

... with Respect to Relief and  
... of Refugees: Relief Projects

Relief to Jews in Holland (JDC)

110670

INCOMING CABLE  
LISEON

712  
1420  
REC'D AND STENCILED  
MARCH 22, 1944

FA28 XBX PG814 LISBOA 45 16 2020

NLT LEAVITT  
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE  
270 MADISON AVE NEW YORK

743 FOOD PARCELS HOLLAND CAMPS NOT YET BEING SENT UNDER LICENSE RECENTLY

RECEIVED BECAUSE ADEQUATE LISTS VERY DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN HERE STOP SALLY

MAYER SWITZERLAND ADVISES WESTERBORK MAY BE EMPTIED BY END MARCH STOP

WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED

DONALD HURWITZ

ir

*JOC*  
*NY 585125*  
FEBRUARY 17, 1944

FOREIGN FUNDS CONTROL DEPARTMENT  
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK

NY 585125<sup>x</sup> Approved notwithstanding General Ruling No. 11. Stipulation No. 2. License period six months. License should include the following additional stipulations: (1) The approval of the American Minister to Portugal to be received as to number, value, and contents of the parcels; (2) Food to be included in parcels to be restricted to that indigenous to Portugal and its European possessions; (3) Evidence of receipt by addressees to be furnished to the American Minister to Portugal. This latter stipulation does not require the furnishing of receipts as a prerequisite to the sending of the food packages

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Acting Director

Copy

EO Flaherty:bn 2/16/44

Recommended by War Refugee Board  
E.O.F.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

February 16, 1944

At Mr. Felle's request, I telephoned Mr. Adams of the Dutch Embassy and advised him that we were prepared to recommend the issuance of a license provided the Embassy had no objection. Mr. Adams indicated that the Embassy would have no objection to the immediate issuance of this license. I also called Mr. Kaier of FEA and advised him that we were recommending the immediate issuance of this license and that we had received clearance from the Dutch Embassy. Mr. Kaier stated that he would have no objection in view of the fact that the matter had been cleared with the Blockade authorities.

In view of the foregoing, it is recommended that collection No. NY 585125 be approved immediately.

/s/ F. Hodel  
F. Hodel

NY 585125 approved and despatched by wire Feb. 17.

EOF

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INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

February 11, 1944

TO Miss Florence Model

FROM R. E. Parke

Subject: Status of JDC Food Package Program for the Netherlands

Application NY565125 filed on November 9, 1943, is with Mr. O'Flaherty pending a communication from the JDC that the Netherlands government will interpose no objection to the subject program.

In an informal conversation with Mr. O'Flaherty, Mr. Adams of the Netherlands Embassy indicated that while he believed the Netherlands government would not wish to obstruct the program in question, he nevertheless felt that it would have been proper for the JDC to have approached the Embassy on the subject. It was pointed out, however, that the amount involved seemed out of proportion with the amount which the Netherlands government is permitted to remit to Lisbon in view of the relatively small number of Jews in the Netherlands. (Both programs involve \$12,000 monthly.)

Mr. Leavitt saw Mr. Pehle yesterday and reported he had spoken with Dr. Boon and Mr. Adams at the Netherlands Embassy. He was assured that the Embassy had cabled the Netherlands Legation at Lisbon but had as yet received no reply. The suggestion was made to Mr. Leavitt that he cable Dr. Schwartz to approach the Legation with a view to expediting the Legation's reply to the Embassy's cable with respect to the food package program. Mr. Leavitt so cabled Dr. Schwartz on February 3, 1944.

Mr. Leavitt stated both Dr. Boon and Mr. Adams had indicated to him the Embassy would have no objection to the program and that it would indicate the Embassy's approval in writing upon the receipt of the reply expected from the Netherlands Legation in Lisbon.

Mr. Adams confirmed the foregoing to me by telephone this afternoon. He volunteered the information that there were 15,000 Jewish refugees in one camp alone; there are two other camps.

