

With Respect to Relief and
of Refugees: Evacuation To and
from Spain and Portugal

Evacuation from Spain to Lyantey
Folder 1

5

PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF & RESCUE OF REFUGEES; EVACUATION TO & THRU
SPAIN (AND PORTUGAL) (EVACUATIONS FROM SPAIN TO LYAUTEY)

1. GENERAL
2. PERMITAS FOR PORT DUES IN SPAIN
3. MATERIAL TAKEN FROM MR. ACKERMAN'S FILES RE: THIS FILE

WAR REFUGEE BOARD RECORDS

CROSS-REFERENCE

.....
(Name of Applicant)

.....
(Application Number)

For correspondence with Ackermann concerning Fedhala .

SEE: ACKERMANN, LEONARD E.



009

In accordance with agreement between the Comité and the British and American Governments refugees of stateless and enemy nationality were authorized to be brought to Camp Lyautey so long as the number in the camp at any one time does not exceed 2,000. Admittance to the camp was not restricted to refugees actually in Spain at the time the agreement was entered into, but included refugees subsequently entering Spain from German-occupied areas. In fact, one of the main purposes of the agreement was to encourage the entry of refugees from enemy territory into Spain by taking these refugees off the hands of the Spanish Government. It is understood that arrangements are presently being worked out for the removal from Spain to the camp of somewhat less than a thousand refugees and that appropriate security checks have been made in this connection. Included in the group are a number of Sephardic Jews who have entered Spain during the last year as a result of negotiations carried on with the Germans by the Spanish Government. It is understood that no objection to the admittance into the camp of Sephardic Jews now in Spain have been made by the local Moroccan officials. However, these officials have now stated that other groups of Sephardic Jews who arrive in Spain after March 1 of this year will not be accepted into the camp. This ruling appears to be completely at variance with the original agreement since the number of refugees now available for the camp is much less than 2,000. It is known that other groups of Sephardic Jews are now in France ready to enter Spain. They cannot, however, enter Spain unless the Spanish Government is assured that they will be taken to Camp Lyautey shortly after their arrival in Spain. Accordingly, the

- 2 -

Moroccan officials should be advised that under the terms of the agreement between the Comité and the British and American Governments all Sephardic Jews and other stateless refugees or refugees of enemy nationality entering Spain at any time should, subject to the usual security check, be permitted to enter Camp Lyautey so long as the total number of refugees in the camp does not at any time exceed 2,000.

*Went from Spain
to Lyautey*

*1,000 - Barcelona
1,000 - Madrid
3,000 - North
50 - 100 persons*

Camp Lyautey, Fedhala, Morocco (Near Casablanca)

1200 - Stateless

Negotiations with French

- 1) French did not want camp established at all
 - (a) Because they want camp for themselves
 - (b) Because they were anti-refugees
 - (c) Because they felt the Moroccan economy would suffer bad effects
- 2) After months of applying intensive pressure the French conceded establishment of camp on following conditions:
 - (a) Shelter, maintenance and transport responsibility of U.K. and U.S.
 - (b) U.S. Army to make Camp Marshal Lyautey available
 - (c) Intergovernmental Refugee Committee responsible for eventual removal of refugees. (Miss Flexner says that I.G.C. has not been in on the matter and reference is actually formal.)
 - (d) Maximum number 2000 at any time. (This is arbitrary figure picked out of the hat by the French. Also apparently represents number of permanent accommodations. By use of tents camp could hold about 15,000).
 - (e) Original status of refugees of enemy nationality: internment. On this point State insisted that refugees should not be subjected to internment or concentration camp conditions and French agreed upon examination of each case to grant permission to work for those who can do so without disadvantage to the local economy. Those not given work permits can leave camp if they maintain permanent residence there. (It is important to note that the project is still proceeding on a voluntary basis as far as removal from Spain is concerned and UNRRA apparently is opposed to forced removal. Their man Beckleman who is in Spain now is to explain to refugees conditions under which they will go and ask them if they want to. (Flexner seems to have some doubt that they can get enough to run the camp.)
 - (f) Possibility of transfer of refugees to other locality
 - (g) Use of Service de Securite to police camp

(In discussion French subsequently mentioned 3 points to be considered in refugee selection - (1) Establishment of identity; (2) employability; (3) general health; (Apparently these will not be seriously considered.)

- 3) Number of Jewish refugees in Spain is question of great importance. Flexner thinks probably not more than 1300. (Perhaps tomorrow will have full report from Beckleman. Also we could ask George in State for guess.) If Flexner's guess is correct it perhaps is simply a question of requiring all to go to Spain.

Financial Arrangements

- 1) July 17, 1943 - President allocates to State \$500,000 from Emergency Fund for purpose
- 2) Budget estimate of \$714,170 made for 2000 people for one year. Flexner says that this is to be disregarded and new budget requested from people in Africa and Spain.
- 3) \$50,000 deposited in August with Consul General in Morocco for project but apparently not yet used. This is to be transferred to F.E.A. after accounting. Other \$450,000 was transferred to F.E.A. in December.
- 4) Procedure of creating joint revolving fund of \$200,000 by U.S. and U.K. discussed. Apparently British now want us to pay all subject to reimbursement.

Operations Contemplated and Status

- 1) Army has not yet formally designated this as refugee camp. (Army says it is awaiting more definite opening date.)
- 2) Budget has to be prepared and funds made available to project Director.
- 3) Supplies and equipment must be purchased. Army agreed at first to make supplies available but apparently now wants as much as possible to be purchased here. Army now indicates that it will only lend assistance to emergency operations. Field representatives have been requested to give specific information as to supplies needed. Some cars for use of camp have arrived or are awaiting shipment.
- 4) UNRRA has full personnel to run camp, including Director - 6 already in North Africa; 1 in Spain; 9 in Washington to be sent.
- 5) Selection of refugees - Mr. Beckleman, who is to be project Director is now in Spain finding how many will come.
- 6) British are to furnish sea transport from Portugal.

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OFFICE OF

FOREIGN RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OPERATIONS

Negotiations with French

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- 2) After months of applying intense pressure the French conceded establishment of camp on following conditions:
 - a) Shelter, maintenance & transport responsibility of U.K. & U.S.
 - b) U.S. Army & ^{Coast} Guard ^{Marine} ^{Aviation} available
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lat by French. Also apparently represents number of permanent accommodations. By use of tents Camp could hold about 15,000.)

- e) Original status of refugees of enemy nationality; internment. On this point State insisted that ^{refugees} ~~camp~~ should not be subjected to internment ~~and~~ or concentration camp.
- Conditions & French agreed upon examination of each case & grant permission to work for those who can do so without disadvantage to the local economy. Those not given work permits can leave camp if they maintain permanent residence there. (It is important to note that the project is still proceeding on a voluntary basis as far as removal from Spain is concerned & UNRRA apparently is opposed to forced removal. Their man Beckelman who is in Spain now is to explain to refugees conditions under which they will go & ask them if they want to. (Flamer seems to have some doubts that they can get enough to run the camp.)
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Locality.

g) Use of Service de Securite & police camp.

(In discussion ~~Flemer~~ ^{Flemer} & subsequently mentioned 3 points to be considered in refugee selection 1) Estab. of identity,

2) employability, 3) general health -

(Apparently, these will not be seriously considered)

3. Number of ^{deportees} ~~refugees~~ ^{in Spain} is question of great importance. Flemer thinks probably not more than 1300. (Perhaps tomorrow will have full report from Brooklyn ins. also we could ask George in State for guess) If Flemer's guess is correct it perhaps is simply a question of retraining all & go to Spain.

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FOREIGN RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OPERATIONS

Financial Arrangements

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- (2) Budget estimate of \$714,170 made for 2000 people for one year.
Flexner says that this is to be disregarded & new budget requested from people in Africa & Spain.
- (3) \$50,000 deposited in Aug. with Consul Gen. in Morocco for ~~protection~~ ^{applied} project but not yet used. ^{Toby says \$50,000 is already} Other \$50,000 transferred to F.R.R. in Dec.
- (4) ^{200,000} Proceeds of creating joint revolving fund by U.S. & U.K. discussed. ^{U.K. now want to pay all costs of} ^{& reimbursement} ^{of} project.

Operations Contempl. & Status

- (1) Army has not yet formally designated this as refugee camp. ^(Army says it is awaiting more def. opening data)
2. Budget has to be prepared & funds made available & project director.
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
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OFFICE OF

FOREIGN RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OPERATIONS

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- 4) M.N.A.R.P. has full personnel to run camp including director - already in N.A. in Spain - 9 in Washington to be sent.
5. Selection of refugees - ^{Mr. Beckelman} who is to be project director now in Spain finding how many will come.
- British ^{Govt} ~~govt~~ 2 furnish sea transport from Portugal

Ex-17 Pg
from Spain
Symbol



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Madrid, Spain, January 8, 1945. ✓

3WRB (State)
3WRB Reference Board (Pres)

CONTROL COPY

[Signature]

I have the honor to enclose, as of possible interest to the Department, a copy of a report on the evacuation of stateless refugees from Spain to North Africa which has been prepared by Mr. David, ELICKENSTAFF, director of the Representation in Spain of American Relief Organizations, for Mr. Ned Campbell, representative in North Africa of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, as a basis of discussion of plans for the possible evacuation of additional numbers of such refugees to Philipeville and other UNRRA camps in the Mediterranean area.

المذبح والشمس والارض

Enclosure: **REF A-1**
 ✓ Report, as stated

File No. 320
NWB/jf
Original to Department
(for Ozalid machine)
Copy to Embassy, Lisbon

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 08-22-2002 BY 60322 UCBAW

COPY

Enclosure to despatch No. 3819 dated January 8, 1945 from Carlton J. H. Hayes, American Ambassador, at Madrid, Spain on subject of Evacuation of Stateless Refugees from Spain to North Africa.

Report to Ned Campbell, UNRRA, North Africa, from David Blickenstaff, Madrid

EVACUATION OF STATELESS REFUGEES TO NORTH AFRICA

History

After it had been decided in the Spring of 1943 to evacuate stateless and other unprotected refugees from Spain to the camp at Fedhala in North Africa, an arrangement was made dividing the responsibility of this operation between the British and American Governments through their embassies in Madrid. The American Government was to assemble and transport the refugees in Spain to the port of embarkation, and the British Government was to provide transportation by sea to North Africa.

In a meeting held on January 31, 1944, between representatives of the British and American Embassies, the French Diplomatic Mission, Mr. Beckelman (representing the UNRRA), and myself, it was decided that this office handle the applications made by refugees for admission to the camp, distribute these applications to the screening authorities, advise the refugees concerning the acceptance or rejection of their applications and negotiate with the Spanish authorities the release of the refugees from camp and their exit from Spain. The American Ambassador asked this office to also carry out for the American Embassy its functions of assembling and transporting to the port of embarkation the refugees accepted for entry into the camp.

In this way, three groups of refugees left for the North African Refugee Center:

May 4	-	36 refugees
June 21	-	573 refugees
July 1	-	21 refugees
Total		630 refugees

Need of Outlet to North Africa

In my opinion an outlet to North Africa for stateless and other unprotected refugees is still urgently necessary though the numbers of refugees to whom such an opportunity is attractive has been greatly reduced by the three convoys to Fedhala and by expeditions to Palestine and Canada organized by this office during 1944. There nevertheless remain in Spain roughly one thousand refugees who receive financial assistance from American relief organizations. These are almost entirely refugees who are either legally or practically stateless. For some of them solutions will perhaps be found when return to France and other parts of liberated Europe becomes possible. For others, however, return to pre-1939 places of residence is impossible and they will become a part of the "hard core" of the post-war stateless refugee problem. I assume that the UNRRA or the Intergovernmental Committee is working on some solution to this more or less permanent problem and will make representations in this direction to the United Nations Governments when the plans for the post-war world are being drawn. It seems logical therefore that this group of refugees now in Spain should come as soon as possible under the authority and control of some such organization as the UNRRA.

There

There are, furthermore, many cases where the transfer to an UNRRA camp is, for humanitarian reasons, urgently desirable. In this category are many stateless and unprotected foreigners some of them resident for many years in Spain who, because of their participation on the Republican side during the Spanish civil war, are personae non grata with the present Spanish Government. Life for such persons in Spain is extremely difficult because of the impossibility to obtaining legal employment. Many of them are detained in work camps and prisons release from which being authorized only when immediate departure from Spain can be assured. The conditions of such interment leave much to be desired and the future for such refugees must appear completely hopeless.

Number of Refugees to be Evacuated

Of the one thousand refugees remaining in Spain on the rolls of private American relief organizations it would be difficult to estimate the number that could be evacuated to an UNRRA camp. The following factors must be taken into consideration in making any estimate:

1.- Refugees look upon evacuation to a camp as only a last alternative, something to be avoided if possible. The number of those willing to accept evacuation to a camp increases or decreases as the events of the war cause hopes of return to liberated Europe to rise and fall in the minds of the refugees. The policies that will be followed by the national authorities, especially French and Belgian, will of course determine to a large extent how many refugees will look to an UNRRA camp as a solution to their problem. The French authorities in Madrid have recently been accepting applications for French visas. This has raised the hopes of some refugees that they will soon be able to return to France where many of them had been living for some years before the beginning of the war in 1939.

2.- The number of refugees who will apply for entry into an UNRRA camp is affected by the policy of the private relief organizations now supporting them in Spain. Increasing needs elsewhere may cause these organizations to try to decrease their obligations in Spain. This will force some refugees to accept evacuation to a camp and will encourage others to do so by shaking the sense of security that they have developed during their stay in Spain with all expenses paid. If financial assistance were at present completely withdrawn, almost all the refugees now being assisted would be obliged to apply for evacuation to a camp. Till now none of the committees represented by this office has intimated that economic pressure should be used to oblige refugees to make such a decision.

3.- Experience has shown that a rather high percentage of applications for admission to the camp in North Africa are rejected. The North African screening authorities have dealt with our application lists as follows:

List No.	Date	No. of applicants	Number accepted	Number rejected	Percentage of rejections
1	Feb. 28	485	368	117	24%
2	Mar. 20	475	410	65	14%
3	Mar. 31	46	25	21	46%
4	Apr. 19	20	17	3	15%
5	May 2	47	19	28	60%
6	May 15	41	18	23	56%
7	June 16	93	60	33	35%
8	July 15	60	34	26	43%
9	July 25	4	4	-	-
10	Aug. 22	44	20	24	55%
11	Oct. 5	25	2	23	92%

Totals

List No.	Date	No. of applicants	Number accepted	Number rejected	Percentage of rejections
	Totals:	1,340	977	363	
12	Nov. 2	10	Report from screening authorities not yet received. 57 applications pending.		
13	Nov. 4	20			
14	Nov. 15	13			
15	Nov. 22	6			
16	Nov. 16	8			
	Total:	1,397			

Thus, out of a total of 1,340 applicants, 977 or 73% were accepted.

(Note: Discounting lists 1 and 2 of Feb. 28 and March 30, which represent the applications screened for the three convoys that have so far left for North Africa, the percentage of rejections on applications screened after the three departures comes to 45%.)

Furthermore, during the preparation of the three convoys sent to Fedhala, there were many refugees who withdrew after their applications had been accepted. These three convoys, totalling 630 refugees, represented 960 applications of which 778 accepted. The 182 refugees who did not leave though their applications were accepted, withdrew from the convoy for the following reasons:

Release from camp or prison or exit visa refused by Spanish authorities 24%

Emigrated to other countries, or evacuated by their diplomatic mission 20%

Remained in Spain with family member unable to leave for North Africa for health reasons or lack of exit permit. 16%

Health and miscellaneous. 22%

Applications withdrawn - no explanation given . . 15%

At the present time the situation of applications, acceptances and rejections stands as follows:

- 1.- Number of refugees now in Spain whose applications are accepted 322
- 2.- Number of refugees now in Spain whose applications are rejected 311
- 3.- Number of refugees now in Spain whose applications are pending with the N.A. screening authorities. 57
- 4.- Estimated number of accepted applicants who would be immediately ready to leave for N.A. 150

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RECEIVED 90

The Practical Problem

In order that these 150 refugees, and succeeding groups of refugees, be evacuated to North Africa, it is necessary that some competent authority (the UNRRA) undertake to obtain two things:

1.- That instructions be sent to the French authorities in Madrid for accepted applicants to be given documents that will permit them to disembark in North Africa.

2.- That permission be obtained from the competent military authorities to accept small groups (3 - 5 persons) of accepted, properly documented refugees on occasional ships leaving Gibraltar for North African ports; or that a ship be sent to some Spanish port especially to embark this first group of 150, and thereafter whenever a group of, say, fifty accepted applicants can be assembled.

We are prepared in this office to handle for the UNRRA the mechanics of preparing the refugees for evacuation, obtaining the necessary permits from the Spanish Government and arranging for transportation to the port of embarkation.

With regard to No. 2 above, I would very much prefer the first suggestion. It is much more useful to have the possibility of evacuating, say, ten refugees every two or three weeks, than fifty refugees every three or four months. A great deal could be done for many refugees if we could intervene at the Spanish police on their behalf with the possibility of giving assurance of immediate evacuation.

There has been, in recent weeks, an increasing tendency on the part of the Spanish authorities to intern foreigners who are thought to be dangerous or unfriendly to the present regime and to maintain in concentration camps refugees who should ordinarily have been released upon our assumption of financial responsibility for them.

For these refugees especially evacuation to an UNRRA camp is urgently desirable, for two reasons:

1.- Internment in Spain is, at best, under conditions that are sub-standard, and in company with interned Spanish criminals and Nazi Gestapo and military personnel.

2.- No progress toward finding an eventual solution to the cases of these internees can be made while they are in Spanish camps and prisons. Contrary to what their situation would be in an UNRRA camp, they are not, in Spain, the subjects of efforts on the part of the interning authorities, to find a solution to the "displaced persons problem". Internment in Spain is "time lost" - under conditions of moral and physical suffering.

① DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

EAS
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. [REDACTED] W)

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

November 22, 1944
9 p.m.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Way [unclear]

AMEMBASSY

LONDON
9834 X

The cable below for Mann is WRB 28.

For your information following cable has been sent by State
to American Embassy, Paris:

QUOTE Of more urgency at the present time than it was in
August is the matter which is taken up in instruction from the
Department to Algiers dated August 24, No. 213. Should it become
possible to rescue any of the persons from Germany to whom reference
is made in Resolution XXIV, the facilities of the Fedhala camp are
urgently needed for use. There is no other destination available
for these people at the present time. It is expected that these
individuals will be released into Switzerland and from there will
travel, either directly from France or by way of Spain and France,
to the Fedhala camp, as transportation can be arranged, under the
auspices of the War Refugee Board, if an exchange involving these
people can be arranged. We would appreciate it, therefore, if you
would urgently take up this matter with the Provisional Government
of France and secure its consent in principle to the admittance
into French territory from Switzerland of any persons included in
such a movement, to their travel to a point of exit on the frontier
of Spain, or to Marseille, or to any other port which may be
designated, and to their entrance into Morocco for accommodation

For security [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear]
CONTROL COPY

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SFP 15 1972

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RECEIVED

at

2- #9834, November 22, 9 p.m., to London

at Fedhala camp, subsequently.

If Reber would take up the question with SHAEF and secure agreement in principle to this kind of movement, along with a statement of requirements of SHAEF, it would likewise be appreciated. Screening of these people, it should be pointed out, cannot take place until they reach French territory; also that authorities in Germany who have the custody of the camps where they are held will apparently select the individuals for exchange. Jewish intellectuals from Poland comprise the majority of the individuals concerned, who can, it is presumed, be identified promptly as they are relatively well known in such circles.

The Government of the United States and the British Government have stated that they are opposed to the closing of the Fedhala camp, which still has definite purposes to serve; this for the information of Reber and the Embassy. UNQUOTE

STETTINIUS
(Acting)
(GLW)

WRB:MMV:KG
11/22/44

BO

WE

CABLE TO WINANT, LONDON, FOR MANN FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

For your information following cable has been sent by State to
American Embassy, Paris:

"Of more urgency at the present time than it was in August is the matter which is taken up in instruction from the Department to Algiers dated August 24, No. 213. Should it become possible to rescue any of the persons from Germany to whom reference is made in Resolution XXIV, the facilities of the Fedhala camp are urgently needed for use. There is no other destination available for these people at the present time. It is expected that these individuals will be released into Switzerland and from there will travel, either directly from France or by way of Spain and France, to the Fedhala camp, as transportation can be arranged, under the auspices of the War Refugee Board, if an exchange involving these people can be arranged. We would appreciate it, therefore, if you would urgently take up this matter with the Provisional Government of France and secure its consent in principle to the admittance into French territory from Switzerland of any persons included in such a movement, to their travel to a point of exit on the frontier of Spain, or to Marseille, or to any other port which may be designated, and to their entrance into Morocco for accommodation at Fedhala camp, subsequently.

