trade relations certain.

Hungarian Minister Stockholm officially notified Foreign Office he unconsiders himself representing new Hungarian Government. Foreign Office announced nothing from Budapest concerning appointment new Hungarian diplomatic representative Sweden.

Our 4146, December 23rd. Stockholm press carries inter-views from New York correspondents with Chamberlain von Heidenstam leader Swedish Trade Delegation now concluding North American tour. Heidenstam states Americans realize necessity importing in order maintain exports and anxious obtain information regarding Swedish products and markets. American willingness adjust production with foreign importers very noticeable. Quite likely Sweden will import American coal after war also automobiles tractors according prewar quotas. Considerable American interest in importing Swedish iron ore owing

000901

-3- 1067, 29th, Stockholm via London

iron ore owing current heavy drain American mines.

4,000 civilian workers employed national defense plants striking April 5th unless settlement reached in dispute concerning piece rates. Conflict actually involves 20,000 whose wages for many years contention cause between State and Trade Federation but owing international situation workers hitherto unwilling employ strike weapon. Projected strike has Labor Federation approval. Expected Government will intervene.

JOHNSON

MRM

000407

201

L. A. Lesser - 1 om 164

Still awaiting  
material from HTAS,  
requested from Spiegler,  
on matter of transit  
of sealed railroad  
cars from Switzerland  
to Spain.

R. L. Smith

201

L. A. Lesser - 1 om 164

These are the pertinent  
wires in the matter  
of the 20,000 children.  
Should have been attached  
to proposed wire to  
Johnson.

R. L. Smith - 385

000908

CONTROL COPY

CAM - 154

PLAIN

London

Dated March 16, 1944

REc'd 11:10 p.m.

*2-14*  
*Refugees Bd*  
*(Mrs. Pohl)*

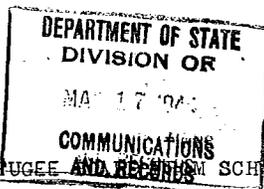
Secretary of State

Washington

X  
2162, Sixteenth

FOR PEHLE WAR REFUGEE AND RECEPTION SCHWARTZ

Department's 1843, Eleventh.



Position Danish refugees now Sweden satisfactory with Governments participating large scale relief program and also furnishing work opportunities. Believe rescue possibilities northern Europe limited but Swedish Government had indicated willingness approach Axis and satellite governments for release up to 20 thousand children of all nationalities to Sweden provided guaranties for evacuation forthcoming. Believe it most worthwhile encourage Swedish Government every way to undertake these steps behalf children occupied territories.

WINANT

EJH

7 0 0 9 0 3



FOR OLSEN, STOCKHOLM

Please transmit for War Refugee Board the following message from J. Stols, New York, to Gunar Anderson and C. Lindberg, Landorganisationen i Sverige, Landsskretariaret Barnhusgaten 18;

QUOTE A War Refugee Board consisting of Secretaries State War Treasury has been appointed by President United States to save endangered refugees all parts world. John Pehle Director. This inaugurates entirely new policy and offers facilities saving thousands lives. Labor movement the Free World the Unitarian Service Committee other humanitarian organizations cooperating to full. We need your assistance in securing information about conditions and in organizing rescue machinery in neutral and occupied countries. All necessary funds will be provided. Please give warmest reception to those who will approach you. They will give you further information. Establish contacts other lands. Secure cooperation our friends everywhere. Send immediately comments and suggestions. If delegates coming to International Labor Conference provide them with fullest information. Communicate with me through the person who will contact you with this message. We are counting on you in this final vigorous effort to save many lives. UNQUOTE

Please contact Anderson and Lindberg personally and inform them of purposes of War Refugee Board. Please transmit any responses or inquiries with respect to this message to the War Refugee Board through the same channels as you received this message. You will, of course, arrange to transmit any messages from Anderson or Lindberg to Stols to the War Refugee Board through such channels.

NOTE: This cable is not numbered as it is being dispatched through a confidential channel, and we were asked not to number it.

LSLeshertals 3/11/44

Z. S. K.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

000911

COPY

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON  
TO: AMERICAN LEGATION, BERN  
DATED: MARCH 7, 1944  
NUMBER: 770

██████████

The fact that you have had approaches through various channels from one or more of the Governments of Bulgaria, Rumania, and Hungary and that you have channels through which messages can be conveyed to one or more of these Governments is born in mind by the Department.