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Re: Application No. NY 585125

January 23, 1944

The subject application has been pending since November 10, 1943, until FEA obtained clearance for the transaction from London. In a cable dated January 11, 1944, London expressed the view that such parcel schemes should be sponsored by the Allied Governments concerned and that the foreign exchange available for such operations should be shared proportionately. Accordingly, Kiser of FEA, in response to several calls has advised me that he has requested the Netherlands Legation in writing to indicate its approval of the J.D.C. operation.

In an informal conversation with Mr. Adams who called on me yesterday concerning another matter, he expressed the view that \$12,000 a month for the Jews in the Netherlands is an unnecessarily large amount as the number interned there is now relatively small according to information available to the Legation. He also indicated that he felt this matter might properly have been cleared by J.D.C. with the Dutch authorities before they applied for a Treasury license. He indicated, however, that they will probably give their approval to the plan, and at the same time ask that the general quota for the Netherlands be raised.

Because Mr. Pehle and Miss Kodel have been pressed in this matter by Mr. Leavitt and because we are holding action only until such time as FEA will have received the approval of the Dutch, I called Mr. Leavitt today and outlined the situation to him.

/s/ E. O. F.  
EWO'Flaherty

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PLAIN  
London  
Dated December 24, 1945  
Rec'd 10:23 p.m.

Secretary of State  
Washington

9071, Twenty-fourth

Reference Department's 755 December 17.

MEW has no objection to the increase in the amount of money being sent from the United States to Portugal to finance the despatch of parcels from Portugal, nor to the sending of parcels to Jews in concentration camps in the Netherlands. However MEW feels strongly that such exchange facilities should be given only to the representatives of Allied governments and that such parcels schemes should be sponsored by the Allied governments concerned rather than by special interest groups. Inasmuch as the amount of foreign exchange available for this type of expenditure is limited it is thought here that this procedure will tend to keep to a minimum the pressure from numerous special interest groups and the charges of discrimination in favor of or against particular groups which would otherwise arise.

This procedure is followed in the case of the scheme authorized here for Jews in Polish ghettos under which the sterling funds in England were made available by Jewish associations, but the remittance is effected through the Polish Ministry of Social Welfare to its representative in Lisbon. It is anticipated that the Netherlands Government would have no objection to following a similar procedure. If however the Netherlands Government should feel that twelve thousand dollars is a disproportionate share of the total exchange available to its monthly for parcel shipments (it is our understanding that at present this same amount is permitted the Netherlands Government for parcel shipments to all individuals in the Netherlands) MEW has indicated that it would raise no objection if an increase were made concurrently in the exchange allowed monthly under the plan already in operation.

Views of EWD and MEW concerning plan for more coordinated control in Lisbon, as suggested in your telegram under reference, will be reported in a separate telegram.

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THE AMERICAN JEWISH  
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE Inc.  
270 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

November 11, 1943

Mr. John W. Pelle  
Foreign Funds Control  
Treasury Department  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pelle:

This morning we received the enclosed cable from Dr. Schwartz. As I recall it, there was an original understanding between the United States and British Governments that the \$12,000 a month food package project from Portugal should apply to some six countries, including Holland. Inasmuch as there appears to be a possibility now of bringing a small measure of help to the Jews in the concentration camps in Holland, we would like to apply for a license on the same basis as our license for Poland and Theresienstadt. I would very much appreciate any comments that you may have with regard to our formally making such an application.

Sincerely yours,

Moses A. Leavitt  
Secretary

HAL:HP  
encl.

11/8/43 Called Leavitt who will file application and check a possible duplication with Dutch.

C O P Y

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

February 16, 1944

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In view of the foregoing, it is recommended that application No. NY585125 be approved immediately.

F. Hodel

*Mr. C. Pehle's request  
stated that application  
was approved  
1/21/44 R. B. Packer  
2/21/44  
2/17/44  
Expires July 31, 1944  
\$12,000 monthly (1.200)*

FHodel:hd 2/16/44

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C O P Y

February 11, 1944

Miss Florence Hodel

R. B. Parke

Subject: Status of JDC Food Package Program for the Netherlands

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H BParke; pdk 2/11/44