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"The Government of the United States and the British Government have stated that they are opposed to the closing of the Fedhala camp, which still has definite purposes to serve; this for the information of Reber and the Embassy."

THIS IS WRB LONDON CABLE NO. 28.

10:30 a.m.
November 21, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel,
Lasser, Mannon, McCormack, Files

TH:hd 11/20/44

TO: MISS HODEL - Room 2410

Mr. Lesser

Mr. Friedman

Mr. Stewart

Miss Hodel

Mr. DuBois

Mr. Luxford

Mrs. Taylor

Please discuss with me.
Should Jim Mann be advised?

JWP

J. W. Pehle

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, Paris
DATED: November 15, 1944
NUMBER: 438

*710
Please
decide
with me
Shaw
Jim
be
advised?*

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The Government of the United States and the British Government have stated that they are opposed to the closing of the Fedhala camp, which still has definite purposes to serve; this for the information of Reber and the Embassy.

SWP:AEC:BB

STETTINIUS
(ACTING)

Paraphrase:
DGR:LOW:MEM

11/17/44

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Abrahamson, Aksin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Lesser, Marks, Mannon, McCormack, Pehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SFP 15 1972

2 lines by R.H. Parks

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, Paris
DATED: November 15, 1944
NUMBER: 4387

CONTROL COPY

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DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 15 1972**

entrance

-2-

entrance into Morocco for accommodation at Fedhala camp, subsequently.

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The Government of the United States and the British Government have stated that they are opposed to the closing of the Fedhala camp, which still has definite purposes to serve; this for the information of Reber and the Embassy.

SELTPIKIUS
(ACTING)

SWP:ABC:BB

Paraphrase:
DCR:LCW:MM

11/17/44

(COPY)

RCC

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

Algiers

Dated November 11, 1943

Rec'd 2:30 a.m., 14th.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

1977, November 11, 10 p.m.

FROM MURPHY

Translation of reply of November 9 received from French in regard to camp for refugees from Spain at Fedhala Morocco follows:

The personal representative of President Roosevelt North Africa by note 36 of October 18 kindly advised the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs of the agreement of the Government of the United States to the proposals of the French Committee concerning the project for accommodating in Morocco certain stateless refugees or nationals of enemy countries ~~who are now held in Spain.~~

Mr. Murphy has moreover called the attention of the Commissariat for Foreign Affairs to the interest which the American-British Governments attach to it not appearing that these refugees are being submitted to the internment regime of a concentration camp.

The Commissioner for Foreign Affairs has the honor to advise Mr. Murphy that it has never been the intention of the Committee to subject foreign refugees

to measures

Ref Murphy - 10 - 11 - 12 - 13 - 14 - 15 - 16 - 17 - 18 - 19 - 20 - 21 - 22 - 23 - 24 - 25 - 26 - 27 - 28 - 29 - 30 - 31 - 32 - 33 - 34 - 35 - 36 - 37 - 38 - 39 - 40 - 41 - 42 - 43 - 44 - 45 - 46 - 47 - 48 - 49 - 50 - 51 - 52 - 53 - 54 - 55 - 56 - 57 - 58 - 59 - 60 - 61 - 62 - 63 - 64 - 65 - 66 - 67 - 68 - 69 - 70 - 71 - 72 - 73 - 74 - 75 - 76 - 77 - 78 - 79 - 80 - 81 - 82 - 83 - 84 - 85 - 86 - 87 - 88 - 89 - 90 - 91 - 92 - 93 - 94 - 95 - 96 - 97 - 98 - 99 - 100

-2- #1977, November 11, 10:p.m. from Algiers

to measures designed to deprive them of liberty. French Committee wishes as do the British and American Governments to assure as generous as possible an asylum to refugees but it has appeared indispensable to take certain precautions with regard to persons whose antecedents are not known and for whom a simple review of the file would not furnish sufficient guarantees.

It is of course understood that the French authorities are prepared after an examination of each particular case to grant permission to work in Morocco to refugees, who can continue their professional work without disadvantage to the economy of the protectorate. In this connection such refugees will enjoy the right to remain in the area where it will have been possible to obtain employment for them, with the sole reservations of conforming to such controls which may be deemed necessary.

With respect to refugees who will not have been authorized to work and who as a result will have to be cared for at the Fedela camp, it goes without saying that the French administration, if the occasion arises will grant them facilities to remain away temporarily from the Housing Center, on the condition

-3- #1977, No. 11, 10: p.m. from Algiers

on the condition that they maintain their regular residence at the camp and observe scrupulously the laws and regulations of the country in particular those regarding immigration.

The Commissioner of Foreign Affairs hopes that these decisions, which have been taken with the two fold concern of treating unfortunate foreigners in a humane manner and of safeguarding order and security in the territories under French sovereignty, will meet with the approval of the American and British governments.

Repeat to Madrid and London.

WILEY

EJH

(Copied by VD:RU:GF)

3 Wor Refugee Board
UNITED STATES POLITICAL ADVISER
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS

September 22, 1944

AIR MAIL

~~RESTRICTED~~

No. 778

SUBJECT: Report on Fedala Camp

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

Sir:

- 1/ I have the honor to enclose herewith for the Department's information a copy of a resume of part of a report on the Fedala camp, which was transmitted to this office by Mr. R. L. Cochran, Principal Representative of UNRRA, Mediterranean Theater.

Respectfully yours,

For the U.S. Political Adviser:

Carmel Office
Foreign Service Officer

Enclosure: ✓

U. Resume of report

711.5

TSE/amj

Original copy to Department

CONTROL COPY

RECEIVED
OCT 1 1944
U.S. POLITICAL ADVISER
ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Partial translation and resume

28 August 1944

Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees

Representative with the French
Provisional Government, Algiers:
Gouverneur V. Valentin-Smith

REPORT ON FEDALA CAMP

Left Algiers 6 August, returned to Algiers 22 August.

Before starting on my visit to Fedala I went to the Residence to check on certain questions:

(1) The final agreement about the Fedala Camp, between the Commissariat for Foreign Affairs, the representatives of the U.S. and British Governments in Algiers, and Mr. Beckelman;

(2) the transfer of responsibility for the camp to UNRRA;

(3) the mobilization of the refugees. The question is this: since up till now all foreign refugees arriving in North Africa able to bear arms have been absorbed either into the French Army or into some other branch of the war effort, it would seem fair to apply the same rule to the stateless refugees. The Commissioner for Foreign Affairs considers that the refugees at Fedala camp should be asked to submit to this regime, and that those who refuse should not receive the same privileges as those who accept. My conversations with members of the War Refugee Board at Algiers indicate that the Board wishes to make no such discrimination between the volunteers for war service and the others. The question, which has been presented to the U.S. and British representatives in Algiers, is still undecided. There seem to be only a few dozen refugees who decline to enroll. Some foreign refugees who served in France in 1939-40 with the Foreign Legion are asking to enlist in French military units.

Residents at the camp

The camp now has (17 August) a population of about 650 persons. On 18 August a contingent of 150 British subjects (Maltese and Tripolitanian) arrived from Spain. Their stay should be limited, as the problem of repatriation seems to present few difficulties in their case. Also about 30 gypsies, arrived from Spain with a convoy of French refugees, have been accepted by the camp; these form a separate element, showing lack of cleanliness and undisciplined habits.

The camp population is chiefly children and aged people, which necessitates certain precautions in view of the winter and rainy season.

Refugees having entered the camp are as follows: Sephardics, about 400; Maltese and tripolitaniens, about 150; other nationalities, about 150; stateless, about 100; total about 800. Of these 800: 150 Maltese and Tripolitaniens are assured repatriation; 400 Sephardics wish to return to the Near East, 100 refugees have enlisted in the armed forces or are employed in the war effort; about 150 have no assurance of repatriation yet, though about a third of them are citizens or former residents of South America and other countries.

How the camp functions

My stay at the camp confirmed my former excellent impression of it, and I heard many expressions of gratitude from the residents for the sympathetic efforts of the Direction in their behalf.

An article of 6 August in "Vie Marocaine" gives a full report on the life of the camp:

The refugees arrived in Morocco about a month and a half ago.
Families are lodged in large tents, each with a table, chairs and

no more

no more than 3 beds. Refugees without families are grouped in dormitories by sex and age. The children (about 65) have their school, playground and 3 regular classes; instruction is given in French. The men work on the construction of the recreation hall, a special barracks, and the making of chairs, tables and toys. The atmosphere is one of perfect harmony. A number of the refugees have enlisted or re-enlisted in their respective armies . . .

Efforts have been made to remedy or compensate for the lack of school materials. Progress is slow, but it is hoped that better accommodations will be possible soon. Adult instruction has proved very satisfactory, with enthusiastic attendance. Experience has shown that an educational program can be carried out with a minimum of material supplies: sufficient blackboards and chalk, pencils and rulers, study hall space, a minimum of balls etc. for games and sports, paper, glue, etc. for manual training. The greatest aid to the elementary school program has probably been the cooperation and patience of the teachers in the face of discouraging conditions. Of the five teachers only one had any real previous teaching experience; the others had given private lessons. They have shown great adaptability, and the school is showing a good influence in the camp.

Books are lacking, but the assistance of the Commissariats of Information and of Education has enabled me to send to the camp, through the American Friends, about 100 kilos of books and pamphlets.

The camp directors have organized workshops where the refugees work at making furniture, pots and pans, etc. for the camp, using as materials old packing boxes and empty tin cans. They receive a daily salary. Recreation for the refugees has also been organized. Impression of kindness, understanding and efficiency on the part of Mr. Beckelman and his staff, who include a number of refugees as an auxiliary group. Illustrations of cleanliness, high morale, and good spirit of discipline among the refugees.

In general the functioning of the camp is so excellent that it would seem desirable for the Commissariat for Refugees and Deportees to utilize it as a model for the information of future directors of refugee camps.

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

DMH-885

This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Government
agency. [REDACTED] O)

Algiers.

Dated September 20, 1944

Receivd 9:54 p.m.

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

Secretary of State

Washington

96, September 20

BOC 2632 FROM FERGUSON FOR FEA.

Discussed COB 2339 dated September 5 with Beckelman
whose basic minimum requirements in categories you specify
were forwarded by him to UNRRA at their request with his
letter AOM 26 of August 21.

Commanding General Mediterranean base section says
army will continue provide food fuel medical and main-
tenance supplies from Atlantic base section as heretofore
so long as that section exists. Regarding preparing camp
for winter he will provide sufficient material and equip-
ment when the time comes to prevent suffering in the event
of emergency but will not (repeat not) undertake to pro-
vide necessary material and equipment at this time to
put camp on winter basis and make possible transfer camp
population from tents to barracks. He cannot say how long
army installations will remain this theatre but foresees
possibility their departure before year's end. NARC

DECLASSIFIED clothing
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CONTROL COPY

-2- #96, September 20, from Algiers

clothing requirements available from FEA stocks here.

For your information UNRRA authorized Beckelman transfer approximately 400 Greek origin refugees from NARC to Middle East. Since British Government already obligated move 150 British subjects from NARC to Tripolitania Beckelman trying combine both movements one ship and would appreciate your help. If these departures materialize Beckelman believes arrangements can be made for remaining 200 refugees either live outside camp or transfer Philippeville. Both Beckelman and I feel that best solution would be to follow procedure outlined this paragraph. In conversation with Cochran last week in Italy he indicated his concurrence with above.

LAWTON

WFS

00012

2 was R/L Ch
Pblli
~~Flower - Bury~~
~~Straw - 2028~~
1-27-08
9/2/07

CONTROL COPY

The Department's opinion that it would now be inopportune to close Camp Lyautey is agreed to entirely by the Foreign Office.

MINANT

2 FEB 11 11 09

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

[illegible]

Handwritten:
100-11-10
100-11-10
100-11-10

Handwritten:
2-14-44
Ryall-Like

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, London
DATED: August 31, 1944
NUMBER: 7017
X

CONTROL COPY

Please refer to your 6289 of August 5 concerning Beckelman's proposal to close Camp Lyautey.

Inasmuch as Camp Lyautey is still under the joint jurisdiction of the British and American Governments, Department's 6456 August 15 to Reed from [redacted] Beckelman's proposal must of necessity be passed upon by the two Governments.

It is the United States Government's view that now would be a highly inopportune time to close Camp Lyautey. Beckelman's statement that few newcomers are expected at Lyautey indicates that he is unaware of the Horthy offer (your 5956 of July 27 and our 6096 of August 2). The closing of Camp Lyautey at a time when the British and American Governments have accepted the Hungarian proposal to permit certain categories of Jews to emigrate from Hungary might well prove tragic in its consequences, for in the eyes of the Hungarian Government it might easily throw open to question the sincerity of the British and American Governments in accepting the Hungarian Government's offer. Obviously all possible havens must be held available for any eventuality that may occur from accepting the Hungarian

Government's

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

700 130

- 2 -

Government's offer.

It would be appreciated if you would make known to the British Government and the IGC the United States Government's view concerning Beckelman's proposal to close Camp Lyautey at this time. This cable has been cleared with the Department, FEA and WRB.

HULL

000131

CABLE FROM DEPARTMENT TO AMBASSADOR WINANT, LONDON, ENGLAND.

Please refer to your 6289 of August 5 concerning Beckelman's proposal to close Camp Lyantey.

Inasmuch as Camp Lyantey is still under the joint jurisdictions of the British and American Governments, Beckelman's proposal must of necessity be passed upon by the two Governments.

It is the United States Government's view that now would be a highly inopportune time to close Camp Lyantey. Beckelman's statement that few newcomers are expected at Lyantey indicates that he is unaware of the Harthy offer (your 5958 of July 27 and our 6096 of August 2). The closing of Camp Lyantey at a time when the British and American Governments have under consideration the Hungarian proposal to permit thousands of Jews to emigrate from Hungary might well prove tragic in its consequences, for in the eyes of the Hungarian Government it might easily throw open to question the sincerity of the British and American Governments' professed willingness to receive on United Nations' territory Jews and other victims of enemy oppression. Furthermore, in view of the promise which the United States Government is proposing to make to the Hungarian Government through Intercross to arrange for the care of and to find havens for all Jews permitted to leave Hungary who reach neutral or United Nations' territory (our 6096 of August 2), all possible havens must be held available for any eventuality that may occur.

It would be appreciated if you would make known to the British Government and the IGC the United States Government's view concerning Beckelman's proposal to close Camp Lyantey at this time. This cable has been cleared with the Department, FEA and WHB.

1:30 p.m.

August 15, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files

Markaire

8/15/44

WJM

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TO:

September 1, 1944

7-11
Mr. Friedman

This appears to be informa-
tive only, requiring no action by
us.

M.S.
MILTON SARGOY

000133

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

1944 AUG 20 AIRGRAM
AM 10 03

*2. 1071 Ref.
Bd (Jm
Schle)*

*RECEIVED
1944 AUG 20
10 10 03*

FROM: American Embassy,
Madrid, Spain

DATE: August 16, 1944. *File*

REC'D: August 29, 5p.m. *JB7*

Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

CONTROL COPY

A-387, August 16, 1944, 4 p.m.

A group of 410 French refugees departed from Spain for North Africa via Gibraltar on August 14, bringing to approximately 2,400 the total number of such refugees evacuated from Spain since beginning of year. It is estimated that not more than 200 French refugees remain in Spain as of this date.

BUTTERWORTH

Copies to Algiers.

NWB/jk

File No. 905

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

000134

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
BE-313

1944 AUG 17 PM 4 31

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

PLAIN

Casablanca

Dated August 16, 1944

Rec'd 8:20 a.m., 17th

War Ref B

(B.H.)

Secretary of State
Washington

CONTROL COPY

228, Sixteenth

CROWLEY AND LEHMAN FROM UNRRA

Number 7.

150 additional refugees arrived today.

RUSSELL

CSB

000133

TO: Mr. Warren

FROM: Mr. Pohle

Reference is made to Mr. Selden Chapin's despatch No. 436 of July 25, 1944 to the Secretary of State concerning the Fedhala Refugee Camp.

Inasmuch as the State Department has forwarded Mr. Chapin's despatch to the War Refugee Board, it is assumed that the Department is interested in the Board's comments concerning the contents of Mr. Chapin's despatch.

The War Refugee Board's primary interest in the refugee camp at Fedhala is as an available haven for refugees escaping from Nazi-occupied Europe to Spain and Portugal. Only if Fedhala or some equally available camp admits such refugees are the Spanish and Portuguese Governments likely to cooperate fully in facilitating their escape from Nazi territory. This is particularly true of the Sephardics whose evacuation from occupied territory the Spanish and Portuguese Governments actively sponsor on the understanding that they will depart as soon as possible after their arrival in Spain or Portugal. Thus although the Spanish and Portuguese Governments may, in order to facilitate their evacuation from occupied territory, claim such Sephardics as citizens, despite the fact that they emigrated from Spain and Portugal many centuries ago, they most certainly are not welcome to remain in these countries after their escape from the Nazis.

The French position in respect to Sephardics, as stated in the French letter No. 97/826 of July 6 from the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs to Mr. Chapin and in the note from the Commissioner of Foreign Affairs to Mr. Beckelmann is not clear. If Sephardics from occupied Europe are to be excluded from Fedhala on the ground that they are Spanish or Portuguese citizens, the War Refugee Board can not agree to the French proposal, which would serve to discourage all further efforts on the part of the Spanish and Portuguese Governments to facilitate the escape of these unfortunates. If, on the other hand, the French position is that Sephardics from Nazi Europe whose stay in Spain or Portugal is not desired by these Governments are admissible to Fedhala, the War Refugee Board is for its part satisfied with the French proposal.

Insofar as the compulsory mobilization of refugees in Fedhala is concerned the War Refugee Board is in full agreement with Mr. Chapin's observations concerning the French proposal.

HJMark:ro
8/15/44.

msm JBT Cde

100136

DEPARTMENT

OF

STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

August 11, 1944

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON,

6466

FROM CROWLEY AND HANNIGAN, FEA, FOR REED

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

Your 6289, August 5, French Division,

Liberated Areas, FEA is responsible for the operation of
Fedhels Refugee Camp. Beckelmann and his American staff
belong to and are paid by UNRRA but are loaned to FEA to
operate the camp until UNRRA takes it over.

HULL
(RLH)

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

1944 AUG 17 AM 10 43

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

DCR: RLH: ATM

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8-11-44

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

000137

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE August 9, 1944.

TO Mr. Friedman

FROM Mr. Marks *MM*

RE: London Cable No. 6289 of August 5

The attached cable indicates that Beckelman is still doing everything possible to close Camp Lyautey. I understand also that Dunlop of FEA has approached a number of persons at the State Department with a similar proposal. You are familiar with Miss Flexner's opinion on this subject.

In my opinion now is the time to slug it out, for two reasons: (1) Our own position is at the moment unassailable because of the Horthy offer and (2) The proposal to close Camp Lyautey has now reached the stage where it may be officially taken under consideration by the British. Unless we take a strong position on the subject and make this position known immediately, matters may get out of hand.

I recommend that the following cable be sent to Ambassador Winant after clearance with FEA and the State Department:

"Please refer to your 6289 of August 5 concerning Beckelman's proposal to close Camp Lyautey.

Inasmuch as Camp Lyautey is still under the joint jurisdictions of the British and American Governments, Beckelman's proposal must of necessity be passed upon by the two Governments.

It is the United States Government's view that now would be a highly inopportune time to close Camp Lyautey. Beckelman's statement that few newcomers are expected at Lyautey indicates that he is unaware of the Horthy offer (your 5956 of July 27 and our 6096 of August 2). The closing of Camp Lyautey at a time when the British and American Governments have under consideration the Hungarian proposal to permit thousands of Jews to emigrate from Hungary might well prove tragic in its consequences, for in the eyes of the Hungarian Government it might easily throw open to question the sincerity of the British and American Governments' professed willingness to receive on United Nations' territory Jews and other victims of enemy oppression.

000138

- 2 -

Furthermore, in view of the promise which the United States Government is proposing to make to the Hungarian Government through Inter-cross to arrange for the care of and to find havens for all Jews permitted to leave Hungary who reach neutral or United Nations' territory (our 6096 of August 2), all possible havens must be held available for any eventuality that may occur.

It would be appreciated if you would make known to the British Government and the IGC the United States Government's view concerning Beckelman's proposal to close Camp Lyautey at this time. This cable has been cleared with the Department, FEA and WEB."

000133

Shirley B.
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, London.
TO: Secretary of State, Washington.
DATED: August 5, 1944.
NUMBER: 6289.