We instruct you to convey through such channels to the Governments of Bulgaria, Rumania, and Hungary, or any of them to which you have such access, the following information:

At the present time the Government of the United States is aware that these Governments are pursuing programs of persecuting their Jewish minorities and refugees of other nationalities who have escaped into their territories. The persecution consists among other forms in sending such refugees beyond the borders of their own countries into Poland where they undergo various forms of cruelty and even death, dictated by Nazi degeneracy. Still another form of persecution consists in preventing the refugees from escaping to neutral countries where their lives may be saved.

The Government of the United States is determined to do everything it can to rescue such unfortunates who are in danger of losing their lives and to find for them havens of refuge. Any continuation by these Governments of the execution of these policies of Hitlerite persecutions is viewed with great seriousness by this Government and will be kept in mind. The President, in establishing the War Refugee Board, recently restated unequivocally the position of the United States Government in this matter. (Department's cable to Bern of January 25, 1944 No. 201). The Government of the United States takes the view that these Governments, as well as their subordinates and functionaries, are fully responsible for the actions of persecution committed on their territories and in the interests of humanity they should desist immediately. Moreover, they should be informed that in their own interest, they will be well advised to take advantage in the future of such opportunities as may be available to them to allow refugees to depart across their borders into territories of any neutral countries which may be prepared to receive them.

You are requested to try to ascertain through appropriate channels that the Governments in question have received the substance of this message, and the results of the representations, if any.

The foregoing message was repeated to Cairo for MacVeagh as Greek Series 37 and to Stockholm, Lisbon, and Ankara as the Department's cables Nos. 372, 713 and 177 respectively.

DECLASSIFIED  
STETTINIUS State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

770912

*War Refugee Bd  
(Mr. Pehle)  
copy only*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: March 7, 1944  
NUMBER: 784

**CONTROL COPY**

The Legation has been informed by the Foreign Ministry that the War Refugee Board recently approached the Swedish Government on two occasions relative to Swedish assistance in rescuing Jewish children from Southeastern Europe. The board's representative in Ankara made the first approach to the Swedish Minister there and this was followed up by an approach to the Swedish Minister in Washington by Mr. Pehle, the board's director. On both occasions it was urgently requested by the board that permission be given for one of the Greek relief ships which call at Salonika to proceed to Constanza and take on board from eight hundred to one thousand Jewish children for transportation to Istanbul. It was understood that the Turk Government is willing to permit transit through Turkey, presumably en route to Palestine and the intention was to make an urgent approach to German, Bulgarian, Rumanian, and Hungarian Governments to allow the children to leave if the shipping question could be agreed upon in principle.

The chairman of the Swedish Shipping Committee was consulted by Mr. Thyberg of the Foreign Ministry and the chairman remarked that Greek relief ships are not fitted for accommodation of passengers. Mr. Thyberg

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972

000913

passengers. Mr. Thyberg realizes that this objection may be minor in the circumstances. Instructions have been given to the Swedish Legation in Washington to suggest that the matter be taken up with other American and British agencies concerned by the War Refugee Board.

Without taking into account the fact that German consent still is lacking for three additional vessels to enter Greek relief traffic in order to transport increases granted recently (see my telegram of January 28, 1944, No. 291), ordinary deliveries from Canada to Greece have fallen behind. It is felt by the Swedish Foreign Ministry and by the <sup>British</sup> Legation that any extraneous delay in the shipping schedule for Greek relief must have serious and deplorable effect and this Legation agrees.

JOHNSON

FOR OLSEN, STOCKHOLM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please transmit for War Refugee Board the following message from Louis Dollivet, New York, separately but in identical form, to each of the following: Professor Gunnar Myrdal, University of Stockholm; Senator Hjalmar Branting, Senate Building; and Allan Degerman, 4 Lil Nygatan:

QUOTE Through an Executive Order of the President of the United States the problem of saving racially and politically persecuted refugees in all parts of world will receive much greater facilities than in past. To that effect a War Refugee Board consisting of Secretaries of State War and Treasury has been appointed with Mr. John Pehle as Director. Free World the Unitarian and other religious and Humanitarian organizations cooperating to utmost of ability with that Board. We feel this inaugurates entirely new policy which will result in saving thousands of lives. We believe Swedish private citizens representing humanitarian and religious organizations could be of immense help by going to various occupied territories particularly Rumania on humanitarian mission. Traveling and other expenses necessary for safeguarding health and life of internees those in concentration camps and others whose lives are endangered also for facilitating mass or partial evacuation will be provided. Could you immediately communicate with organizations mentioned for selection of number of people who would have to leave as soon as possible. Please give warmest reception to Ivor Olsen who will contact you. I am sure Signe Hojer Bishop of Stockholm and others would immediately be of great help.