CONTROL COPY

This morning, at a conference between Browne and Henderson of the Refugee Section of the Foreign Office, Vice Director of IGC, speaking for the Director, a problem was brought up, as follows:

Four hundred of the six hundred refugees in the camp for refugees at Fedhala are Sephardic Jews of Greek nationality, so Beckelman of FEA, Manager of the refugee camp there reports. Beckelman has made the recommendation to Valentin Smith that it is desirable to move these four hundred inmates from this camp to a camp in Palestine for Greeks, distribute the remaining 200 elsewhere, and then close up the camp, whose capacity is 2,000, with few newcomers expected. (Valentin Smith is the IGC representative in Algiers.) The departure of United States troops from Morocco, resulting in a lessening of supplies and other facilities, it is understood, is, to some extent, the reason for this recommendation.

Instructions have been asked of IGC by Valentin Smith, and IGC, in turn, conferred with the London Office of UNRRA, as it understood that the camp had been taken over, from the joint operations of the American and British Governments, by UNRRA. The London UNRRA states that it does not know who

is responsible
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 15 1972**

000140

-2-

is responsible for the camp, and that it has nothing at all to do with it. At the time the Congress passed the appropriation bill for UNRRA, the camp was transferred to UNRRA, the Foreign Office understood, but it doubts now whether its own responsibility toward the camp stopped at that time, in light of the present developments. In view of the fact that several of the officials of the camp are being paid by it, it urgently wishes to know the agency that is now operating the camp.

With reference to the proposal of Beckelman to move the 400 Greeks, IGC desires to give Valentin Smith instructions to act according to the decision which the operation of the camp made, but this it is unable to do until the name of the operation is known. There is no desire on the part of IGC to recommend approval or disapproval of the proposition, but IGC will strongly object to any action which might, in the end, hinder the final repatriation to Greece of Greeks, because this will be IGC's responsibility.

It is urgently requested that the name of the agency now responsible for the Fedhala Camp be transmitted.

WINANT.

DCR:LCW 8/8/44

000141

Evac. fr. Spain to Lyantey ①

HR DM

copy

27 July, 1944

No. 2

JIM:

I have just received a copy of WRB No. 34 of 18 July (State Dept. No. 2230) regarding commitment from French on movement of from 25 to 50 refugees on each convoy. If possible, let John Hrones know if you and Chapin will have time to handle this. If not, I can return to Algiers in about two weeks or less.

Sincerely,

LEN

Taken fr. Mr. Ackermann
files

000142

NO. 435
X

OFFICE OF THE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

~~RESTRICTED~~

~~RESTRICTED~~

Algiers, July 25, 1944

CONTROL COPY

SUBJECT: Fedhala Refugee Camp.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,

WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to enclose a translation of a note, dated July 6, received from the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs with respect to the Refugee Camp at Fedhala. The note was referred to the representatives of UNRRA and the President's War Refugee Board and upon their suggestion it is being transmitted herewith for reference to Governor Lehman and the interested agencies of the United States Government for their comments.

The subject raised in the first numbered paragraph of the note from the Foreign Office, namely, the conditions imposed upon the settlement of the Sephardic refugees in the Fedhala Camp, appears to be reasonable and in accord with the agreement entered into with the French authorities.

On the other hand, the subject dealt with in the second numbered paragraph of the note, namely, the mobilization of refugees in the Fedhala Camp, is formally raised by the French for the first time. In this connection the Representative of UNRRA in charge of the Camp, Mr. Beckelman, has advised the Mission that he has encouraged recruiting among the refugees on a voluntary basis and that the French Army, the French Foreign Legion, the British Pioneer Corps, and the Yugoslav Army have each enlisted some of the men. This program of voluntary enlistment has been instituted as a means of aiding those refugees who are capable and desirous of participating in the Allied war effort. It is Mr. Beckelman's feeling, however, as well as that of the Representative of the War Refugee Board that to subject all physically fit men in the camp to compulsory mobilization would be wholly undesirable. Acceptance of the condition that those who refuse to participate in the common war effort should be kept within the camp and not benefit from the facilities envisaged in the agreement reached between the British

and...

3 War Refugee Board
(Thas)

000143

and American Governments and the French Authorities would mean making an internment center out of the camp insofar as those persons were concerned.

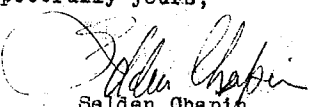
Early in the negotiations with the French it was expressly emphasized that all possible means should be taken to avoid the impression being given that the refugee center at Fedhala was a concentration camp. The French authorities concurred in this view, and moreover agreed that the refugees in the camp should be granted certain freedom of movement in Morocco. It is therefore believed that care should now be taken that the conditions concerning the mobilization of the refugees do not prejudice these facilities or the purpose behind them.

A second consideration involved in the French proposal is the danger that if the enemy were to learn that any individuals from among the group in the camp coming out of enemy territory on Spanish papers were being mobilized into the Allied armies, this avenue of escape might be immediately closed. Moreover, this consideration is important in view of the representations currently being made to the Spanish authorities for the purpose of increasing the possibilities of rescuing victims of enemy persecution escaping from enemy-occupied territory.

It is to be noted that the French base their condition of compulsory mobilization of the Fedhala refugees upon the argument that the same treatment is accorded to all foreign refugees fit for mobilization who arrive in French North Africa. The facts that the refugees in the Fedhala camp have been admitted upon a purely temporary basis and that the Inter-Governmental Committee is obligated to move them to more permanent areas for settlement places them in an entirely different category from other foreign refugees arriving in French North Africa. These circumstances could easily justify the position that for the Fedhala refugees, mobilization should be kept upon a strictly voluntary basis. Otherwise the policies of the American and British Governments in facilitating the rescue of persons presently in danger of losing their lives at the hands of the enemy may be seriously prejudiced.

The British Mission which is in receipt of an identical note from the French Foreign Office is referring the communication to London for comment.

Respectfully yours,


Selden Chapin
Counselor of Embassy, In Charge

Enclosure:

Translation of note from
Commissioner for Foreign
Affairs, dated July 6, 1944.

711.5

GWR:jec

Original copy to Department.

7 0 0 1 4 3

Enclosure to dispatch No. 435, dated July 6, 1944, from
Algiers.

(A Translation)

FRENCH COMMITTEE
OF
NATIONAL LIBERATION

French Republic

Commissariat for Foreign Affairs

Direction Politique
Afrique-Asie-Océanie

Algiers, July 6, 1944

No. 97/826

The Commissioner for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to Mr. Selden Chapin and has the honor to call his attention to the two questions stated below with respect to the refugees camp of Fedhala.

I - Sepharadic refugees.

Mr. Beckelmann, acting in the name of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, pointed out to the Department of Foreign Affairs the interest that would result if the Sepharadic Jewish Refugees would be temporarily accepted in the lodging center of Fedhala, in the same way as other stateless people.

The Commissariat for Foreign Affairs has given his approval, in a letter of which copy is attached to this note, to the request addressed by the Delegate of UNRRA, on two conditions:

that the installation of the Sepharadics in the camp of Fedhala be made in accordance with the agreements entered into by the French and Allied authorities;

that the Sepharadics whom the UNRRA intends lodging in Fedhala are not citizens of a nation that has been spared by the war and on whose territory they could find refuge.

II - Mobilization of refugees.

Up to now, all foreign refugees, fit for mobilization, have, on their arrival in North Africa, either enlisted in the French Army, or in British pioneer units, or have been placed under obligation to participate in some way or other in the Allied war effort. It seems only fair to apply similar rulings to stateless refugees.

The Commissioner for Foreign Affairs believes that the guests of Fedhala Camp who are fit for mobilization must be asked to comply with the rules stated above. Those who refuse to participate in the common war effort will be maintained in the camp and will not benefit from the facilities envisaged in the agreements arrived at between the French, American and British Governments.

To: Mr. Selden Chapin,
Counselor of Embassy,
American Diplomatic Mission, Algiers.

000145

(A Translation)

From: Commissariat of Foreign Affairs

TO: Mr. W. Beckelmann
Chief of Mission
Civil Affairs
Algiers.

Sir,

In your letter of April 29th you asked me whether it might be possible to accept in the camp of Fedhala Sepharadic Jewish refugees who are to be sent to Morocco shortly.

I have the honor to confirm to you that I do not see any objection to the temporary installment of the refugees in question, on condition that this right does not extend to those of the Sepharadics who are citizens of nations untouched by the war, such as Spain or Portugal.

On the other hand, I believe I ought to add that:

(1) in no case, the total number of refugees to be admitted in Morocco must exceed 2,000 persons as stated in the agreement between the three Allied Governments;

(2) the measures of security that have been taken with regard to the first group of refugees coming from Spain, must be equally placed upon the Sepharadic refugees. Especially no person will be admitted into Morocco without the previous agreement of the French, American and British Security Services.

(3) the Sepharadics will have to submit, in all matters, to the regulations settled under the agreement of the French, American and British Governments, for everything that concerns the sojourn of the refugees in the Protectorate.

I beg you to accept, Sir, my best consideration.

000146

DEPARTMENT

Distribution of this
message only by special
statement. SECRET W

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

TO BE SENT IN SECRET

CONTROL COPY

AMULET

ALGIERS.

2231

The following WRB cable 36 is for Saxon.

Sir Herbert Emerson has received in London through Gouverneur Valentin Smith, the Intergovernmental Committee representative in Algiers, the recommendation of the local management of Camp Lyautey that the camp be closed and its 600 inmates be transferred to existing camps in Egypt and Palestine and to countries willing to receive them. This recommendation is based on the opinion of the local management that in view of the improved international situation it is improbable that further large contingents of refugees will arrive at Lyautey and that therefore the costly maintenance of 600 persons in a camp established to care for 2,000 refugees is not (repeat not) justified.

Emerson replied to Smith that the question of the future of Camp Lyautey is one primarily for the British and American Governments in consultation with the French authorities and that the Intergovernmental Committee had no instructions to give although it felt that a decision to close the camp now would be premature.

For your information the War Refugee Board has cabled Ambassador Winant in London as follows:

QUOTE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

000147

TO BE SENT IN ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ "W"

-2-#2281, July 25, 5 p.m., to Algiers

QUOTE The War Refugee Board is in full agreement with Sir Herbert Emerson that a decision to close Camp Lyantey now would be highly premature. In our opinion the international situation has not (repeat not) become stabilized to such a degree as to justify the taking of an irrevocable step such as that suggested. Moreover, such a suggestion is difficult to understand, in view of the necessity of caring for increasing numbers of refugees escaping from enemy territory, and the recent decision to expand at once existing refugee facilities in the Middle East and to open new camps in French North Africa, Tripolitania and Oswego, New York. UNQUOTE

HULL
(GHE)

WRB:MMV:OMH
7/21/44

3/CR WE

BC AFA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

000148

July 20, 1944
10 p.m.

CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO AMBASSADOR WILSON FOR SAXON, ALGIERS.

Sir Herbert Emerson has received in London through Gouverneur Valentin Smith, the Intergovernmental Committee representative in Algiers, the recommendation of the local management of Camp Lynsey that the camp be closed and its 600 inmates be transferred to existing camps in Egypt and Palestine and to countries willing to receive them. This recommendation is based on the opinion of the local management that in view of the improved international situation it is improbable that further large contingents of refugees will arrive at Lynsey and that therefore the costly maintenance of 600 persons in a camp established to care for 2,000 refugees is not (repeat not) justified.

Emerson replied to Smith that the question of the future of Camp Lynsey is one primarily for the British and American Governments in consultation with the French authorities and that the Intergovernmental Committee had no instructions to give although it felt that a decision to close the camp now would be premature.

For your information the War Refugee Board has cabled Ambassador Winant in London as follows:

cc: Sec'y
Abrahamson
Alvin
Born
Cohn
DuBois
Friedman
Hodel
Laughlin
Lesser
Mann
Stewart
Central
Files,
Cable
Control Files

QUOTE The War Refugee Board is in full agreement with Sir Herbert Emerson that a decision to close Camp Lynsey now would be highly premature. In our opinion the international situation has not (repeat not) become stabilized to such a degree as to justify the taking of an irrevocable step such as that suggested. Moreover, such a suggestion is difficult to understand, in view of the necessity of caring for increasing numbers of refugees escaping from enemy territory, and the recent decision to expand at once existing refugee facilities in the Middle East and to open new camps in French North Africa, Tripolitania and Casablanca. New York. UNQUOTE

This is WRB Cable to Algiers No. 35.
M/Marks/MSargoy/AAbrahamson:dh 7/20/44

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: F

Secretary of State, Washington

TO:

American Embassy, London

DATED:

July 21, 1944

NUMBER:

5723

CONTROL COPY

Please refer to your 5637 of July 17 concerning the recommendation transmitted by the Inter-governmental Committee representative in Algiers that the refugee camp at Fedhala be closed.

The War Refugee Board is in full agreement with Sir Herbert Emersen that a decision to close Camp Lyautey now would be highly premature. In our opinion the international situation has not (repeat not) become stabilized to such a degree as to justify the taking of an irrevocable step such as that suggested. Moreover, such a suggestion is difficult to understand, in view of the necessity of caring for increasing numbers of refugees escaping from enemy territory, and the recent decision to expand at once existing refugee facilities in the Middle East and to open new camps in French North Africa, Tripolitania and Oswego, New York.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

000150

Please refer to ACHS

7

MONTEA

DALE

LO

AMOR

2453

2454

2455

2456

2457

CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO AMBASSADOR WINANT, LONDON, ENGLAND

Please refer to your 8637 of July 17 concerning the recommendation transmitted by the Inter-governmental Committee representative in Algiers that the refugee camp at Fedhala be closed.

The War Refugee Board is in full agreement with Sir Herbert Emerson that a decision to close Camp Lynxey now would be highly premature. In our opinion the international situation has not (repeat not) become stabilized to such a degree as to justify the taking of an irrevocable step such as that suggested. Moreover, such a suggestion is difficult to understand, in view of the necessity of caring for increasing numbers of refugees escaping from enemy territory, and the recent decision to expand at once existing refugee facilities in the Middle East and to open new camps in French North Africa, Tripolitania and Oswego, New York.

July 20, 1944
11:55 a.m.

mm md aa
M/Marks/M/Sargoy/A/Abrahamson:dh 7/19/44

00015

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (W)

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

July 16, 1944

6 p.m.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

AMREP,

ALGIERS.

2230 *

The following WRE cable 34 is for Ackermann and Saxon.

Please refer to 2415 of July 11 from Madrid to Department repeated to Algiers as Madrid's 392 for Ackermann and Saxon urging that a commitment be obtained from the French for the evacuation from Spain of from 25 to 50 stateless refugees holding North African entry visas to Camp Fedhala on each French convoy calling at Spanish ports to evacuate French refugees to North Africa.

Board suggests that you use your utmost efforts to obtain this commitment from the French. Please advise us of any difficulties you may encounter.

HULL
(GLW)

WRE:MMV:KG
7/16/44

WE

SWF S/OR

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

TO AMBASSADOR WILSON FOR ACKERMANN AND SAXON AT ALGIERS FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please refer to Madrid's 392 to Algiers for Ackermann and Saxon urging that a commitment be obtained from the French for the evacuation from Spain of from 25 to 50 stateless refugees holding North African entry visas to Camp Fedhala on each French convoy calling at Spanish ports to evacuate French refugees to North Africa.

Board suggests that you use your utmost efforts to obtain this commitment from the French. Please advise us of any difficulties you may encounter.

This is War Refugee Board cable to Algiers No. 34.

3:55 p.m.
July 17, 1944

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

MJM m2 BT
MJM/MSargoy dh 7/17/44

000153

*Some from
Spain*

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

BE-459

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

PLAIN

Madrid

Dated July 17, 1944

Rec'd Noon, 18th

3

Wm R

Bd (m)

(Pelle)

Secretary of State
Washington

CONTROL COPY

Fily

2500, Seventeenth

Fifteen members of supplementary exchange

group left Iran July 15 by train for Lisbon.

Other seven members of group proceeded to Madrid
on same date and are now in care of Blickenstaff's
organization awaiting completion of arrangements
for their transfer to Fedmla. Repeated to Lisbon
as 179 and London as 596.

BUTTERWORTH

BB

000154

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

War Ref. Bd. - Ind. Ref. Bd.
INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

MIS-196

CONTROL COPY

London

Dated: July 17, 1944

Rec'd: 3 p.m.

Secretary of State,

WKS
Washington.

5637, seventeenth
X
FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF

JUL 18 1944

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Sir Herbert Emerson has furnished the Embassy with a copy of a cable received by him from Gouverneur Valentin Smith Inter-governmental Committee representative in Algiers transmitting a suggestion that the refugee camp at Fedhala be closed. Smith says the camp now holds 600 persons, that because of improving international situation no more large contingents are to be expected and that costly maintenance of organization to care for 2000 persons is not justified. Local management of camp recommends closing it and transferring the 600 inmates to existing camps in Egypt and Palestine and to countries willing to receive them.

Emerson has replied that question of the future of the camp is one primarily for American and British Governments in consultation with French authorities; that Inter-governmental Committee has no instructions to give

-2- 5637, seventeenth, from London.

to give but feels that decision to close the camp
now would be premature.

WINANT

WSB

000150

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

5- War Ref Board - Pehle
INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

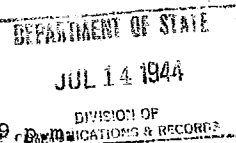
LL-756
Distribution of
true reading only by
special arrangement
W)

Madrid

Dated July 11, 1944

Rec'd 8:30 p.m., 12th.

Secretary of State,
Washington.



2415, July 11, 9 p.m.
FOR PEHLE FROM MANN

Blickenstaff in my talks with him has emphasized the importance of evacuating stateless refugees now in Spain who hold North Africa entry visas to Camp Fedhala, particularly in view of our delay to date in arranging evacuations. French convoys are regularly calling at Spanish ports to evacuate French refugees to North Africa in groups of 300 to 500 each trip. If a commitment could be obtained for the French to take between 25 and 50 stateless people in each convoy, our position here would be greatly improved. The Blickenstaff organization can deliver the refugees at the proper ports with necessary documents and the French would only have to furnish space in vessels.

I suggest that every effort be made to get such a commitment.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

-2- #2415, July 11, 9 p.m., from Madrid.

commitment. This message is being repeated to
Algiers as Embassy's 392 for Ackermann and
Saxon.

BUTTERWORTH

EEC
RR

000158

June 26, 1944

Secretary Morgenthau^y
J. W. Pehle

I am sure you will be glad to know that Camp Fedhala is at last to be occupied by refugees. We have just been advised that 573 stateless refugees sailed from Spain on June 21st for the camp.

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

JK FH:ro 6/26/44

7 0 1 5

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Madrid
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: June 22, 1944
NUMBER: 2172

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON D.C.
JUN 23 1944
CONTROL COPY

The following has been repeated to Algiers.

You are informed that on June 21, there sailed from
Cadiz en route to Fedhala a group of 573 stateless refugees.

HAYES

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

DEPARTMENT
OF STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

June 10, 1944
4 p.m.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

Distribution of this
message only by special
arrangement. (REASON)

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

MADRID.
1690X

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUN 12 1944

CONTROL COPY

The cable below is from the War Refugee Board in
reference your 1931 of May 31 regarding failure of
evacuation ship to sail on June 7 from Cadiz.

Repeated delays in evacuation of refugees in
Spain to North Africa also disturbing to Board. The
Board's representative in Algiers has repeatedly tried
to hasten sailing date, although under terms of under-
standing between British and United States Governments
concerning transfer of refugees to Camp Lyautey from
Spain, ocean transport to North Africa is a British
responsibility. Ship will sail about June 25, with
definite sailing date to be fixed about June 15, accord-
ing to latest information from him.

STETTINIUS
ACTING
(GHW)

WRB:MMV:KG
6/9/44

S/CR WE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CABLE TO MADRID

From War Refugee Board to Ambassador Hayes, Madrid, Spain

Reference your 1931 of May 31 concerning failure of evacuation ship to sail from Cadiz on June 7.

We too are disturbed by repeated delays in evacuation to North Africa of refugees in Spain. Although under terms of understanding between British and United States Governments concerning transfer of refugees from Spain to Camp Lyautey, sea transportation to North Africa is a British responsibility, the War Refugee Board's representative in Algiers has repeatedly endeavored to hasten the sailing date. Latest information from him is that ship will sail about June 25, the definite sailing date to be fixed about June 15.

June 8, 1944
4:35 p.m.

HJMarkusian 6-8-44
187 mym

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

June 10, 1944

4 p.m.

AMEMBASSY,

MADRID

X
1690

The cable below is from the War Refugee Board in
reference your 1931 of May 31 regarding failure of
evacuation ship to sail on June 7 from Cadix.

Repeated delays in evacuation of refugees in
Spain to North Africa also disturbing to Board. The
Board's representative in Algiers has repeatedly tried
to hasten sailing date, although under terms of under-
standing between British and United States Governments
concerning transfer of refugees to Camp Lyautey from
Spain, ocean transport to North Africa is a British
responsibility. Ship will sail about June 25, with
definite sailing date to be fixed about June 15, according
to latest information from him.

STETTINIUS
ACTING
(GHW)

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn,
DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Lufford, Mann,
Mamon, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart,
Weinstein, R. D. White, Files

70016

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

NCB-288

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

Algiers

Dated June 10, 1944

Rec'd 11:50 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington,

1935, June 10, 7 p.m.

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD FROM ACKERMANN. NO. 28.

Ship now scheduled arrive Spain twentieth.

British in Madrid have cabled that date is acceptable.

CHAPIN

BB
REP

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM CONTROL COPY
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

For security reasons the
DMH-76 text of this message must
Distribution of true
reading only be special
arrangement. (W)

Dated June 9, 1944

Rec'd 2:30 p.m., 10th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUN 11 1944

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

2053, June 9, 8 p.m.

The following telegram has been sent to Algiers:

US URGENT

326, June 9, 8 p.m.

FOR ACKERMAN

Blickenstaff states that necessary arrangements can
(repeat can) be made in time to embark refugees at Cadiz
on June 20 and is proceeding with preliminary steps. Your
105, June 8. I should like to emphasize again extreme
importance of avoiding any further delays in departure of
this group and should appreciate immediate confirmation
that we can safely plan on arrival of vessel on date
stated.

Repeated to Department.

HAYES

WTD

In view of cable sent to State
on 6/8/44, no further action is necessary.

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

SEP 15 1972

6/13/44 HJG

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

LFG - 327
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangements. ()

Algiers

Dated J 10 11

Rec'd 4:37 a.m.

CONTROL COPY

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1914, June 9, 7 p.m.

FROM MURPHY AND ACKERMANN FOR DEPARTMENT

AND WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

We are fully cognizant of problems mentioned in Madrid's no 302 of May 31 to the Department. The same matters have been communicated on many occasions by Ackermann War Refugee Board representative to British Foreign office representatives who were originally charged with procurement of shipping. However, since cancellation of sailing on June 7, Ackermann has requested intervention of War Shipping Administration representative who has taken strong position to prevent further delay. In addition I have taken up matter with Commander Naval Forces Mediterranean Area pointing out unfortunate results of any further delay. I feel confident that ship will now proceed as scheduled

on June

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 15 1972**

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be sent only via radio

*Noted
JB 7*

-2- #1914, June 9, 7 p.m., from Algiers

on June 20 unless extremely urgent operational requirements intervene.

Sent to the Department as 1914, repeated to (*)
106.

CHAPIN

(*) apparent omission

HTM

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

FBM-119
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. [REDACTED] W)

Algiers

Dated June 3, 1944

Rec'd 7:06 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1833, June 3, 6 p.m.

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD FROM LICKERMANN. No.

25. Advised today by War Shipping representatives
that ship should sail from Spain about June 25.
Definite date will be fixed about June 15.

Sent to Department, repeated to Madrid for
Blickenstaff.

CHAPIN

RR
REP

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

DEPARTMENT

OF

STATE

~~Distribution only~~
~~True reading only by~~
~~Special arrangement~~
()

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

June 1, 1944

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

AMREF,

ALGIERS.

1725

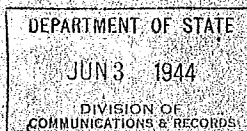
The following forming WRB cable no. 16 is for Ackermann.

The following message from Schwartz in Lisbon received by

JDC:

QUOTE British at Algiers now announce June 7 as date departure refugees from Spain to Camp Fedhala. Announcement definite date will remove demoralization among those chosen who have become skeptical of project, it is hoped. Expect 770 to depart from Cadiz. Pushing with French of permission for additional groups is important since none thus far promised, and otherwise admission new people to Spain, particularly Sephardics, will be procured, if at all, with great difficulty UNQUOTE.

Your comments on foregoing will be appreciated.



HULL
(GLW)

WRB:MAV:KG
6/1/44

S/OR

WE

SE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1974

000169

CABLE TO ALGIERS

From War Refugee Board to Chapin for Ackermann

JDC has received following message from Schwartz
in Lisbon:

"Date departure refugees from Spain to Camp Fedhala
now announced by British at Algiers as June 7.
Hopeful announcement of definite date will remove
demoralization among those chosen who have become
skeptical of project. 770 expected to leave from
Cadiz. Important that permission for additional
groups be pushed with French as none promised so
far. Otherwise admission new people to Spain,
especially Sephardics, will be secured with difficulty,
if at all."

Please send your comments on foregoing.

WRB ALGIERS CABLE NO. 16

May 31, 1944
12:15 P. M.

JH Cleared
with 107 FH:lab 5/29/44

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DSH-601
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement
(~~SECRET~~-W)

Madrid

Dated May 31, 1944

Rec'd 2:55 p.m., June 2

Secretary of State,

Washington.

X
1951, May 31, midnight.

British Embassy Madrid has been informed from Algiers that shipping cannot (repeat cannot) be made available for scheduled evacuation from Cadiz on June 7 of stateless refugees proceeding from Spain to Fedhala center.

While fully cognizant of difficulties of procuring shipping for such purpose at present stage of war, I feel that it should be pointed out that further postponement of the departure of this group will have extremely unsalutary effect on position of stateless refugees in Spain and on position of Blickenstaff's organization vis-a-vis Spanish Government. Latter has become increasingly disturbed over repeated delays in evacuation of these refugees, most of whom have been ready to leave for over three months, and postponement of June 7 departure, for which arrangements have already been made and assurances given, may well cause it to question good faith of Blickenstaff and interested Allied authorities. This reaction may in turn result in reimprisonment and reinternment of many stateless refugees who have been allowed to remain at liberty on basis of assurances of their early departure, and tend, therefore, to discourage entry into Spain of further numbers of such refugees.

Experience has shown that extent to which Spanish Government is willing to cooperate with Blickenstaff's organization in care of stateless refugees bears direct relationship to rate at which that organization is able to evacuate these persons from Spain and it is feared that willingness will be sorely strained by yet another delay in the evacuation of the approximately 700 persons comprising the Fedhala group.

Repeated to Algiers.

JT
EJH

HAYES
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Gohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gasten, Model, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxofrd, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Sargey Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, N.D.White, Pehle, Files.

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

DSH-601
Distribution of
true reading only
by special arrangement.
(~~W~~)

Madrid

Dated May 31, 1944

text Rec'd 2:55 p.m., June 2
be closely

CONTROL COPY

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1951, May 31, midnight.

British Embassy Madrid has been informed from Algiers that shipping cannot (repeat cannot) be made available for scheduled evacuation from Cadiz on June 7 of stateless refugees proceeding from Spain to Fedhala center.

While fully cognizant of difficulties of procuring shipping for such purpose at present stage of war, I feel that it should be pointed out that further postponement of the departure of this group will have extremely unsalutary effect on position of stateless refugees in Spain and on position of Blickenstaff's organization vis-a-vis Spanish Government. Latter has become increasingly disturbed over repeated delays in evacuation of these refugees, most of whom have been ready to leave for over three months, and postponement of June 7 departure, for which arrangements have already been made and assurances given, may well cause it to question good faith of Blickenstaff and interested Allied authorities. This reaction may in turn result in reimprisonment and reinternment of many

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

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

-2-, 1931, May 31, midnight, from Madrid.

stateless refugees who have been allowed to remain at liberty on basis of assurances of their early departure, and tend, therefore, to discourage entry into Spain of further numbers of such refugees.

Experience has shown that extent to which Spanish Government is willing to cooperate with Blickenstaff's organization in care of stateless refugees bears direct relationship to rate at which that organization is able to evacuate these persons from Spain and it is feared that willingness will be sorely strained by yet another delay in the evacuation of the approximately 700 persons comprising the Fedhala group.

Repeated to Algiers.

HAYES

JT
EJH

1554

MAY 29 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Dr. Joseph Schwartz^v was received from Lisbon under date of May 23, 1944:

"Date departure refugees from Spain to Camp Fedhala now announced by British at Algiers as June 7. Hopeful announcement of definite date will remove demoralization among those chosen who have become skeptical of project. 770 expected to leave from Cadiz. Important that permission for additional groups be pushed with French as none promised so far. Otherwise admission new people to Spain, especially Sephardics, will be secured with difficulty, if at all."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Moses A. Leavitt,
Secretary,
American Jewish Joint
Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York, New York.

FH:lab 5/27/44

7/24 ✓

7 0 0 1 7

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

BE-362
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (W)

Lisbon

For security reasons the
text of this message may
be classified

Dated May 23, 1944

Rec'd 11:13 a.m.

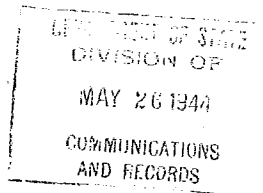
Secretary of State

Washington

1554, May 23, Noon

JDC 2, WRB 43 FROM SCHWARTZ FOR LEAVITT, NEW

YORK



5/29/44
was orig sent
to Leavitt
JL

Date departure refugees from Spain to Camp
Fedhala now announced by British at Algiers as
June 7. Hopeful announcement of definite date will
remove demoralization among those chosen who have
become skeptical of project. 770 expected to leave
from Cadiz. Important that permission for additional
groups be pushed with French as none promised so
far. Otherwise admission new people to Spain,
especially Sephardics, will be secured with difficulty,
if at all.

NORWEB

JT RR

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

BE-155
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement (██████ T W)

Algiers

Dated May 28, 1944

Rec'd 8:54 a.m., 29th

CONTROL COPY

Secretary of State

Washington

1759, May 28, Noon

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD FROM ACKERMANN NO 22

After spending all week on supply and personnel problems for Fedhala which now appear to be working out satisfactorily have just been advised by British who are handling shipping question that French ship which was assigned to transport refugees on June 7 has been taken off this run by French for operational trip and will not be ready to move refugees until latter part of June. This is fourth disappointment we have had on ship question and since something may happen again on June 20 which is earliest date ship now stated to be available suggest you investigate as to what assistance can be given your end.

CHAPIN

EDA EEC

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 15 1972**

~~Handwritten~~
2 copies

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Consulate, Casablanca (via War)
TO: Secretary of State, Washington.
DATED: May 16, 1944
NUMBER: 138

CONTROL COPY

RECEIVED
MAY 17 1944
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

Following is no. 2 for Lehman and Crowley from Beckelman.
This has been repeated to Algiers for Ferguson, FRA.
Now well settled at camp are the 16 refugees who
arrived a few days ago and security check practically com-
pleted without incident. It is urgent that I know the *not in file*
action taken on my message of May 10, no. 132, as in a few
days a boat is ready to proceed to Spain to embark main
refugee group of approximately 600. If it is not possible
to provide army guard ~~you~~ might possibly arrange external
guard reliable French civilians at cost of about \$3,000
per month provided American Army issued fire arms, which
doubtful.

Accountant Moss arrived unannounced, expects to pro-
ceed to Algiers, for your information.

RUSSELL

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

000177

TO: War Refuge Board Files

No action required

5/15/44 Nym

Matthew J. Marks

TR-6

000178

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

RMN-80

CONTROL COPY

PLAIN

Casablanca

Dated May 11, 1944

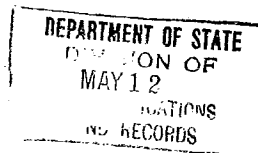
Rec'd 1:15 a.m., 12th

Secretary of State

Washington.

136, eleventh.

FOR FEA FROM BECKELMAN



Number two expect to spend following amounts by June 30 in categories indicated reference your 68, April 26 administrative 1500, British personnel 3500, communications 300, transportation 2000, subsistence 13000, clothing 3000, refugee and local employment 7000, direct relief 5000, camp equipment and maintenance 12000, health and medical services 700, total 48000 estimated cash balance June 30 152000. Above figures exclude nonreimbursable supplies and services along lines my April 12 letter also cannot now indicate which Army supplies and services involved in repairing and outfitting camp will be absorbed by Army as necessary put camp in operating condition and which ones will be charged us but funds on hand obviously ample all purposes to July 1 above budget assumes arrival 800 before May's end and maintenance through June.

RUSSELL

EDA
EMB

000173

War Ref Bd Mr. Pika
copy only

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMREP, Algiers
DATED: May 11, 1944
NUMBER: 1428

CONTROL COPY

TO AMBASSADOR WILSON, ALGIERS, FOR ACKERMANN FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please refer your No. 16 (Department's No. 1453) of May 3rd.

Your prompt action in taking up admission of Sephardic Jews to Camp Lyautey is appreciated. Please confirm our understanding that so long as total number of refugees in Camp Lyautey does not at any one time exceed 2,000, French will not object to entry of refugees merely because they arrived in Spain subsequent to March first.

We are not able to give you information as to number of Sephardic Jews who might be rescued from occupied territory. This information must come from Schwartz, and if you do not hear from him please advise us.

We are inclined to believe that camp quota should not be filled by bringing Jews therefrom Italy. If we are able to bring more from Spain in the future this may put us in a position to encourage entry of refugees into Spain from occupied territory. For your information it is understood that many Jewish refugees in Southern Italy already have certificates entitling them to enter Palestine and the possibility of their being taken to Palestine should not be overlooked. As you probably know the British Government is presently admitting into Palestine Jewish refugees who reach Turkey. It is understood that more than twenty thousand refugees may still be admitted to Palestine under the terms of the White Paper. When you have investigated the matter please give us your views.

This is WRB Cable to Algiers No. 8

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR WILSON, ALGIERS, FOR ACKERMANN FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

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This is WRB Cable to Algiers No. 8

May 8, 1944
2:35 P.M.

JHF:pdh/5/8/44

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR WILSON, ALGIERS, FOR ACKERMANN FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please refer your No. 16 (Department's No. 1453) of May 3rd.

Your prompt action in taking up admission of Sephardic Jews to Camp Lyautey is appreciated. *Please confirm our* ~~It is now understood~~ that so long as total number of refugees in Camp Lyautey does not (repeat not) at any one time exceed 2,000, French will not object to entry of refugees merely because they arrived in Spain subsequent to March first.

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This is WRB Cable to Algiers No.

For your information it

*is understood that many Jewish refugees in Southern Italy already have certificates entitling them to enter Palestine and the possibility of their being taken to Palestine should not be overlooked. As you probably know the British Govt is presently admitting into Palestine Jewish refugees who reach Turkey. It is understood that 10,000 ~~more~~ twenty thousand refugees may still be admitted to ~~Palestine~~ under the terms of the White Paper. ~~When you~~ *When you* have investigated the matter please give us your views.*

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR WILSON, ALGIERS, FOR ACKERMANN FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

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This is WAR Cable to Algiers No.

987 JEF:bbk - 5/8/44

CONTROL COPY

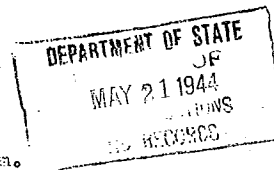
FROM American Embassy

Madrid, Spain

Dated May 10, 1944

Rec'd. May 20 1944

Secretary of State,
Washington.



158 May 10, 1944, 7:00 p.m.

Group of 221 French refugees sailed from
Algieras May 7 for North Africa, bringing to 906 total number
of such refugees evacuated from Spain since beginning of year.
It is estimated that approximately 650 French refugees remain
in Spain as of this date, with new arrivals crossing frontier
at estimated rate of 10 a day.

Copy to Algiers
RL/jf

BUTLER WORTH

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

*with 4 pages
J. W. Fehle*

In reply please
refer to: 610

MAY 6 1944

Dear Mr. Spiegler:

Thank you for your letter of April 27,
1944, enclosing a copy of a letter on the "sheltering
of refugees from Spain in North Africa".

Very truly yours,

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Louis E. Spiegler,
Counsel,
Hebrew Sheltering and
Immigrant Aid Society,
1317 "F" Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

EPT *RBH* Hutchison:agr 5-2-44 *JEF*

14-00000-101: 870
in 1407A by 870

610

WASHINGTON OFFICE

HEBREW SHELTERING AND IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY
(HIAS)

W. R. B.
Filing Authority
Ans. 5/6/44
No. Ans. Req.
Initial
Date

1317 F Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.
National 6120

LOUIS E. SPIEGLER
Counsel

ABRAHAM ROCKMORE
Assistant Counsel

ISIDORE HERSHFIELD
Counsel Emeritus

NATIONAL
OFFICE
425 Lafayette Street
New York, N. Y.

April 27, 1944.

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

My dear Mr. Pehle:

For your information and file, there is
attached hereto copy of a letter on the "sheltering" of
refugees from Spain in North Africa".

Sincerely yours,

Louis E. Spiegel
LOUIS E. SPIEGLER,
Counsel

LES:nbk
encl.

Translation

Transmitted by Hicem, Lisbon
February 24, 1944

REPORT ON SHELTERING OF REFUGEES
FROM SPAIN IN NORTH AFRICA.

The French Committee of National Liberation, in agreement with the British and United States Governments, gave permission for refugees, at present in Spain who have no diplomatic representative in that country, be sheltered in Morocco pending their departure to another destination.

These persons will be accommodated in a sheltering center about 15 km. from Casablanca in modern military barracks, built in 1943 and occupied until recently by American troops.

This center will be administrated by official British and American representative who will do everything possible, under the circumstances, to enable the refugees to lead a normal and pleasant life.

The American and British authorities will take care of the food, the necessary medical care and, as far as possible, will furnish the indispensable clothes.

The refugees who are in good health may be requested to participate in the upkeep of the camp, thereby contributing to reduce their sheltering expenses.

The French authorities are prepared, after examining each particular case, to grant working permits for Morocco to those refugees who may exercise their occupational activities without inconvenience for the economy of the Protectorate. They will be granted the right to sojourn in the locality where employment can be found for them, under the only condition that they comply with all controls deemed necessary.

As to the refugees who are not authorized to work and consequently, must be sheltered at Camp Fedhala, if the occasion arises, the French authorities will grant them facilities to leave the center temporarily, provided they reside in the camp regularly and observe scrupulously the laws and regulations of the Protectorate, particularly those referring to immigration. These permissions will also be subject to the restrictions resulting from the necessity to maintain order and security on the territory of the Protectorate, and the transportation means available.

The North African Center would like to give the refugees a secure and pleasant shelter wherefrom they could pursue their steps for another emigration or for their return to their country of former residence, as soon as circumstances permit it.

The Administration of the Center, in cooperation with the "International Committee for the Refugees" will do everything possible to assist this returning emigration. Insofar as the materialization of these projects is subject to conditions independent from the Administration, such as military operations, the transportation facilities available, or the various immigration laws of the interested countries, it is impossible to evaluate the length of the sojourn of the refugees at the center.

The persons wishing to be admitted in this Center must fill in an application and present it to the office of the "Representation in Spain of American Relief Organizations, Calle Eduardo Dato 20 in Madrid and to Dr. Samuel Sequerra, Hotel Bristol in Barcelona.

7 0 0 1 2

COPY

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE, ALGIERS
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 6, 1944, 7 p.m.
NUMBER: 1477 (BOC 2340 Lend-Lease 1:50)

The following message is from Ferguson for Hannigan
and Merson.

See Cob 2106.

It is indicated by discussions held last week
with Beckelman that Camp Fedhala is ready to receive the
refugees who are expected soon. Minor difficulties have
been encountered in securing certain requirements.
However, it is expected that these will be worked out almost
at once to aid satisfactory execution on the basis of minimum
requirements.

CHAPIN

US FEC DISTRIBUTION

5/8/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

Algiers

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE
May 5, 1944

TO : Mr. Friedman

FROM : Mr. Marks *my*

Re : Whether under the terms of the agreement between the British and American Governments and the French Committee of National Liberation the French are required to admit into Camp Lyautey refugees arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944.

It is my view that under the terms of the understanding between the British and American Governments and the French Committee of National Liberation, the French are under no legal obligation to admit into Camp Lyautey refugees who arrived in Spain after March 1, 1944, regardless whether the 2,000 agreed capacity of Lyautey has been filled.