This is matter of life and death for thousands. Please act at once and send me news through War Refugee Board Treasury Department Washington DC. Your messages will be transmitted to me through the War Refugee Board by Olsen. Kindest regards. UNQUOTE

Please also transmit an identical message from Julius Deutsch, New York, to Rudolf Holowaty, Dobelngatan 58.

Please transmit any responses or inquiries with respect to these messages to the War Refugee Board through the same channels as you received this message. You will, of course, contact Myrdal, Branting, Degerman and Holowaty and arrange to receive their messages to Dollivet and Deutsch.

NOTE: This cable is not numbered as it is being dispatched through a confidential channel, and we were asked not to number it.

Delivered to MacLoud

3/6/44 - P.M.

*[Handwritten initials]*

*John & M. Lesser  
files  
in files on the  
cable*

LSLesser:als 3/6/44

000915

FOR OLSEN, STOCKHOLM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please transmit for War Refugee Board the following message from Louis Dolivet, New York, separately but in identical form, to each of the following: Professor Gunnar Myrdal, University of Stockholm; Senator Hjalmar Branting, Senate Building; and Allan Degerman, 4 Lil Nygatan:

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NOTE: This cable is not numbered as it is being dispatched through a confidential channel, and we were asked not to number it.

Delivered to MacLoud

3/6/44 - P.M.

L.S.P.

LSLSerials 3/6/44

000916

CONTROL COPY

*was Refugee Ex  
- Petle*

*copy in  
Sweden*

*Handl*  
*(File)*

GAR-332

PLAIN

London

Dated February 24, 1944

Rec'd 5:52 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

1521, twentyfourth

By letter dated today Embassy has referred to  
✓ ICG matter of Danish refugees in Sweden as instructed  
in Department's 828, second. British have taken  
similar action after discussion with us.

INMP

H.S

10091

*7/14  
What is  
the  
about?*

GAR-332

PLAIN

London

Dated February 24, 1944

Rec'd 5:52 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

1581, twentyfourth

By letter dated today Embassy has referred to  
IGC matter of Danish refugees in Sweden as instructed  
in Department's 888, second. British have taken  
similar action after discussion with us.

WINANT

LMS

cc: Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Messrs. Paul, Gaston, H. D. White,  
Fehle, Luxford, DuBois, E. N. Bernstein, Stewart, Lesser,  
Friedman, Pollak, Bundy, Miss Hodel

000918

**RESTRICTED**

*Toplus  
827*

**CONTROL COPY**

EWE-55

PLAIN

Stockholm via London

Dated February 18, 1944

Rec'd. 5:30 p.m. 19th

Secretary of State

Washington

551, eighteenth

\*  
SWEDISH POLITICS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
SEP 21 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Officially announced last night Swedish safe conduct air traffic England resumed early next week; agreement having been reached with Germany England. SVENSKA, eighteenth, reports safety arrangements approved by all parties obviously removing all existing war risks. Certain undertakings by Germany Britain should make it impossible mistake Swedish planes for foreign craft. While flying at night traffic plane brightly illuminated and in radio contact with both German and British ground stations receiving exact hours departure and arrival and constantly announcing planes position over respective powers spheres. Plane to traffic route is Douglas DC-3 called WALKER, sister ship of lost GLADAN and GRIPEN. DAGES, eighteenth, writes resumption this traffic welcome news which  
signalled