The agreement between the Governments concerned relating to the conditions of admission into Camp Lyautey was finally effected in an exchange of notes after much prior informal discussion. In a letter to Robert Murphy dated October 2, 1943, from the Political Division of the French Committee of National Liberation, the French agreed to accept a maximum of 2,000 refugees in Camp Lyautey. The first paragraph of this letter reads as follows:

"In letter No. 45, dated August 10, 1943, you informed me that the Governments of the United States of America and of Great Britain would be very much interested in securing permission for temporary residence in Morocco for refugees who are today living in Spain and who are either without nationality or enemy subjects. ***" [Underscoring supplied]

As in a subsequent part of the above letter the French proposed severe restrictive conditions upon the liberty of refugees to be admitted to Camp Lyautey, the American Government apparently pressed for a liberalization of these conditions in a letter dated October 18, 1943, from Robert Murphy to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs of the French Committee of National Liberation. Apparently, the French construed Murphy's reply of October 18, 1943, as an acceptance of the French proposal with certain limitations, for on November 9, 1943, the French answered Murphy's letter as follows:

"The personal representative of President Roosevelt, North Africa, by Note 36 of October 18, kindly advised the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs of the agreement of the Government of the United States to the proposals of the French Committee concerning the project for accommodating in Morocco certain stateless refugees or nationals of enemy countries who are now held in Spain. ***" [Underscoring supplied] (Cable No. 1977, dated November 11, 1943, from Algiers to State) The rest of the French letter dealt with the security measures which it would be necessary to put into effect at Camp Lyautey.

from Friedman

On November 26, 1943, Washington approved acceptance of the French proposal, as modified by Murphy's letter of October 13, which modification was agreed to by the French in their letter of November 9. Washington's approval was set forth in Cable No. 12, dated November 26, 1943, from State to Algiers. This cable reads as follows:

"The offer of the French Committee of the assembly center for refugees at Fedhala, which is set forth in the letter of the French Commissioner of Foreign Affairs of November 9, translation of which is quoted in your No. 1977, November 11, 10 P.M. is accepted with appreciation. Especial note is taken that there is no intention to subject the refugees to measures which will deprive them of liberty on the part of the French Committee. ***"

Although the terms of the understanding between the United States and the French Committee of National Liberation would appear to be unambiguous insofar as refugees not "today living in Spain" are concerned, the question of interpretation was raised at a meeting held at the General Residence of the Resident General of Morocco on March 25, 1944. Present at this meeting were British, American and French officials interested in the establishment of Camp Lyautey. The following is an extract from a translation of the minutes of the meeting:

"MR. MARCHAT. [Minister Plenipotentiary, Diplomatic Advisor to the Protectorate and Chairman of the meeting] To come back to the 360 Sephardics [the 360 Sephardics arrived in Spain late in February, 1944] they must be admitted, it being well understood that if others arrive that will be the end. We shall admit those who are in Spain as of today.

"MR. BECKLEMAN. [UNRRA and FEA representative, who is referred to in the minutes of the meeting as a Delegate of the American Government] It seems to me that this is not the question. The three governments have signed an agreement to take in stateless persons who are now in Spain; it seems to me that there is no question in making a decision for the future. A new agreement among the three governments will be necessary.

"MR. MARCHAT. We agree. The new refugees are excluded from the present agreement.

"MR. LEVASSEUR. [A member of the Cabinet of the Resident General] It was said: stateless refugees 'who are now living in Spain'. We can go no further. There may perhaps consequently be other negotiations in Algiers. For the moment the only question is to put into practice the agreement recently concluded. There remains only to settle the latest date of application.

"MR. BECKLEMAN. We can settle upon the date.

"MR. BAYONNE. [A French representative at the meeting] The first of March, since the last contingent of Sephardics was at the end of February.

"MR. MARCHAT. We hereby declare that the present agreement is no longer applicable after March 1".

100 190

In addition to the above evidence, which appears convincing, to say the least, numerous cablegrams and one letter concerning Camp Iyautey also point to a similar interpretation of the agreement in question. They refer to refugees "now in Spain" (Cablegram No. 1722, dated September 21, 1943, from State to Algiers; also letter dated December 28, 1943, from Governor Lehman to Secretary of State Hull) or "at present in Spain" (Cable No. 1383, dated July 27, 1943, from State to Algiers; also Cable No. 1400, dated July 29, 1943, from State to Fryer; and Cable No. 1475, dated August 10, 1943, from Lehman to Algiers).

On May 3, and 4, 1944, I discussed this matter at some length with George Warren. The latter, although not in the least surprised at the French attempts to construe the Iyautey agreement as restrictively as possible, was quite taken aback that the language used in the formal agreement lent itself to the French interpretation insofar as refugees arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944, are concerned. Mr. Warren stated that he, as one of the persons who originally planned the Iyautey project in Washington, could assure me that no such restriction was ever intended so far as Washington was concerned. Mr. Warren added that his view would, undoubtedly, be supported by the three other men who worked on the Iyautey project with him in Washington, i. e., Governor Lehman, Mr. Hugh Jackson and Mr. George L. Brandt.

As indicative of what was really intended in Washington, Mr. Warren directed my attention to a letter, dictated on July 16, 1943, from the President to Secretary of War Stimson. After referring in the first two paragraphs to the refugees in Spain at that time, the President continued as follows in this letter;

"You will note that I have decided with Mr. Churchill's concurrence that these refugees shall be moved on to French North Africa to a place of temporary residence to be designated by Generals Eisenhower and Giraud, where they and others who may be able to escape from Axis territory into Spain may remain until they can be transferred to a place of more permanent settlement for the duration of the war. The selection of a place of more permanent settlement and the removal of the refugees to that place are matters to which the Executive Committee of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, of which this Government is a member, will attend. ***" [Underscoring supplied]

Similar language was used in a draft prepared by Mr. George Brandt of a proposed message from the President to Prime Minister Churchill, which was attached to a memorandum for the President dated July 5, 1943. The following language appears in paragraph numbered two of that draft:

"I am asking Generals Eisenhower and Giraud to designate Mogador or some other place in French North Africa as a place of temporary residence for these refugees and others who may be able to escape from Axis territory into Spain. They have already agreed in principle to the establishment of such a place of temporary residence. ***" [Underscoring supplied]

A cable from State to Madrid (No. 1770) substantiates in part Mr. Warren's statement to me that Washington never noted the possible restrictive significance of the phrase "who are today living in Spain", as it appeared in the French letter of August 10, 1943, and subsequent French proposals which were finally accepted after certain modifications by our Government. On August 19, 1943, long after the

Lyautey negotiations had commenced, and nine days after the phrase "who are today living in Spain" had appeared in the French reply to Robert Murphy's original Lyautey proposal in his letter of August 10, 1943, the State Department sent the following cable to Madrid in order to advise Ambassador Hayer of what had taken place to date:

***This [agreement between the President and Mr. Churchill] follows a recommendation of the Bermuda conference to relieve Spain of the refugees in question and to facilitate the escape of additional refugees of the same category from Axis territory into Spain who may also be similarly evacuated to French North Africa. ***" [Underscoring supplied]

The initials on this cable indicate, according to Mr. Warren, that it was prepared by Mr. George Brandt, who, as it was stated above, was one of the four persons in Washington completely familiar with the entire Lyautey arrangement.

Recommendation

Because of the language used in the formal Lyautey agreement with the French, I recommend that our efforts to urge the French to admit into Lyautey refugees arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944, not be based on the terms of the agreement which, as it has been seen, favors the French restrictive interpretation, but rather on humanitarian and political considerations.

With your approval, I shall now draft a cable for Jean Monet to send to Algiers and another cable explaining our present viewpoint to Ackermann. If Ackermann confirms Schwartz's report that the French are refusing to accept into Lyautey refugees arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944, a cable should be sent to Ambassador Wilson asking him to raise the matter formally with the French Committee of National Liberation.

000192

TO:

Vos

I suggest that this cable be cleared informally with UNRRF before it is sent. If UNRRF here is in accord, we shall mention it at the end of the cable, and request UNRRF to cable Beckelmann directly advising him of the party line.

Matt

Matthew J. Marks

TR-6

000193

Ambassador Wilson and

TO ACKERMANN ~~ALGIERS~~ ALGIERS FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD
Reference our No. 1253 of April 25.

This is WRB Cable to Algiers No. _____.

After studying pertinent documents available in Washington we conclude that under terms of Lyautey agreement as set forth in exchange of letters between Murphy and French Comite representatives, there is some technical (repeat technical) basis for a French refusal to admit in Lyautey refugees arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944. We also note that position of Beckelman as set forth in minutes of meeting held on March 25 at General Residence is substantially in accord with what Schwartz reports to be the present French position.

Notwithstanding technicalities of language used in Lyautey agreement we reiterate our view expressed in No. 1253 that a refusal to accept in Lyautey refugees arriving in Spain after March 1 would cause breakdown in plans to rescue Sephardic Jews and other refugees still in Nazi territory. ~~We have advised Jean Monnet of our view and he has agreed to cable Algiers requesting that on humanitarian grounds no such restriction be imposed on refugees arriving Spain after March 1.~~ ^{temporarily} ~~be imposed on with respect to~~

~~We are awaiting message from you concerning accuracy of Schwartz report. If report proves accurate, we shall request Ambassador Wilson to present our view formally to the Comite unless your demarches with French representatives at a lower level prove successful.~~

In accordance with agreement between Comite and British and American Governments, refugees of stateless and enemy nationality were authorized to be brought to Camp Lyautey so long as the number in the camp at any one time does not exceed 2000. ^{I am informed that} One of main purposes of this agreement was to encourage the entry of refugees from enemy territory into Spain by taking ~~these~~ ^{already in Spain as well as those being accepted in Spain} refugees off the hands of the Spanish Government. ^{I am informed that} ~~the importance of this objective was recognized by President Roosevelt in an exchange of views with Prime Minister Churchill last summer.~~ It is understood that arrangements are presently being worked out for the removal from Spain to the camp of somewhat less than a thousand refugees and that appropriate security checks have been made in this connection. Included in this group are a number of Sephardic Jews who have entered Spain during the last year as a result of negotiations carried on with the Germans by the Spanish Government. It is understood that no objection to the admittance into the camp of Sephardic Jews arriving in Spain before March 1 has been made by the local Moroccan officials. However, these officials have now stated that other groups of Sephardic Jews who arrive in Spain after March 1 of this year will not be accepted into the camp. It is known that other groups of Sephardic Jews are now in France ready to enter Spain. They cannot, however, enter Spain unless the Spanish Government is assured that they will be taken to Camp Lyautey shortly after their arrival in Spain. Accordingly, for humanitarian considerations the

000191

- 2 -

Moroccan officials should be advised to permit all Sephardic Jews and other stateless refugees or refugees of enemy nationality entering Spain at any time to enter Camp Lyautey subject to the usual security check, so long as the total number of refugees in the camp does not at any time exceed 2,000.

7 0 0 1 9 1

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : WAR REFUGEE BOARD, TREASURY - Mr. Marks DATE: May 4, 1944
 FROM : WAR REFUGEE BOARD - Mr. Warren
 SUBJECT:

Concerning use of Camp Marshal Lyautey at Fadhala North Africa for refugees from Spain; The following references apply to the interpretation of the agreement covering additional refugees who may enter Spain after the date of the final acceptance of the terms of the agreement:

- (1) Letter of July 16, 1943 from the President to Secretary of War Stimson.
 President refers in first part, to refugees now in Spain but later states: "Where (North Africa) they and others who may be able to escape from Axis territory into Spain may remain until they can be transferred to a place of more permanent settlement for the duration of the war".
- (2) Telegram to Madrid, No. 1770, August 19, 1943.
 "This (Agreement between the President and Mr. Churchill) follows a recommendation of the Bermuda Conference to relieve Spain of the refugees in question and to facilitate the escape of additional refugees of the same category from Axis territory into Spain who may also be similarly evacuated to French North Africa".
- (3) Telegram to Algiers, No. 1475, August 10, 1943.
 FROM LEHMAN
 "The selection of refugees of enemy nationality or stateless presently in Spain to be cared for temporarily in North Africa at a site to be designated by the Army will be made by the American Embassy in Spain".

*Stimson 2 + 3 not
 present in files*

WRB:GLW:OMH
 5/4/44

7 0 0 1 9

Friedman's File.....
Documents Relating to Establish-
ment of Camp Lyantey at
Fadhala, Morocco.

See also Joseph Murphy's
Memorandum in the Project File.

Matthew J. Marks

TR-6

000190

Extract of letter from President Roosevelt to Secretary of War
Stimson, dictated on July 16, 1943.

"There are now in Spain a number of refugees who have escaped from Axis and Axis-controlled territory. The large majority of these refugees are of French nationality. Those of French nationality are being moved onward by the French North African authorities to French North Africa where the French authorities are providing for their care, taking many of them who are qualified into the French military forces and giving civilian employment to others. A smaller number of the refugees in Spain are of Allied nationality and are being taken care of by their respective governments.

"There is a remainder estimated at present to be about 5,000 or 6,000 persons who are of enemy nationality or stateless, the larger number of them being of the Jewish race. It is essential that these people should be removed from Spain in order, first, to relieve the Spanish Government of its concern for them and, secondly, as a humanitarian measure, to keep open, by their removal, the channel for the escape of additional refugees into Spain. The shipping situation makes it very advisable that some place nearby should be selected for their reception.

"I discussed this matter with Mr. Churchill on his recent visit to Washington and I have been in communication with him in further regard to it since his return to London. I enclose for your information a copy of a telegram which I sent Mr. Churchill and paraphrases of two telegrams I received from him in that connection. You will note that I have decided with Mr. Churchill's concurrence that these refugees shall be moved on to French North Africa to a place of temporary residence there to be designated by Generals Eisenhower and Giraud, where they and others who may be able to escape from Axis territory into Spain may remain until they can be transferred to a place of more permanent settlement for the duration of the war. The selection of a place of more permanent settlement and the removal of the refugees to that place are matters to which the Executive Committee of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, of which this Government is a member, will attend". [Underscoring supplied]

Final paragraph omitted.

000193

over by Ed
Mr. Riddle
Copy only

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Mission, Algiers
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 3, 1944
NUMBER: 1463

CONTROL COPY

FOLLOWING IS NO. 16 FROM ACKERMAN FOR WRE.

The question of admission of additional Sephardic Jews had already been informally discussed by me with a member of Comite prior to the arrival of your Algiers no. 5, dated April 25, 1944. Beckelman talked with Massigli after your cable arrived and Massigli replied that there would be no change in the original agreement providing for admission of 2000. This has been confirmed by us by note and we asked for reply to make the understanding certain and definite.

Taking request to the French regarding admission of about 750 Jews now in Italy to Fedhala is being considered by AFHQ. I am requesting Robert Murphy and others concerned to consider relative priorities of further Sephardic Jews as the group in Italy plus refugees arriving soon from Spain will practically fill the quota. Please inform us how many more Sephardics might be rescued from occupied territory, if it is possible to do so. In order that Schwartz

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, T-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

that Schwartz can inform us as to his information on the question, we have repeated the foregoing message to Lisbon as our cable no. 97.

1044 MAY 2 AM 11 05
WASHINGTON, D.C.
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED

00000000

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

~~RESTRICTED~~

AMREP

ALGIERS

1332, May 2, 1944

COB 2106, FEA 301.

SUBJECT: Refugee Camp.

For Ferguson from Emerson and Hannigan. Is refugee camp ready in all details to receive group reported due there shortly? Important there be no slip-up.

HULL

US FEC DISTRIBUTION

5/4/44

7 0 0 2 0 0

MAY 6 1944

Dear Dr. Wise:

The following message for you from Mr. Weissman was received from Lisbon under date of May 1, 1944:

"Regret despite intervention of others Joint will not collaborate or finance maintenance rescued children unless children handed to them. Consider absolutely indispensable that arriving orphans should remain in our care for preparation and expedition to Palestine. Have arranged with respective Governments for payment maintenance of their Nationals. Majority of children Allied Nationals. Concerning few stateless children sending mail report with suggestions. Have already organized reception centers here. Will send Congress regularly data and photos children.

"First group six children arrived May first. Following children have relatives in US: Helene Spielmann, 14 years, and Paul Spielmann, 10 years, Uncle Hermann Spielmann, Brooklyn, watchmaker, street address unknown; Edith Tieberg, 15 years, Uncle Margosches first name unknown, Editor THE DAY, New York; Edith Affenkraut, 14 years, married sister Sophie Speeter, 3729 North Seventeenth, Philadelphia; Malvina Bodner, 12 years, Uncle Jacob Bodner, diamond cutter, Brooklyn, street address unknown. Spielmanns Tieberg and Affenkraut all have additional relatives in Palestine and desire go there. Please trace relatives in America through Jewish Press if necessary and advise relatives opinion regarding children's destination.

"Second group arriving May 3. Cable reply."

Very truly yours,

Signed J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York, New York.

FH:lab 5/5/44

000203

RMN-862

7
CONTROL COPY

LAIN

Lisbon

May 1, 1944

Rec'd 7:28 p.m.

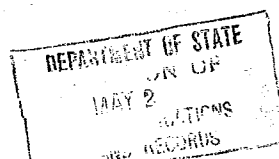
*Message sent
to Dr. Weiss
5/5/44*

Secretary of State

Washington.

1317, May 1, 6 p.m.,

WRB 15.



FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD AND RABBI STEPHEN WISE
NEW YORK FROM WEISSMAN.

Regret despite intervention of others Joint (*) will not collaborate or finance maintenance rescued children unless children handed to them. Consider absolutely indispensable that arriving orphans should remain in our care for preparation and expedition to Palestine. Have arranged with respective Governments for payment maintenance of their Nationals. Majority of children Allied Nationals. Concerning few stateless children sending mail report with suggestions. Have already organized reception centers here. Will send Congress regularly data and photos children.

First group six children arrived May first. Following children have relatives in US: Helene Spielmann, 14 years, and Paul Spielmann, 10 years, Uncle Hermann Spielmann, Brooklyn, watchmaker, street address

unknown

00020

-2-#1317, May 1, 6 p.m., from Lisbon
unknown; Edith Tieberg, 15 years, Uncle Margosches
first name unknown, Editor THE DAY, New York; Edith
Affenkraut, 14 years, married sister Sophie Speeter,
3729 North Seventeenth, Philadelphia; Malvina Bodner,
12 years, Uncle Jacob Bodner, diamond cutter,
Brooklyn, street address unknown. Spielmanns Tieberg
and Affenkraut all have additional relatives in Pales-
tine and desire go there. Please trace relatives in
America through Jewish Press if necessary and advise
relatives opinion regarding children's destination.

Second group arriving May 3. Cable reply.

NORWEB

EJH
WTD

(*) apparent omission

10020

CONTROL COPY

7-11-44 Refugee
Bd (Mr
Behle)

RCC-687

PLAIN

London

Dated April 26, 1944

Rec'd 11:43 a.m., 27th.

Secretary of State

Washington

3449, Twenty-sixth.

FOR EMERSON FROM KULLMANN

Following is text of American Embassy letter dated March 9th to IGC (Reference Department's 3131, 19th):

"I am glad to inform you that it is the view of the Department of State that the choice of a final destination for refugees accommodated at the refugee center in North Africa should fall within the sphere of the Intergovernmental Committee, and that it is suggested that the committee examine this question.

It is believed that this is also the view of the Foreign Office, which I am informing of the present communication to you. It is the desire of the Department of State that the referring of this matter to the Intergovernmental Committee be in association with the Foreign Office".

WINANT

RR

100200

War Refugee Board
1 copy only
ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON

TO: AMREP, Algiers, ✓

DATED: April 25, 1944

NUMBER: 1253

CONTROL COPY

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO AMBASSADOR WILSON AND ACKERMAN ✓

We have just received report from Schwartz in

Lisbon that French are refusing to accept in

Lyattley Sephardic Jews arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944.

Report states further that 50 Sephardics now in

Perpignan, France, awaiting admission into Spain and

others still en route will be excluded under this

ruling.

Such a ruling would cause breakdown in plans to rescue Sephardic Jews still in Nazi territory, as Spanish Government will do nothing to rescue Sephardics unless assured that they will be removed from Spain soon after arrival. If after investigation you feel report is accurate, please take up at once with Comite representatives indicating unfortunate effects of such a step.

Schwartz has advised Beekelman concerning matter.

THIS IS WRB ALGIERS CABLE NO. 5

HULL

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

WASHINGTON, D.C.
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED

CABLE TO ALGIERS

From War Refugee Board to Ambassador Wilson and Ackermann

We have just received report from Schwartz in Lisbon that French are refusing to accept in Lyantey Sephardic Jews arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944. Report states further that 50 Sephardics now in Perpignan, France, awaiting admission into Spain and others still en route will be excluded under this ruling.

Such a ruling would cause breakdown in plans to rescue Sephardic Jews still in Nazi territory, as Spanish Government will do nothing to rescue Sephardics unless assured that they will be removed from Spain soon after arrival. If after investigation you feel report is accurate, please take up at once with Comite representatives indicating unfortunate effects of such a step.

~~It is suggested that Schwartz has advised Beckelman concerning matter.~~ Schwartz has advised Beckelman concerning matter.

THIS IS WRB ALGIERS CABLE NO. 5

April 24, 1944

1:45 P.M.

MJMarkes:lslkdb 4/22/44

BB7 mym

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE April 22, 1944

TO Mr. J. W. Pehle

FROM Mr. Friedman

Re: Reported French refusal to accept in Camp Lyautey Sephardic Jews arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944.