000919

-2-#551, eighteenth, from Stockholm via London

signalled several times since suspension traffic last October. Westward communications not entirely cut since British operated irregular traffic but particularly outgoing mail service suffered badly from this irregularity. In addition its practical importance this air communication implies recognition in principle of right which Sweden as neutral state always wanted assert, namely, right keep communication open all directions. UPS,IA NY, eighteenth, writes long delay reaching agreement hardly proof any spontaneous German understanding for reasonable Swedish demand secure limited western communication as supplement lively southern communication but gratifying matter finally settled in obviously satisfactory way especially since German safe conduct guaranty now obtained for traffic which previously obliged proceed without such guarantee. Obviously possible this time assert Swedish attitude stronger and more effectively. Communique unmentions conditions but safe conduct prerequisite always been certain belligerent control of goods and passengers. Must be assumed, however, no inconvenient concessions made limiting natural right make free use this line communication. Several sources

000920

-3-551, eighteenth, from Stockholm via London

sources irritation Swedish German relations removed in recent months for which Foreign Office worthy recognition, but some matters still remain, including vital question protection Swedish west coast fishermen in lawful trade. After brutal sinking HERMON VÆSTKUSTEN last Autumn nothing heard of agreement guaranteeing likes property Swedish fisherman.

Our 523

Still no official news supplement first brief communique concerning incident February 15 when two Swedish fighter planes fired on by German warships and press preserving remarkable silence. Private report from Goeteborg published today morning papers quotes eyewitness saying Swedish planes two miles south of Vinga Light inside Swedish territory when German warships opened fire. German convoy proceeding seven miles out at sea when one of two escorting destroyers suddenly turned northward toward Swedish planes first firing rockets and then beginning shots. Eyewitness counted 8 to 10 shells which exploded close to two planes while these headed for coast and without doubt flying over Swedish territorial waters.

German

000927

-4-551, eighteenth, from Stockholm via London

German planes yesterday flying in over Halland on Swedish coast induced AA batteries Halmstad cease firing by giving international distress signal. Preparations made on ground receive plane which expected make forced landing but after circling airfield planes suddenly turned to sea and disappeared. German thus violated Swedish neutrality and misused internationally recognized distress signal, which behaviour, according TIDNINGEN, eighteenth, caused embitterment among inhabitants Halmstad.

Our 227

Nazi DAGSPÖSTEN, sixteenth, protests indignantly Norwegian Danish refugees now being admitted Swedish shooting ranges practice rifle shooting. Boards information first told DAGSPÖSTEN was part police training but later board corrected itself saying small number Danish Norwegian riflemen given permission to certain extend uphold marksmanship by practicing at public shooting ranges Stockholm and Uppsala. DAGSPÖSTEN unsatisfied with explanation maintaining access to ranges granted refugees at request Norwegian Danish Legations and government has asked Rifle Shooting Association place material at disposal

000922

-5-#551, eighteenth, from Stockholm via London

at disposal refugees. DAGSPOSTEN says easy understand authorities unwanted shooting practice included in so-called police training which government or perhaps only some individual cabinet minister has granted Norwegian Danish refugees. Such "police training" at public shooting range with practice in use army rifles would be too plainly fictitious. DAGSPOSTEN questions whether this permission granted refugees compatible with officially proclaimed neutrality. TIDINGEN, seventeenth, replying says quite natural that very paper interested this matter but probably alone Swedish people in branding these Danish Norwegian rifle shooters "strangers". Nor do Swedes share Nazi papers undisguised animosity against Sweden's past participation in training Danish Norwegian policemen here who needed when Quislingites and Germans obliged leave Denmark and Norway and lawful regime established our brother countries.

Weekly NORDEMS, seventeenth, commenting Finnish situation writes impossible exclude possibility Russia<sup>v</sup> will demand total occupation Finland until War's end. Necessary implement such demand by force arms but

impossible

000923

-6-551, eighteenth, from Stockholm via London

impossible doubt Russia's ability carry it out causing tremendous influx refugees from Finland so hoped Swedish Government and other authorities have leastly discussed this eventuality so Sweden prepared suddenly received perhaps hundreds thousand Finns.

JOHNSON

000924

74

CONTROL COPY

Official File Copy

IG-574  
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. (BR)

Stockholm  
Dated February 15, 1944  
Rec'd 12:35 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
FEB 16 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

503, February 15, 1 p.m.