Attached is a copy of the cablegram received by Leavitt from Schwartz in Lisbon, indicating that the French are refusing to accept at Camp Lyautey Sephardic Jews arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944. If this report is accurate it may well cause the collapse of plans to rescue Sephardic Jews now in occupied Europe, for the Spanish Government will do nothing in their behalf unless it is assured that these Sephardic Jews will be removed from Spain as soon as possible after their arrival. I cannot understand what weighty objection the French can have to accepting these Sephardic Jews, inasmuch as it has already been agreed that up to 2000 refugees at a time will be permitted to remain in Camp Lyautey.

I recommend that you discuss this matter with Jean Monet as soon as possible indicating the unfortunate effects which such a step would have.

Attached is a proposed cable to Ackermann in Algiers.

April 22, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle

Mr. Friedman

Re: Reported French refusal to accept in Camp Lyautey Sephardic Jews arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944.

Attached is a copy of the cablegram received by Leavitt from Schwartz in Lisbon, indicating that the French are refusing to accept at Camp Lyautey Sephardic Jews arriving in Spain after March 1, 1944. If this report is accurate it may well cause the collapse of plans to rescue Sephardic Jews now in occupied Europe, for the Spanish Government will do nothing in their behalf unless it is assured that these Sephardic Jews will be removed from Spain as soon as possible after their arrival. I cannot understand what weighty objection the French can have to accepting these Sephardic Jews, inasmuch as it has already been agreed that up to 2000 refugees at a time will be permitted to remain in Camp Lyautey.

I recommend that you discuss this matter with Jean Monet as soon as possible indicating the unfortunate effects which such a step would have.

Attached is a proposed cable to Ackermann in Algiers.

W. Markel:sktsh 4/22/44
114/11/937

Cable sent from Lisbon on April 14, 1944, to Mr. Leavitt of the Joint Distribution Committee and received on April 20, 1944.

(Dictated over the telephone from New York)

Regarding Sephardic group of refugees now in Spain, French authorities have agreed admit them to North Africa camp but have ruled permission limiting to Sephardim arrive Spain before March 1. This will exclude group of 50 Sephardim now in Perpignan awaiting admission into Spain as well as other groups still en route. Have asked Moses Beckelman, UNRRA Representative Casablanca intervene French authorities for modification this ruling and consider it important you take every possible step your end. Advise.

Joseph Schwartz

000211

April 20, 1944.

*War Refugee
Bill
(copy only)*

AMREP,

ALGIERS.

CONTROL COPY

1202, Twentieth.

Agreement has been reached in principle between American and British Governments to transfer to UNRRA full responsibility for operation and maintenance of refugee camp at Fedhala near Casablanca.

Detailed arrangements as to transfer of responsibility are now being worked out. It is proposed that the American and British Governments should retain responsibility of transporting refugees to North Africa and that UNRRA's primary responsibility would be to maintain refugees after their arrival in North Africa. Responsibility for eventual resettlement of refugees not to be repatriated will remain unchanged, although under terms of UNRRA Agreement UNRRA will assist in repatriation of refugees who are to return to their original countries. Effective date of transfer will occur after appropriation by United States Congress of funds for contribution to UNRRA, which is expected before the middle of June.

UNRRA is instructing Beckelman to talk up with French authorities in Algiers with respect to proposed transfer in order to obtain their consent as required

7002 12

-2-

by UNRRA Agreement to operations in French territory. You are requested to join with Beckelman in discussions with the French to the extent necessary, although, since French Committee is member of UNRRA, the initial approach should be made by Beckelman on behalf of UNRRA. UNRRA has informally notified French representatives here of these plans. It is understood that the British Government is issuing similar instructions to Algiers.

HULL
(DA)

LA:EGM:MEG 4/20/44
Accompanied by hectograph.

April 20, 1944.

WE

WAL

000213

REPORT ON NORTH AFRICAN REFUGEE CENTER AT FEDHALA

20 April, 1944.

This is in the nature of a preliminary report which is being dictated and typed within a very short time since I *have* just returned from Casablanca and Mike is leaving very early tomorrow morning. I will try to expand it a little more fully in my next letter to you.

Physical setup of center

Camp Marechal Lyautey is located near Fedhala, about ten miles from Casablanca. It covers an extensive piece of flat ground and is only a few hundred yards from the Atlantic Ocean. The camp site is a good one. It now has on it 40 or 50 buildings with stone walls and concrete floors, which are well constructed. There are wash houses, shower rooms, and latrines in the Army style, located in separate buildings. There is also one extra large building which is approximately 50 yards from the other buildings which will be used as a recreation hall.

The buildings for the most part have no partitions in them and at the present time it will be impossible to secure enough material to make them into a series of rooms. For this reason, it is planned in the first instance to use the stone buildings as dormitories for single men and single women and to set up a number of tents for family use.

The camp is now partially occupied by Italian service troops. These men are former prisoners of war who now are made up into work battalions and who furnish services of varying nature to the Allied Forces. However, since in the first instance only approximately 800 refugees will be brought to the Center, the remaining buildings will be more than sufficient to accommodate them.

A short time ago the Army cleared all physical equipment, including beds, screens, stoves, etc., out of the premises to be occupied by the refugees and it is now necessary to re-equip these quarters. When I arrived in Casablanca the other day, it appeared that the supply situation might be tight. The Army did not appear too cooperative in granting its services, facilities and supplies to the camp administration. However, I was able to be of assistance in this situation (as Mike will explain to you in greater detail), and the camp staff now feels hopeful that it will get supplies and equipment in sufficient quantity and in sufficient time.

The date of the opening of the camp

As I have previously advised you there has been a good deal of trouble in connection with securing a ship. We were originally promised a British ship which would leave some time between the 15th and 30th of April. Just before I left Casablanca I was advised that a British ship would not be available, but that a French ship would be substituted. There was a question as to whether or not a French ship could land in Spain since no such ship has been there since the Allied landing. I was just advised a few minutes ago that the Spanish have agreed to permit the ship to operate from a Spanish port for the purpose of carrying the refugees. The exact date is not known but should be close to the end of the month. I will know the exact date in a day or two.

Operational problems

There are several problems in connection with the operation which may cause some difficulty. The French, at least at the moment, appear strenuously opposed to the granting of work permits or even permits to circulate to persons at the camp. This means that the camp will be somewhat akin to a concentration camp, for, although the people will have many acres of land in which to move, they will still be hemmed in by a wire fence which will be guarded. Of course it is necessary for security purposes that until the refugees have been thoroughly screened that a guard be maintained. At the present moment it may well be that the French will post Senegalese guards around the camp. We have asked the American security authorities whether or not other guards can be placed but as yet have received no reply one way or the other. I intend to discuss the concentration camp aspects of the center with those members of the Comité with whom I am acquainted in an effort to ascertain whether or not restrictions can be relaxed.

Admission of further refugees

The original agreement between the American and British authorities on the one hand and the French on the other provided for the admission of a maximum of 2,000 refugees to the center. However, when Beckelman, the camp director, was at Rabat the other day, the Moroccan Residency authorities stated that the present group would be the maximum. Beckelman, of course, raised some protest with regard to this decision but the Moroccan authorities said that they would insist upon this. They also raised some question with regard to the Sephardic Jews who hold Spanish

passports, and as to this group they said that they would not permit the immigration of any Sephardic Jews holding Spanish passports who had arrived in Spain subsequent to March 1, 1944. At the present time this is no problem since the present group arrived prior to that date. If, however, additional groups succeed in reaching Spain, this decision will have to be overcome. I might add that the decisions expressed by the Moroccan authorities is apparently contrary to the Algiers authorities. When I had a discussion with Melamede, Frenay's assistant, Melamede stated that I should not press the question of the pre-1933 refugees too strongly since the admission of these persons might use up the quota of 2,000 set for the camp and thereby preclude the admission of persons more recently arrived. It can therefore be inferred that Melamede, at least, did not consider the present group as the total group and he probably will not oppose the admission of further Sephardic Jews. I intend, of course, to proceed further with this question.

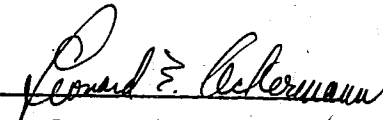
Pre-1933 refugees

Originally approximately 160 persons were rejected because they arrived in Spain prior to 1933. This number was reduced to 107 by permitting the admission of those in concentration camps or prisons. There are now under consideration approximately 40 additional cases as to which there may be similar relaxation, leaving about 67 persons rejected because of their early arrival in Spain. I went over each of these applications carefully and find that some of them are not what might be called genuine refugees. In addition, there are a number of cases where the persons are so old that a move of this sort might endanger their lives. I discussed the cases with Beckelman who had interviewed the majority of these persons when he was in Spain. He could remember no case which might be considered a hardship case and did not think it too advisable to bring these persons to the camp for several reasons. These reasons were: that most of the persons were already established in Spain; that under present circumstances the camp may be a concentration camp; and he did not want to press the French too much on this point since there are more important matters on which they must be convinced. We finally came to this decision - to cable to Blickenstaff in Spain and request him to advise us immediately of any persons who presented cases of genuine hardship who would be much better off at Fedhala. We intend to press on those cases only.

-4-

Additional applications

Since I last wrote you an additional 49 applications have arrived which have been forwarded to the French and Allied Security Authorities for preliminary screening.


Leonard E. Ackermann

000217

TO: MR. A. SEBT

PLAIN

April 20, 1944

AMERICAN CONSULATE
CASABLANCA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OF
APR 22 1944
RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

61, twentieth
FOR RECORDS

1. COPY ONLY
7/12

1. British and American Governments have agreed in principle to transfer to UNRRA of responsibility for maintenance and operation of refugee center at Casablanca.

2. Plans are to develop as soon as possible detailed agreement as to conditions and date of transfer. UNRRA proposes that British and American Governments should retain responsibility for transport of refugees to North Africa, UNRRA's primary responsibility being for care and maintenance of refugees after arrival at North African seaport. Responsibility for finding new places for their eventual settlement will remain unchanged by transfer although UNRRA is prepared to assist in repatriation of such persons as can and are willing to return to countries of origin or of former residence. Expectation is that terms of transfer will also include some understanding as to supply arrangements as for example possible extension of present agreement with military for furnishing of supplies. Proposed date of transfer is some time after U. S. Congress appropriates money for UNRRA probably in four to six weeks.

3. Take up with French authorities in Algiers the proposed transfer in order to obtain their consent pursuant to Article I, paragraph 2(a) of the UNRRA agreement, clearing with them also as to any discussions which you deem necessary with authorities in Morocco. British and American representatives in Algiers are being instructed to join with you in discussions with French wherever necessary although since French Committee is member of UNRRA initial approach should be made by you as UNRRA representative. We are informally notifying French representatives here of the above plans.

4. Would appreciate your cabled recommendations as to terms to be included in understanding referred to in paragraph 2. Also cable results of your talks with French in line with paragraph 3.

HULL
(GHE)

Forwarded by
J. Johnson/ih
18 apr 44

DCR:RLH:ATV

000218

2- Wa Refugee
13d (Mr Biele)
PLAIN

DSH
Department

PLAIN

April 19, 1944

CONTROL COPY

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.
+3131 Nineteenth
FOR KULLMANN FROM EMERSON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 20 1944
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

pls

Please cable text of British Foreign Office or American
Embassy letter asking Intergovernmental Committee to take
responsibility for ultimate disposition of occupants of
North Africa camp.

WILL
(GLW)

WRB:GLW:KG
4/19/44

BC

000213

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

Dupont Circle Building
1544 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
April 12, 1944


Mr. L. J. Marks
Treasury Building
Room 176
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Marks:

I am enclosing for your files a copy of the minutes of the meeting held in my office yesterday. If you have any modifications to suggest in the minutes, I would appreciate it if you would send them to me and I will have a new set of minutes circulated.

Since the meeting we have been in touch with Mr. Miller and have his final approval of the cable. It is therefore being sent out today.

Sincerely yours



Dewey Anderson
Assistant Chief, Bureau of Areas

Enclosure

000220

DRAFT

UNHRA

AMLEGATION

ALGIERS

For Beekelman from Salter and Menshikov

1. British and American Governments have agreed in principle to transfer to UNHRA of responsibility for maintenance and operation of refugee center at Casablanca.
2. Plans are to develop as soon as possible detailed agreement as to conditions and date of transfer. UNHRA proposes that British and American Governments should retain responsibility for transport of refugees to North Africa, UNHRA's primary responsibility being for care and maintenance of refugees after arrival at North African seaport. Responsibility for finding new places for their eventual settlement will remain unchanged by transfer although UNHRA is prepared to assist in repatriation of such persons as can and are willing to return to countries of origin or of former residence. Expectation is that terms of transfer will also include some understanding as to supply arrangements as for example possible extension of present agreement with military for furnishing of supplies. Proposed date of transfer is some time after U. S. Congress appropriates money for UNHRA probably in four to six weeks.
3. Take up with French authorities in Algiers the proposed transfer in order to obtain their consent pursuant to Article I,

00022

- 2 -

paragraph 2(a) of the UNRRA Agreement, clearing with them also as to any discussions which you deem necessary with authorities in Morocco. British and American representatives in Algiers are being instructed to join with you in discussions with French whenever necessary although since French Committee is member of UNRRA initial approach should be made by you as UNRRA representative. We are informally notifying French representatives here of the above plans.

4. Would appreciate your cabled recommendations as to terms to be included in understanding referred to in paragraph 2. Also cable results of your talks with French in line with paragraph 3.

000222

April 18, 1944

Minutes of meeting held in Mr. Dewey Anderson's office on
Monday, April 17, 1944 at 3:15 P. M.

Subject: Transfer to UNRRA of responsibility for maintenance
and operation of refugee center at Casablanca.

Present: For British Embassy	Mr. John Russell
Department of State	Mr. Edward Miller
War Refugee Board	Mr. M. J. Marks
Foreign Economic Administration	Mr. Wallace Cohen Mr. Daggett Howard Mr. Hilbert P. Zarkey
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administra- tion	Mr. Dewey Anderson Mr. Fred Boehler Mr. James G. Johnson, Jr. Miss Carolin Flexner

1. There was general discussion of the attached draft cable to Mr. Beckelman, the UNRRA representative in North Africa, instructing him to begin discussions with the French authorities in Algiers with respect to the proposed transfer of the refugee center. This draft cable, which had been previously circulated, was approved for transmittal to Mr. Beckelman, with the addition of the clause at the end of the first sentence of paragraph 3 contemplating the possibility that discussions might have to be undertaken with the French authorities in Morocco as well as those in Algiers. Mr. Russell stated that he was planning to send the substance of the cable to London, calling particular attention to the second sentence in paragraph 3, which states that UNRRA proposes that the British and American Governments "should retain responsibility for transport of refugees to North Africa." Since the cable states that this is merely an UNRRA proposal, Mr. Russell did not feel that it was necessary to hold up sending the cable until a reply should be received from London. On behalf of the American Government, however, Mr. Miller

suggested that the cable should be held overnight until information could be obtained as to the arrangements that would be necessary for the United States to continue to bear a portion of the expenses of transport to North Africa.

2. During the course of the discussion Mr. Cohen of FEA raised several questions as to the meaning of particular portions of paragraph 2 of the draft cable. On these points the conclusions were as follows:

(a) That the second sentence of paragraph 2, referred to above, meant simply that the existing responsibility for the transport of the refugees should continue after the transfer, or in other words that this contemplated no new obligation or responsibility on the American Government. It was pointed out that one important purpose of this proposal was to avoid placing upon UNRRA responsibility for operating in neutral countries, such as Spain and Portugal, where UNRRA was not yet prepared to undertake any substantial operations. Under this proposal, UNRRA's responsibility would begin at a clearly defined point in time and place, i.e., on the arrival of the refugees at their port of debarkation in North Africa.

(b) That the phrase "to assist in repatriation" as used in the third sentence of paragraph 2 of the draft cable contemplated that UNRRA would assist (i) the governments of which the refugees are nationals, (ii) any other agency or agencies, public or private, working in this field, or (iii) in appropriate cases, the individual refugees themselves. It was pointed out that this phrase was taken directly from the resolutions and reports of the UNRRA Council.

(c) That with respect to the supply arrangements contemplated in the fourth sentence in paragraph 2, the general objective should be the continuance of existing supply arrangements after the transfer to UNRRA, at least until other supply sources can be drawn upon, the only change being that from and after the date of transfer the supplies furnished should be charged against the American or British, as the case may be, contributions to UNRRA. To accomplish this objective it was agreed that the FEA, with the assistance of the appropriate UNRRA supply authorities, would begin at once (i) to negotiate with the military authorities for the extension of the present agreement under which the military is to furnish basic supplies for the camp until early in June, and (ii) to make such arrangements as may be necessary for the furnishing of supplementary supplies to meet

requirements not furnished by the military. In the discussions with the military the FEA indicated that it would also explore the question of title to the camp installations and of the necessary arrangements to assure to UNRRA the right to the use of the camp for so long as may be necessary. With reference to the furnishing of supplementary supplies from the United States, it was agreed that, because of the relatively small amounts that would be involved, the procurement of some of those supplies might be handled through the working fund which FEA proposes to establish for UNRRA as soon as the UNRRA appropriation is passed by the Congress.

3. It was stated that the informal discussion with the French representatives in Washington, as contemplated in the last sentence in paragraph 3 of the draft cable, had already been undertaken and that the plan was, immediately after the meeting, to read them a copy of the draft cable.

4. Mr. Russell and Mr. Miller, on behalf of the British and American Governments, respectively, agreed to make the necessary arrangements for sending instructions to the British and American representatives in Algiers in accordance with the second sentence in paragraph 3 of the proposed cable.

Attachment
1-Draft cable to Mr. Beckelman

Johnson/fh
18 apr 44

000223

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE April 18, 1944

TO : Mr. J. W. Pehle

FROM : Mr. Friedman

Re: Camp Lyautey

I had Matt Marks attend the meeting yesterday in Dewey Anderson's office at UNRRA. The matter for discussion was a proposed cable to Algiers arranging for the transfer of responsibility over Camp Lyautey to UNRRA. Representatives of the State Department, FEA, UNRRA and the British Embassy were present at the meeting.

The proposed cable states that transportation expenses to North Africa will be shared equally by the British and American Governments. Mr. John Russell of the British Embassy stated, subject to confirmation from London, that the British Government was prepared to share this obligation with the American Government.

Marks was asked whether the War Refugee Board was prepared to pay the American share of this obligation. He replied that he was unfamiliar with the Board's financial arrangements and therefore could not presume to speak officially for the Board in this matter. An FEA representative asked whether there was any objection to the Board's assuming this expense. Marks answered that so far as he knew there was no legal objection, but that the matter would have to be cleared with you before any commitment could be made. Ed Miller of the Department of State agreed to accept responsibility for clarifying this question. He asked Marks to ascertain whether the War Refugee Board would be prepared to pay the American share of the transportation expenses to North Africa. According to Miss Flexner, the combined sea and rail transportation expense from Spain to North Africa will probably amount to not more than \$30,000.

After discussing the matter with me, Marks called Zarky at FEA and pointed out to him that an allocation from the President's Emergency Fund covering among other things the transportation expenses from Spain to North Africa had been made to OFFRO long before the War Refugee Board had been created. Inasmuch as FEA had inherited this allocation from OFFRO, it appeared only right

that FEA should pay the American Government's share of the transportation expenses from this fund. Zarky raised the point that UNRRA might well take over jurisdiction of Camp Lyautey before the transportation of refugees from Spain to North Africa had been completed. He explained that if this occurred, FEA would no longer have any interest in the Lyautey project, and therefore would be in no position to make any further payments in regard thereto. Marks replied that this was not likely, and pointed out that the problem raised by the proposed cable related to the transportation expenses for the 500 or 600 refugees who had already agreed to go to North Africa. Of course, if it subsequently were decided to transfer more refugees from Spain to North Africa the payment of the transportation expenses for these refugees would be an entirely different matter. Zarky agreed in principle that FEA should assume the American Government's share of the transportation expenses insofar as these 500 or 600 refugees are concerned.

Marks then called James Johnson of UNRRA, who stated that it was immaterial to him whether FEA or the War Refugee Board paid the American Government's share of the transportation expenses. Marks thereupon called Ed Miller of the State Department and advised him that Zarky had agreed that FEA would pay the American Government's share of the transportation expenses.

JB7

000221

April 18, 1944

: Mr. J. W. Pehle

: Mr. Friedman

Re: Camp Lyautey

I had Matt Marks attend the meeting yesterday in Dewey Anderson's office at UNRRA. The matter for discussion was a proposed cable to Algiers arranging for the transfer of responsibility over Camp Lyautey to UNRRA. Representatives of the State Department, FEA, UNRRA and the British Embassy were present at the meeting.

The proposed cable states that transportation expenses to North Africa will be shared equally by the British and American Governments. Mr. John Russell of the British Embassy stated, subject to confirmation from London, that the British Government was prepared to share this obligation with the American Government.