With reference to last paragraph Legation's telegram number 480, February 13, 5 p.m. Official figures regarding refugees in Sweden January 1, 1944 follow:

From Norway, 21,000 including 560 Norwegian Jews and 300 other Jews; from Denmark, 13,000 including 6,000 Danish Jews and 1500 other Jews; from Baltic States, 2,500 including practically no Jews; from Poland, 1,650 including 100 Jews; from Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia, 3,400 including 206 Jews; from Czarist Russia, 600 including 500 Jews; from Soviet Russia, 420; from Yugoslavia, 75; from France, 400; from Belgium, 75; from the Netherlands, 450; from Hungary, 40 including 30 Jews; from Finland, 10,000 children plus unstated number of war invalids and other adults. Total refugees 53,800, including 11,600 Jews.

Since

7 0 0 9 2 5

-2- 503, February 15, 1 p.m., from Stockholm

Since January 1 about 1,000 more refugees have arrived from Denmark and 5 to 600 from Norway and some from Finland.

JOHNSON

JT

000926

EWE-201

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

Stockholm

Dated February 13, 1944

Rec'd. 10:51 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

US URGENT

480, February 13, 5 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
FEB 14 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

It can be said without reservation that the Swedish Government not only is giving sympathetic treatment to the problem of Jewish refugees and other persecuted minorities from occupied territory (see the Department's telegram number 131, January 25, midnight) but has established a record for having done everything possible, particularly within the last year, to make Sweden haven of refuge for these people. Many thousand refugees are already in Sweden and there is every indication that this country will continue to receive whoever succeeds in escaping to it. Moreover, Swedish press and public have shown no hesitation or restraint in antagonistic persecutions by Nazi Germany whenever they have taken place.

On the

000927

2-480, February 13, 5 p.m. from Stockholm

On the eve of German action against Jews in Denmark last October there were about 6,000 members of Mosaic organizations there, as well as several thousand non confessional and racially part Jews. Swedish Government made last minute but comparatively strong demarche in Berlin as soon as it became evident that action against Jews was imminent, emphasizing the unfortunate effects any such action would have on Swedish public opinion and offering to receive all Jews of Danish citizenship. Germans evidently paid no attention to this demarche which they never even answered. Net result, however, was that despite fact that Germans succeeded in catching and deporting to Theresien Stadt in protectorate about 1,500 Jews from Denmark, over 9,000 escaped to Sweden.

It need hardly be added that Swedes have been extremely hospitable to other Danish refugees as well. The non Jewish refugees from Denmark number between three and four thousand. Swedish Government has assumed primary financial responsibility for their support, putting up 5,000,000 crowns to begin with and cooperating

-3-480, February 13, 5 p.m. from Stockholm

cooperating with local Danish Legation in setting up well run Danish refugee office in Stockholm and about 35 refugee camps located chiefly in southern Sweden.

Number of Jews in Norway was much smaller than in Denmark. Germans in this case as well rebuffed official Swedish offer to provide refuge for Norwegian Jews. Of the 1,800 odd Jews in Norway when German action against them was launched in October 1942, about 1,000 were apparently captured and deported, one or two hundred are believed still under arrest in Norway, and about seven hundred escaped to Sweden. In this case as well it is clear that Swedish frontier and other authorities did everything possible to facilitate their getting over the border. Royal Norwegian Government has of course undertaken support all refugees from Norway of Norwegian citizenship including the Jews. At same time Swedish Government has cooperated on large scale in helping provide living quarters and work for them. Present total of refugees from Norway including Jews is about twenty thousand. Refugees from both Norway and Denmark include few hundred Jews of non Scandinavian origin, chiefly

"Stastonlos"

1 0 0 9 2 9

-4-480, February 13, 5 p.m. from Stockholm

"Staatenlos", who are looked after by Swedish authorities with the help of various Jewish organizations.

Though Swedish people and government have naturally been primarily interested in helping refugees from Norway and Denmark, they have also been sympathetic towards all bona fide refugees from Nazi tyranny. Those who escape hidden in vessels plying between Germany and Sweden and in railway cars which have been brought over by ferry are welcomed as soon as they make themselves known to Swedish authorities and are given every possible assistance. Despite occasional contrary reports, believed to have originated Nazi sources trying to discredit Swedish action Legation knows no (repeat no) proven cases of refugees being turned back at Swedish frontier.

On one occasion when Swedish Government was urged to make public appeal to Germans to permit Jewish children to come to Sweden from Poland action was not taken because it was clear in advance that Germany would turn down any such offer and it was then thought that public appeal might even injure chances of some  
refugees

000930

-5-480, February 13, 5 p.m. from Stockholm

refugees to escape unnoticed, but Swedes let it be known that they were prepared to admit Jewish children.

Official Swedish figures of refugees of (\*) as last item in the Legation's press telegram 3961, December 7. Current figures have been requested and will be forwarded when available.

JOHNSON

(\*) apparent omission

HTM

7 0 0 9 3 1

*War Refugee Board  
(Mr. Pehle)*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: February 13, 1944  
NUMBER: 481

The following message is in regard to my telegram of February 13, No. 480, to Legation's despatch of November 1, No. 2383, and to telegram of September 31, No. 3149, concerning Swedish Governments demarche to Germans on the subject of Jews in Denmark. The escape of Danish Jews to Sweden was achieved at least partly due to Swedish authorities allowing Danish patrol organizations here to secretly organize and operate efficient illegal boat service in Oresund waters. It is even suggested in some reports that Swedish police and naval authorities cooperated in this work.

You are herewith referred to despatches of April 9, No. 1629, and of December 23, 1942, No. 1252, as well as telegram of April 13, No. 1162, concerning Swedish efforts to save Norwegian Jews and to telegrams of May 19, No. 1610 and previous, regarding efforts on behalf of Jewish children in Germany and Poland.

Also, the Swedish Foreign Office reports success in a few individual cases involving Jews with close relatives here and their possible claims to Swedish citizenship, often of very dubious legal nature, but in which Swedish passports have been issued and individuals obtained German exit permits.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972 For example,

7 0 0 9 3 1

For example, in Copenhagen the Swedish Legation saved a number of lives last October using this method.

Several hundred Estonian Swedes, i.e., Estonians of Swedish extraction long settled in that former Baltic republic, are included among refugees who have now found haven in Sweden. They were gotten out last December subsequent to lengthy negotiations carried out by so-called Rogu Committee with the support of the Swedish Government despite the apparent original German reluctance to allow them to go.

Anxiety has been expressed in some quarters that Jewish and other refugees will obtain permanent positions at the expense of Swedish citizens, although in general, the Swedish public appears solidly behind the Government in its policy. The majority of public opinion as well as the fact that acute labor shortage exists in certain trades have caused complaints of this kind to be quickly stifled.

JOHNSON

7 0 0 9 3 3

TELEGRAM SENT

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. (14-00)

February 12, 1944  
5 p.m.

AMERICAN LEGATION  
STOCKHOLM.

233 - Reference your 167 of January 17.

Department and Fox would appreciate receiving any additional information which is available regarding the grant contained in the Swedish budget for 1944 bonded out Sweden in Germany. We would be particularly interested in learning the sum involved and the form which the assistance is expected to take. Will funds be transferred to the bonded out Sweden inside or outside the Swedish-German clearing or will the money be used to purchase supplies in Sweden for shipment to Germany? We hope that the Swedes clearly understand that shipments or financial transactions of this kind have a definite relation to their commitments to us under the new agreement and must therefore be discussed with us in advance preferably through the Stockholm SAC.

SECRETINUS

ACTING

(14-00)

CODE ROOM: Please repeat to London as Department's 1074.

BORJELMIAER KH

efcopy  
2-16-44

Distributed to: Mr. D. W. Bell (Mr. Dietrich); Mr. Paul; Mr. White (Mr. Fisher-Orig.); Mr. Luford; Mr. Fable; Mr. Schmidt; Mr. DuBois; Miss Madel; Mr. E. Bernstein; Mr. Glasser; Mr. Taylor; Mr. Hess.  
*Leiss, Friedman, Stewart, Pollak*

From Mrs. E. Fontaine - En. 225

000934

CONTROL COPY

78

Official File Copy

TELEGRAM SENT

EGG.  
This telegram must be  
paraphrased before being  
communicated to anyone  
other than a Government  
agency. (BR)

February 11, 1944

10 p.m.

AMERICAN EMBASSY

STOCKHOLM

229

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
FEB 14 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Reference Department's 131 concerning War Refugee  
Board. Please forward report requested in such cable  
to Department earliest possible date.

STETTINIUS  
(Acting)

U:HM:W

000935