Marks was asked whether the War Refugee Board was prepared to pay the American share of this obligation. He replied that he was unfamiliar with the Board's financial arrangements and therefore could not presume to speak officially for the Board in this matter. An FEA representative asked whether there was any objection to the Board's assuming this expense. Marks answered that so far as he knew there was no legal objection, but that the matter would have to be cleared with you before any commitment could be made. Ed Miller of the Department of State agreed to accept responsibility for clarifying this question. He asked Marks to ascertain whether the War Refugee Board would be prepared to pay the American share of the transportation expenses to North Africa. According to Miss Flexner, the combined sea and rail transportation expense from Spain to North Africa will probably amount to not more than \$30,000.

After discussing the matter with me, Marks called Zarky at FEA and pointed out to him that an allocation from the President's Emergency Fund covering among other things the transportation expenses from Spain to North Africa had been made to OFFRO long before the War Refugee Board had been created. Inasmuch as FEA had inherited this allocation from OFFRO, it appeared only right

- 2 -

that FEA should pay the American Government's share of the transportation expenses from this fund. Zarky raised the point that UNRRA might well take over jurisdiction of Camp Lyautey before the transportation of refugees from Spain to North Africa had been completed. He explained that if this occurred, FEA would no longer have any interest in the Lyautey project, and therefore would be in no position to make any further payments in regard thereto. Marks replied that this was not likely, and pointed out that the problem raised by the proposed cable related to the transportation expenses for the 500 or 600 refugees who had already agreed to go to North Africa. Of course, if it subsequently were decided to transfer more refugees from Spain to North Africa, the payment of the transportation expenses for these refugees would be an entirely different matter. Zarky agreed in principle that FEA should assume the American Government's share of the transportation expenses insofar as these 500 or 600 refugees are concerned.

Marks then called James Johnson of UNRRA, who stated that it was immaterial to him whether FEA or the War Refugee Board paid the American Government's share of the transportation expenses. Marks thereupon called Ed Miller of the State Department and advised him that Zarky had agreed that FEA would pay the American Government's share of the transportation expenses.

MJM
MJMarks:dh 4/18/44

25 March, 1944

Dear John:

Since my letter to you of 21 March, 1944, I have received your two letters. The mission mentioned in one has been accomplished and the information contained in the other proved very helpful.

Since last writing you I have had further discussions with AFHQ on the Yugoslav situation. The contents of the cable from the Combined Chiefs of Staff (Fan 347) regarding the refugees on the Island of Rab were discussed at a conference attended by representatives of the Military Government Section, G-2 and G-3. None of the representatives of these staff sections raised any objection thereto except that it was suggested that an effort be made to land the refugee boats as near as possible to Bari in order that the refugees might be screened at that point by G-2. Of course, landing refugees at this point would make the boat trip from Rab much longer and it was admitted by the Military Government Section representative that the boatmen might want to land further north in which case G-2 would have to make other arrangements. The proposal made at that time was that a message be sent to Marshal Tito which would transmit the message of the Combined Chiefs of Staff and ask which of the procedures would be more acceptable to Tito. I called the Military Government Section representative this morning and was advised that action had been slightly delayed because of the Vesuvius situation, but that he expected to clear the matter with the Chief of Staff during the next two days. I might add that the AFHQ people were quite cordial and appeared sympathetic to the project and that I did not get the same reaction previously mentioned, to wit, a questioning attitude as to my presence in the picture. The Military Government people also advised me that they thought it improbable that too many refugees would be assisted by this project because of the distances involved and because of the location of Rab. They promised, however, to keep me fully advised not only of this situation but of any similar ones in the future.

To assist in future operations in connection with the Yugoslav refugees, and also for any other financial problems that might arise, Jim Saxon and I called on General Sims.

We explained to him the background and purposes for which the Board had been established and referred to the two recent War Department cables, the one announcing the establishment of the Board and the second concerning the Island of Rab. He said he would do anything in his power to assist us and mentioned that he had on hand a quantity of gold which he would attempt to make available to us if the need should arise.

Jim has been examining all of my files and making copies of certain portions thereof in the event that he should be sent to Spain. We have had full discussions on the problems and he has also arranged for us to meet some French G-2 people to discuss further plans.

The Fedhala project is not moving as rapidly as I had hoped. The principal stumbling block at the moment arises from the fact that the second batch of applications have not as yet arrived from Spain. Approximately twelve days ago a cable was received from Spain asking for instructions on the disposition of this second group of approximately 415 applications received after the French security representative had left Spain. I immediately cabled back that they should be forwarded to Algiers by the fastest possible means. I had hoped that they would arrive within a few days thereafter but up to the moment they have not put in an appearance. Accordingly, I have sent off a follow-up cable asking for their whereabouts. This cable has not been replied to as yet. I expect to hear today or tomorrow from Rabat on the final decision as to the first group of refugees. As I previously advised you, a small group were objected to on security grounds and a second group was tentatively objected to because they had arrived in Spain prior to 1933. The latter question should be settled today and the French representative plans to leave for Madrid a day or two later so that he may check the accepted refugees prior to their boarding ship. With the assistance of the British, who have been extremely helpful, I am now endeavoring to get a separate ship for this first group in view of the delay of the arrival of the applications for the second group. I should have the answer on this question within the next few days.

Within the last two days I have talked to Governor Lehman and to Congressman Vorys of Ohio. In neither case did I receive much in the way of information, but I spent a fair amount of time, especially in the case of the Congressman,

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explaining the work of the Board both here and in other areas. The Congressman raised several questions with respect to the possible conflict of the functions of the Board with the Inter-governmental Committee and UNRRA. I told him that it was my opinion that there should be little or no conflict since the Board was operating in an emergency field and taking action at this time while the other groups would principally be concerned with postwar relief and movement. Governor Lehman leaves today for Cairo where he will continue to make his office from a hospital bed since his knee injury does not permit him to move about freely.

Your recent letter mentioned the fact that I should use the services of Gaby Aerekes where possible. In this connection I might say that Gaby has been extremely helpful in discussing the day to day problems that have arisen. However, it is my opinion that he might be more useful elsewhere. By this I mean that he might be of great assistance to Ira Hirschmann now in Turkey, not only because of his knowledge of languages but also because of his knowledge of the geography and the political and economic situations of Germany and the Balkans. If it could be arranged, I think that it might be advisable to send him to one of the neutral countries. This proposal has Mike's approval, even though he would be sorry to lose him. I might add that since the recent developments in Hungary and Rumania, it is my opinion that the refugee problem has become interwoven with the Resistance movement which might be up Gaby's alley.

In my letter of March 7th I mentioned the Spanish refugees in this area. The representatives of the American Friends Service Committee have again brought up a problem which was raised with the Treasury Representatives last summer. I refer to the blocked Spanish funds. In brief, the story is this: In March or April, 1940, the Spanish Republican Government, or at least former members thereof in Mexico, sent 6,000,000 francs through the Mexican Government to the Comité d'Entr'aide des Réfugiés Espagnols in Paris for transmittal to Tunis for the aid of Republican Spanish refugees. A few weeks after the funds arrived in Tunis the Spanish representative at this place, a Commandant Sanchez, was instructed to invest the funds in French Republic bonds. In November, 1940, the Secretary to the Mexican Legation in Paris came to Tunis to take charge of the funds. The Vichy authorities evidently got word of this and caused a Court Order to be issued in Vichy which was transmitted to Tunis after which the bonds were seized under a Tunisian Court Order and deposited with the Tunis Treasury. In July, 1943, the former Spanish Ambassador then in London asked the London Embassy for the status of these funds. The London cablegram stated that the Spanish Ambassador was fearful of difficulties if the funds were deblocked immediately. Del Snyder, then in Tunis, looked into the matter

and Harold Glasser, through the State Department, then sent a cable to London setting forth this information and asking for further instructions. A memorandum had previously been sent to M. Couve de Murville on this request. The present situation is the following: The Friends' representatives are now receiving funds from the United States which they use for the support of these Spanish refugees. Part of the funds are sent pursuant to Treasury license by the Joint Anti-Fascist Committee. It is the opinion of the Friends' representative that these funds, if we are able to have them unblocked, should be used for the support of the Spanish refugees. Sanchez, who is still in Tunis and who now receives a small salary from the Tunisian Government for work in connection with these refugees, is of a different opinion. He states that the funds were sent to him at the instructions of Indalecio Prieto, a former officer of the Spanish Republican Government who is now in Mexico. It is Sanchez' belief that Prieto wanted the funds used to defray the cost of transporting Spanish refugees to Mexico. We have not again approached either the Comite or the Tunisian authorities with reference to unblocking these funds, especially since no reply has been received to the aforementioned cable to London. However, in connection with the Spanish refugee problem which I mentioned in my earlier letter, this question might also be taken into consideration. As a purely legal matter, I believe that it would be impossible to unblock the funds and deliver them to anyone but to Sanchez or a representative of the Mexican Government and, as I told you previously, the Mexicans have no representative here. If the opportunity arises, I believe that both of these matters might be presented to the Mexican representatives in Washington who might, in turn, approach the French Mission. The present feeble French dollar position may be somewhat of a stumbling block, but should not be too difficult to overcome because of the small size of the sum involved.

While I was in the hospital Seldon Chapin presented an Aide Memoire to Massigli concerning the circular airgram of 29 February which instructed all American missions to approach the Governments to which they were accredited and request the issuance of a declaration of policy similar to that made by the President. A letter had been sent by the French Foreign Ministry previous to his presenting this Aide Memoire which was not received, however, until after it was presented. This letter in very general terms expressed the policy of the French Government to cooperate in any way possible. Massigli, at the time the Aide Memoire was presented, told Chapin that

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He would discuss the matter further with the Comité and submit a reply thereto. I asked Chapin about this yesterday. He advised me that as yet no reply had been received. He promised that he would bring up the matter again on the next occasion when he visited Massigli.

Jim and I also made a first call today on the French G-2. We were cordially received and arranged to meet again next week after the French have discussed the matter further among themselves. I have also sent out some tentative feelers in the direction of the C.S.S., but thus far have met with a rather cold reception because the local C.S.S. people feel that assisting our program may interfere with their work. If possible it would be helpful if you discussed with General Donovan the possible use of his staff either here or in Spain in connection with the work of the Board. I am sure that we would get a much better reception if he were to instruct his men accordingly.

I am enclosing two recent clippings which should be of interest to you.

Sincerely,

Leonard E. Ackermann,
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board.

Mr. John W. Pehle,
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board,
Room 2884 Main Treasury Bldg.,
Washington 25, D. C.

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to letter of 9/1/44
for British

NOTE

A meeting was held at the General Residence on March 25, 1944, to discuss thoroughly various questions dealing with the temporary sheltering in Morocco of stateless refugees who are now in Spain.

M. MARCHAT, Minister Plenipotentiary, Diplomatic Adviser to the Protectorate, presided at this meeting at which the following were present:

a) representing the Americans:

MR. COLE, U.S. Counsel at Rabat
MR. BROCKELMAN, Delegate of the American Government
LT. HOOKER,
MR. COPE, American Welfare Organizations delegate

b) representing the British:

COL. ORRAN

c) representing the French:

CAPT. CHEVALIER
CAPT. BLONDET
M. GABRIELLI, of the Division of Political Affairs
M. LAUJAS, of the Security ~~Division~~ *Services*
M. BAYONNE
M. LEVASSEUR, Cabinet of the Resident General

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

M. MARCHAT opened the meeting and gave the floor to MR. BROCKELMAN.

(A) MR. BROCKELMAN - We are meeting to arrange the details of the arrival of stateless refugees who are now in Spain, at Camp de Fedala and their establishment there. How must the question be put forth? I don't know. Transportation will have to be taken care of. One contingent will probably leave around the 10th or 15th of April.

M. LEVASSEUR - The British Embassy in Madrid was to have taken care of the question.

M. MARCHAT - What is the origin of this affair?

M. LEVASSEUR - It's about stateless refugees who are in Spain. The American and English Governments have expressed a desire that certain persons be temporarily sheltered in Morocco while waiting to return to their native countries or to countries of their choice. The French Committee of National Liberation has agreed. We laid the groundwork of this affair in Madrid. (Reads a memorandum). Here is the groundwork. The details must be settled. *Details will have to be arranged.*

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M. MARCHAT - How many refugees are there?

MR. BECKELMAN - If a contingent leaves around April 10, there will be around 400 people. Another convey of equal size will follow later.

M. MARCHAT - ^{there} are there will be about 800 people who ~~will~~ arrive in Morocco fairly soon. Once they have arrived at Casablanca will they be directed to Camp Fedala? Under what conditions?

M. LEVASSEUR - The American authorities will take charge of them.

M. BAYONNE - There is a first section of 484 candidates. Of these 46 or 47 have been eliminated for reasons of military security. One very important question is whether we can consider as refugees people who have been in Spain since 1910, for example.

M. MARCHAT - I don't believe so.

M. LEVASSEUR - They cannot be considered as refugees; it is out of the question, ^{apparently} it would seem, ^{to allow them} that they would be permitted to come to Morocco.

M. BAYONNE - On the other hand, there are ^{at the basis of this movement} of refugees across the peninsula past agreements between the German and Spanish authorities. These people come from a country occupied by the Axis and the Military Security will have immense difficulties in exercising the control; enemy agents will mingle with the refugees. It is a precedent and the Spanish authorities will not fail to call upon it consequently to send us people they consider undesirable; we cannot accept without taking all the necessary precautions.

M. MARCHAT - (to M. LEVASSEUR) We have as a starting point the agreement which you negotiated in Madrid.

M. LEVASSEUR - Yes, it bore in particular upon the conditions under which the refugees who ~~were~~ volunteered to come to Camp Fedala, will be admitted to it.

MR MARCHAT - We are obviously obliged to receive these people under certain conditions. It's a question of security. I am turning toward French and Allied Military authorities. I consider that a certain number of refugees can, ^{a priori}, be considered as suspects. We are hence obliged to keep them in Camp Fedala while waiting for their relocation in an undetermined camp. ^{Firstly,} Thus we shall have to exercise the control at the point of departure; ^{secondly,} we shall have to exercise another control at the place of arrival for the camp; and ^{thirdly,} we shall have to supervise what could be called relocation: three chapter headings to be studied.

^{they} M. LAUJAO - It is out of the question that ^{in the past} these people remain in Morocco; these people are ~~being brought~~ simply going ~~through~~ and there is no question of relocation. My impression is that what we said before has been slightly modified.

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M. LEVASSEUR - (after having read a note concerning the eventual relocation of refugees) It's about possibilities for work which might be granted to certain people.

M. MARCHAT - Each individual case will have to be examined; if an individual is suspect we shall refuse the work permit.

M. LEVASSEUR - There are other considerations which will have to be taken into account and this conforms with what had been understood with Beckleman in Madrid: compatibility with the economy of the Protectorate, transportation and housing conditions.

M. MARCHAT - The relocation and departure of an individual from Camp Fedala Camp will be subject to certain restrictions. Who will make the necessary inquiries?

M. LEVASSEUR - M. Beckleman who will be the camp director, agrees to have with him a French assistant.

M. MARCHAT - You have every guarantee of security; suspects will not be allowed to leave camp and only those whose profession will be of profit to the economy of the Protectorate, will be allowed to work.

MR. BECKLEMAN - May I remind you of the exchange of notes between the British and American representatives in Algiers and the French Committee of National Liberation in which all three parties emphasized that placing the refugees in a concentration camp could not be considered.

M. MARCHAT - It's not a question of concentration camps, but there are, nevertheless, a certain number of precautions which must be taken, and this in the common interest.

COL. GRUAN - The inhabitants of the camp will have to be confined in it for at least three weeks so that the identity of the refugees can be ~~established~~ determined as accurately as possible. It is better to be able to track down suspects and separate them from others who will thus be allowed more freedom.

CAPT. BLONDET - Thus there are three categories of people: the suspects, the homeless ones, and those who are completely unknown. If they are allowed to go out from the very start, it will be impossible to separate them.

M. MARCHAT - Let us take up the problem of the date, beginning with which the stateless people who had established themselves in Spain, can be considered refugees.

M. DAYONNE - What have you decided about the 116 stateless persons who arrived in Spain before 1938? Can we accept them?

M. GAMBINELLI - They are not refugees.

M. MARCHAT - Is Spain expelling them?

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M. BAYONNE - No.

M. MARCHAT - My point of departure is that our object is a humanitarian one. But the present times are not propitious for family traveling. On the other hand, it is a question of transit and we should take into consideration only the candidacy of refugees whose chances are good of obtaining fairly quickly the necessary visas. How much time will this require?

MR. COLE - I have not the slightest idea.

M. MARCHAT - People living in Madrid or Barcelona will be ~~be~~ less comfortable ~~conditions~~ in Camp Fedala. I don't know if they will be willing to leave, or if they won't prefer to remain in Spain.

MR. BECKLEMAN - These people asked of their own free will if they could come here.

M. MARCHAT - Of their own free will, but not knowing the conditions.

M. LEVASSEUR - They have all read the circular written by Mr. Beckleman, M. Bayonne and me, in which are pointed out the conditions under which they will be admitted into Morocco.

M. MARCHAT - They know they can leave Spain to go into other countries but only to live under conditions that lack both comfort and attraction.

M. LEVASSEUR - (reading the agreement which must be signed by the refugees wishing to come into Fedala Camp and by which they undertake to comply to the conditions indicated in the circular) I think that these people imagine that they will be able to leave very soon, and it is for this reason especially that they are coming.

MR. BECKLEMAN - I should like to point out that among the people who arrived in Spain before 1933, and who requested to come here, there are a few dozen who are now in ~~the~~ prison or in concentration camps in Spain because they did not leave the country after an order of expulsion. They are stateless from the point of view of the Spanish government which is in power at present. It concerns those who were ordered out in 1933, 1938 and 1940, and who, unable to leave Spain, were put in prison. They can now leave prison or the concentration camp only under condition that they leave Spain. It seems to me that it is for them that the three governments-- French, American and British --wanted to do something; those people can be considered as refugees for whom even the lack of comfort at Fedala would be better than their present situation in Spain.

M. MARCHAT - I am differentiating between the two cases.--The prisoner and the person who lives in a hotel. I should be more disposed to accept the first rather than the second.

condemned

M. BAYONNE - On condition that no one ~~sentenced~~ by common law be considered.

M. MARCHAT - There is a sifting at the point of departure, isn't there?

MR. BROCKLEMAN - If it's a matter of political prisoners, Spain considers them undesirable, and if the Security has no objection, I propose that the stateless persons who arrived in Spain before 1933 and who are now in prison, be considered as refugees.

COL. CREANE - The British Embassy has asked me to say that from its point of view there are people among the 116 candidates who arrived in Spain before 1933 who are suffering in prison.

M. BAYONNE - Agreed on condition that individual cases be examined.

M. MARCHAT - How many are there in prison? About 50?

MR. BROCKLEMAN - ~~Not 50. 40 or 30.~~ Not 50. 40 or 30.

M. MARCHAT - There is obviously every reason to get these people out of prison.

M. BAYONNE - We shall make up the list of these people.

M. MARCHAT - What is your opinion about those who lived in Spain before 1933 and who have their freedom?

MR. BROCKLEMAN - They cannot be considered as refugees.

Q - M. BAYONNE - The persons whom we examined in Spain are those who had been there for some time and when we left Spain a contingent of 360 ~~Netherdies~~ ^{involved} sent back by the Germans, arrived.

MR. BROCKLEMAN - They were almost all of them born in Salonika. They spent 6 months in German camps and as the result of an agreement between the German and Spanish governments they were sent to Spain.

M. BAYONNE - The question of principle ^{involved} is--can we accept these people? There is a group of 360 who have just arrived. The Germans are in the process of making up other ~~contingents~~ contingents to achieve mass evacuation to Spain. This raises the question of principle. The Spaniards will intervene so that they may be sheltered in Fedala Camp.

M. MARCHAT - I notice that they fall under the terms of the agreement.

M. LEVASSEUR - Under what conditions do they live in Spain?

MR. BROCKLEMAN - They arrived at Port-Bouc on February 16 or 17. They left for Barcelona in the hopes of leaving Spain. The Spanish Government asked the British and American Ambassadors if their governments were prepared to include these people among those who could be ~~sent~~ put up at Fedala Camp. The American Ambassador at Madrid answered yes to this question and discussed it the other day with Mr. Guiraud in Algiers and we all agreed to include these people among the refugees who could be admitted into Morocco.

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M. LEVASSEUR - This is about Spanish refugees. (reading a document).

M. MARCHAT - ^{Spanish} But by what right?

M. LEVASSEUR -- It's ancient.

M. MARCHAT - Either they are Spanish nationals or they are not. I don't understand the word Spanish protégé.

M. LEVASSEUR - It's a reversion which goes back to the 16th century.

M. GABRIELLI - I think that it has to do with capitulation.

M. MARCHAT - The capitulations were given up in Bulgaria not very long ago; it is ~~perhaps~~ reversion. It's a matter of non-official protection; but that is their nationality?

M. BAYONNE - I haven't seen them. Their dossiers are in Madrid, we have not received them here. The organization which is working over there has begun setting up the dossiers. If you decide to accept them here these people will have to be examined much more thoroughly than the others.

M. LEVASSEUR - Are there other Sephardies who are to arrive in Spain?

M. BAYONNE - They will arrive as the Spanish situation clears up.

M. MARCHAT - We could then terminate the list of those who were to leave and oppose the departure of the second contingent. We could accept those who are in Spain now and new negotiations would be necessary among the three governments for the admission of other refugees.

M. BROCKLEMAN - In Spain we always spoke of a single contingent.

M. MARCHAT - If those people come from Salonica, where will they go?

M. BAYONNE - To the country which is willing to take them in.

M. MARCHAT - I suggest that we accept the contingent of 360 Sephardies, that they be examined much more carefully than the others by an extremely strict commission; those arriving in Spain later will be the subject of a new examination. I should like to ask one question. Supposing this close examination uncovers people whom you would not want to accept, undesirable ones, what will you do with them?

M. BAYONNE - The sifting of the 480 whom we examined in Madrid is almost finished. As for the 360 Sephardies, according to instructions from Algiers, we, as the Military Security, along with the Allied Services, shall have to make a preliminary examination in Spain just as we did to the others.

M. MARCHAT - Those declared suspects will not leave.

M. LAUJAC - And those who are uncovered here?

M. BAYONNE - There is no reason for our treating these people differently from the way we treat the French who come here to fight.

MRS BROCKLEMAN - We will get them out of camp to place them on call for Military Security. These people will no longer be considered in the center.

M. BAYONNE - As for the people who have been in the camp for 8 or 10 days, for example, if we request that such and such a person be allowed to leave, we shall have to agree so that there will be no possible objection and so that these people will not use your services as a blind.

M. MARCHAT - To come back to the 360 Sephardies, they must be admitted, it being well understood that if others arrive that will be the end. We shall admit those who are in Spain as of today.

MR. BROCKLEMAN - It seems to me that this is not the question. The three governments have signed an agreement to take in stateless persons who are now in Spain; it seems to me that there is no question in making a decision for the future. A new agreement among the three governments will be necessary.

M. MARCHAT - We agree. The new refugees are excluded from the present agreement.

M. LEVASSEUR - It was said: stateless refugees "who are now living in Spain". We can go no further. There may perhaps ~~unanimously~~ consequently be other negotiations in Algiers. For the moment the only question is to put into practice the agreement recently concluded. There ~~remains~~ remains only this to settle the latest date of application.

MR. BROCKLEMAN - We can settle upon the date.

M. BAYONNE - The 1st of March, since the last contingent of Sephardies was at the end of February.

M. MARCHAT - We hereby declare that the present agreement is no longer applicable after March 1. 3

3 - M. LEVASSEUR - There remain the details to be settled.

M. MARCHAT - When these people arrive in Casablanca, what do we do with them?

M. LEVASSEUR - It's the Military Security which will take charge of them.

M. MARCHAT - You have made your preparations. Where is this camp?

MR. BROCKLEMAN - At Fedala.

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M. LAUJAC - It's quite far from Fedala; it's Camp Lyautey.

M. BAYONNE - It is understood that upon arrival, under no pretext will the refugees ~~have~~ ^{be} contact with the civilian population.

MR. BECKLEMAN - That's understood.

(E-) M. BAYONNE - There remains the question of identification cards. These people will have to be given identification cards.

CAPT. CHEVALIER - We shall do ~~to them~~ as we do ^{for} the French..

M. LAUJAC - I shall ask that it not be an identification card, since they have nothing to determine their identity.

M. LEVASSEUR - A special card would be needed.

M. MARCHAT - Let us take the case of a person who leaves Spain as a Greek and who declares himself Spanish upon arrival; there is no way of proving it. It looks as though it were a question that should be settled by the Security. What is important from the point of view of the government is that they be provided with an identification card or a document made up by some authority.

M. LAUJAC - Those outside the camp should be granted alien registration cards. Inside the camp ~~nothing~~ no card would be given.

M. MARCHAT - Why not give a card? It could be specified: "Declaring himself to be," which would allow the camp authorities to identify him and not to take him for his neighbor. It's only a suggestion.

M. LAUJAC - The American authorities ought to give that.

M. LEVASSEUR --It's up to us to give those cards.

M. BAYONNE - In Spain ~~they~~ identification cards are given.

M. MARCHAT - It's a little subtle: a card of identification and not of identity. ~~What information~~ Has the information written upon this card any juridical ~~value~~ value?

M. LEVASSEUR - At any rate, no civil status value. This question could be settled consequently.

M. MARCHAT -This card could be set up as follows: "I declare myself Jewish. I have no means of proving it." It's up to the Consul to decide if one can trust the person in question and on the face value of his declarations, grant him the visa which he requests.

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MR. COLE - Agreed.

(F) M. BAYONNE - Is the Camp ready to receive these people?

MR. BECKLEMAN - We have done all we could.

M. BAYONNE - ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Do you see any reason why one of the French services, either civil or military, should not get in touch with you in order that the boat will leave to get the refugees only when everything is ready?

MR. BECKLEMAN - None.

M. BAYONNE - And the camp guard?

M. MARCHAT - American or French authorities?

MR. BECKLEMAN - The camp is the property of the American army. The question will have to be put to the American government.

M. BAYONNE - There are American soldiers condemned to prison; there are Italians, etc. Placing the French guard would seem difficult.

LT. HOOKER - At the moment we have Italian prisoners of war who are undergoing training which will finish next week. The camp will be empty. The center will continue to be guarded in case there were other prisoners to be put there. Consequently there will be a guard, no matter what happens.

M. MARCHAT - Who will have the responsibility for the refugees who are in the center? Will it be a civil or military directorship? That's my question.

M. LEVASSEUR - The director of the center must have the responsibility of internal discipline.

CAPT. CHEVALIER - It is the responsibility of American authorities. That's provided for in the agreement.

M. LEVASSEUR - (reading a memo about the responsibility of the director of the camp)

M. BAYONNE - Not from the military point of view. If there are rights of extra-territoriality, we shall be unable to go to the center to seek a suspect.

M. MARCHAT - And if a refugee escapes from the center?

MR. BECKLEMAN - I think you asked: If someone escapes from the center?

M. MARCHAT - ...then the French police will intervene?

MR. BECKLEMAN - By leaving the center they place themselves outside the ^{up to} Camp jurisdiction. They have violated the laws of the territory and it is the ^{up to} authority of the territory who must look after it. To handle it

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M. MARCHAT - If someone escapes, the French police will be notified.

CAPT. CHEVALIER - There is also the problem of accessibility; visits to the camp. These questions must be decided by agreement with the American authorities.

M. BAYONNE - What about correspondence?

MR. BECKELMAN - Anyone can write via the French mails, and the censorship rules of the French mails will be applied to the letters of those in the center in the same way as to those of everyone in this territory.

M. LEVASSEUR - Couldn't the Administration of the center stamp the letters?

MR. BECKELMAN - Certainly, if it seems useful. If we consider that it is simply a question of 750 persons who happen to live in a camp instead of somewhere else, and who write letters and receive letters through the French mails, the simplest thing would be to censor these letters in the same way as those of anyone else.

M. BAYONNE - To come back to the question of visits to the camp, will there be someone from the Military Security permanently at the camp to act as liaison?

M. LEVASSEUR - Provided that there is someone from the administration of the Protectorate with you.

MR. BECKELMAN - I think that will be sufficient as liaison.

M. MARCHAT - Who would be in charge of that? An assistant from the office of the Surete Generale Fesale or a retired employee of civilian control of Morocco?

M. LEVASSEUR - There is also the question of lodging the sick and aged. How would you arrange for this lodging under normal conditions? If there are old men, would you put them in barracks? At the end of a week they would say that they cannot live in the center and would ask to go to a hospital or to rent an apartment.

MR. BECKELMAN - I think you will give them the chance of going to a hospital.

M. LEVASSEUR - There are also the invalids. Can they live in the center?

MR. BECKELMAN - I don't know. I can't answer that question without seeing them.

M. MARCHAT - Have you an infirmary?

MR. BECKELMAN - Yes.

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M. LEVASSEUR - Do you think that living conditions in the center will be bearable for persons in delicate health?

M. BAYONNE - You are putting people into a camp where the climate is not very good. I know that there are: an old man, a paralytic, and a tubercular person; you will have the difficulties; the climate is rigorous.

M. LEVASSEUR - We shouldn't want you to tell us after a while that these people simply must leave the camp.

MR. BECKELMAN - The only problem is that of security. If these people leave the camp they will not be the responsibility of the French.

M. MARCHAT - They must not be a burden to the Protectorate; if they occupy a hospital bed, that will make one bed less for the hospital.

M. LAUJAC - As a matter of fact, there is no space; we have a sanatorium at Asrou and it's full. There are French people who have been waiting for several months, not to mention the foreigners.

M. BAYONNE - There are entire families among these refugees; there are old people and children.

M. MARCHAT - The problem is serious.

M. BAYONNE - We suggested the idea of a medical examination before they leave Spain. Then the idea was abandoned because it would further complicate operations. It will not be required unless the countries where these people are going demand it.

M. LAUJAC - There is a dahir (decree of the Sultan) on immigration. For the cases that we know of, why not have them take a special examination? It seems to me that it is not to our best interests nor to those of the American authorities to bring here old people or invalids who are at present comfortably settled in Spain.

M. MARCHAT - Is there a decree of the Sultan forbidding an invalid from entering the Protectorate?

M. LAUJAC - No.

M. MARCHAT - With the discretionary powers which are at our disposal, we can rule that in war time the entrance of a person with tuberculosis is detrimental to the war effort.

M. LAUJAC - The system of individual entry permits allows us to refuse entrance but it is not applicable in this case because the visas are group visas; there is only the dahir on immigration.

M. MARCHAT - We should have to rule that material conditions of living at Fedala exclude a certain category of individuals -- *invalids* individuals; etc.

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MR. BECKELMAN - That would be a little difficult. There are going to be many special cases --an entire family including the grandmother who is old and in poor health --the others will not want to leave without her.

M. LAUJAC - But if there are only two or three cases they must be known.

M. BAYONNE - I myself have seen one invalid, one case of tuberculosis-- in all there are not more than four or five cases, but there might be difficulties regarding the contingent because of the question of proximity.

M. LAUJAC - There is some control exercised at the point of departure. In this case we have the quarantine inspectors for more serious diseases, both on board and at the port of entry of the country agreed upon; there are general rules that can be applied; we have a stringent juridical basis of an international character for eliminating people...

M. BAYONNE - Could we perhaps leave the question to Mr. Blickenstaff in Madrid? He has the necessary medical personnel. We have not decided the question of visits to the camp of people coming from outside.

M. MARCHAT - These people don't know anyone in Morocco.

M. LEVASSEUR - They have many references, they have relatives, and they know people who have passed through Spain.

M. MARCHAT - We must follow certain principles. We have already had refugee camps, camps for prisoners, a certain number of camps where visiting hours are limited. To what extent this ruling can be adapted to the special case of the camp at Fedala remains to be seen. Also, certain precautions must be taken. There must be visiting hours but we must have a special understanding between the camp authorities and the French civil and the military authorities.

M. BAYONNE - There is the questioning done by the Military Security/ these are ~~the~~ the services which are qualified to say whether or not a particular person may have contacts with people from outside. Requests to visit the camp should be transmitted for decision to the Military Security.

MR. BECKELMAN - Once this questioning and sifting at the camp is finished, what will be the situation of these people? What are the reasons for limiting their contacts with the outside world--going on the assumption that all the people who live outside are people we are sure of?

M. BAYONNE - None at all.

M. MARCHAT - I should define the situation by saying that they are in a sort of quarantine. They are transients who are waiting to leave sooner or later for other countries. It is a transitory state.

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between freedom and lack of freedom. It's not complete liberty but neither is it a concentration camp. It's a mixture of the two. We have this sort of quarantine in the American regulations.

MR. BECKELMAN - Yes, after all the idea of a quarantine cannot be prolonged beyond three or four months. The period of quarantine is temporary - questioning - sifting...

M. MARCHAT - It can last a month; when the questioning is finished there are the suspected and those who are not. We can take the question as follows: What to do with the suspects and what to do with the rest.

M. LEVASSEUR - All these questions have been discussed in Madrid. The decision arrived at is indicated in the circular note addressed to the refugees.

M. BAYONNE - In other words, there is no chance of relocation. So long as they are at camp, they will have to conform with the rules of the camp.

M. LEVASSEUR - (reading the memo)

MR. BECKELMAN - It is to our interest to avoid a situation where the three democracies, having decided to do something humanitarian for people who suffered during four or five years, can find nothing to offer them but a concentration camp.

M. MARCHAT - We are at war. These people who come in here under more or less suspicious circumstances must be closely watched.

MR. BECKELMAN - It seems to me that once the sifting is done, the situation will be quite different.

M. BAYONNE - There is no guarantee. On what can we base our cross examinations? Without animus and from the point of view of security, there are precautions to be taken. One must take into account the war situation of the territory in which they are going to be sheltered. We are going to be forced to take in regard to them measures which are harder than those to which they have been subjected in Spain.

M. LEVASSEUR - (to Mr. Beckelman) I often told you so in Madrid.

M. MARCHAT - Morocco is living under siege conditions.

M. BAYONNE - When there are suspects, one must be very strict at first, if only to relax subsequently the measures taken.

M. LEVASSEUR - We shall have to stick to what has been anticipated. These people have been prepared. They agreed to comply with the conditions imposed upon them for their arrival in Morocco.

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CAPT. BLONDET - We shall have to speed up the consular formalities and get the refugees on board ship.

R - M. BAYONNE - There are contingents going to Canada, others to Palestine. Among these people, there are special cases. Some of them have asked to come to Morocco and return to Spain; there are some who wish to settle definitely in North Africa.

COL. CREHAN - Some of them say they are coming to Morocco to trade; they won't want to stay in Camp.

M. BAYONNE - I repeat there are odd cases. Some want to return to Spain later.

M. MARCHAT - Let them make a formal request. Those cases fall outside the terms of the agreement.

M. BAYONNE - What have you decided about those who want to come to North Africa and return to Spain?

M. MARCHAT - This falls outside the agreement; these requests will be examined through normal channels.

MR. BECKELMAN - From the point of view of the agreement, it seems to me that all these people signed a request after having read the explanations saying that it is a matter of transit through Morocco and each person who enters Fedala Camp enters it under the protection of the American and British Governments who have given the French Committee of National Liberation assurance that everything will be done to speed up the exit of all these people.

M. MARCHAT - The agreement entirely excludes a subsequent return to Spain.

M. LEVASSEUR - The agreement provides that these people may return to their native country or go to a country of their choice.

M. MARCHAT - If they ask to leave Spain, it is not to return there.

MR. BECKELMAN - There are many people who today wish to leave many countries in the hope that they may return there after the war.

M. MARCHAT - I agree --for the occupied countries. But it's different in neutral countries. The country of their choice cannot be Spain since they are not satisfied there and want to leave it. That is how I interpret this agreement. I can see no reason why they should want to leave Spain and then return there a few days later. For those who wish to stay definitely in North Africa, it is not a question of transit. It is a question of legal application.

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M. LEVASSEUR - The question of visiting has not been definitely settled.

I. M. MARCHAT - What do you think - those of you who know about this?

M. LAUJAC - That is a question that can be settled only after we have had some experience. In theory, the assistant should see the people who come to the camp.

MR. BECKELMAN - The camp visits - everyone's comings and goings in Morocco, are regulated by the French services. Everyone who wants to go to the center to see anyone presents a request for a pass. It seems logical that a circulation permit must be had for the trip between Casablanca and the camp.

M. LEVASSEUR - I suppose that these people who go to the camp could be provided with a pass.

A. BAYONNE - There are two centers of attraction: Casablanca and Rabat. Hence, permits will have to be requested at Casablanca or Rabat.

MR. BECKELMAN - I still remember the words of the notes exchanged among the representatives of the three governments, where it was emphasized that it was not intended to deprive these people of liberty; let us find some means of respecting the necessity for military security and yet not give those people the impression that they are being deprived of their liberty; I am trying to find a formula.

M. LEVASSEUR - I have M. Massigli's answer to Mr. Murphy. (reading)

MR. BECKELMAN - That was the first letter. There was another.

M. LEVASSEUR - Yes, in November. (reading)

A. LAUJAC - Those having exit permits will also have to be checked on; it is an important question.

CAPT. HOOKER - Since the Military Security has dossiers, it is easier for them than for the Americans to exercise this control.

M. LAUJAC - That settles the question.

CAPT. BLONDET - Someone living in Markesh and who wants to go to camp will have to ask for a permit.

M. LAUJAC - This is necessary because people arrive by various means of transportation. Some could arrive in great numbers and raise a rumpus because they are not allowed in.

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M. MARCHAT - Since Camp Fedala is a special camp, more flexibility is needed. For example, when someone puts in a request, if identification is produced a broader point of view will have to be manifested.

M. LAUJAC - People will say that they didn't know that they had to get permission.

CAPT. BLONDET - No visits for at least one month.

M. LAUJAC - Many among these people will certainly have contacts. People will come to the camp.

M. BAYONNE - Many of them have established relations with those who have already left Spain.

M. LEVASSEUR - There is another matter which takes precedence over the humanitarian question - security comes first. We must apply the necessary measures for security.

M. MARCHAT - The agreement was prepared with a maximum of humaneness in view.

M. LEVASSEUR - There are some who want to enlist either in the British, American or French armies. Cooperation on every side will be needed to settle all these questions. Nothing can be decided in advance, time will tell.

M. BAYONNE - As for volunteers, there aren't very many.

MR. COLE - Foreigners are admitted into our army. We could separate those subject to mobilization from those not subject to it. (to Mr. Beckelman) What's the American point of view?

MR. BECKELMAN - They cannot enlist in the American army because they're on foreign territory.

M. BAYONNE - There is a precedent: the ones subject to mobilization have their choice: either they serve in the army or they are interned. Those who enlist will have the same freedom as the other soldiers. But for those who do not wish to enlist, what regulation can be applied to them in camp? There are young Germans who cannot be left at liberty.

M. LEVASSEUR - Other enemy subjects are interned.

M. MARCHAT - We can decide only as we go along.

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M. BAYONNE - What have we decided about the visits?

M. MARCHAT - Permission granted by the French military authorities (Military Security).

CAPT. BLONDET - You can tell them that they can write to their friends that they must obtain permits at the Military Security office at Rabat.

J. M. MARCHAT - Are there any other questions?

MR. BECKELMAN - There are many questions of detail which will come up as we go along. What we can do now is indicate the general tone.

M. MARCHAT - I asked a question so that you will think about it. We have met as a sort of administrative council for these refugees; if need be, we could perhaps meet again. It is the function of our council to settle questions that cannot be settled directly by the camp director and the local authorities.

M. LEVASSEUR - Or between Mr. Beckelman and the Frenchman who will assist him.

M. MARCHAT - Is there anything else?

Answer: No.

M. MARCHAT - We should like to thank those who initiated this humanitarian undertaking; we hope that the contingents will arrive safely; that there will be very few suspects - that's the most important point, needless to say; there would be no trouble were there no suspects.

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TO: Mr. L. Leonard
FROM: Lucienne C. Olinger
SUBJECT: Summary of Mr. M. W. Beckelman, UNRRA, with French and British officials, on the Casablanca Camp.

The minutes of the March 25th meeting are a summary of the statements made, the discussions which went on and the agreements reached with French and British officials at that meeting.

1. Purpose of meeting.

The purpose of the meeting was:

- (a) To settle different questions concerning the temporary (hospitalization) in Morocco of "refugee apatrides" actually in Spain.
- (b) To settle the details of the arrival in Morocco and the admission at the Fedala Camp, of about 800 refugees from Salonika and Spain.
- (c) To settle the question of military security.

2. Questions to be settled upon.

The following questions were discussed:

- (a) Conditions of admission, transportation, lodging and freedom of movement of the refugees in Morocco.
- (b) Questions of the internal discipline, military guard of the camp, control of the refugees mail, leaves, and authorization to work outside.
- (c) Question of the hospitalization of the sick, the aged, or the crippled people; the question of the refugees becoming public charges of the Protectorate.

3. Agreements reached.

The following points were agreed upon:

- (a) The departure and the transportation of refugees from Spain to Morocco will be undertaken by the English Embassy in Madrid.

Mr. L. Leonar

Page 2.

- (b) At their arrival in Morocco, the refugees will be taken into custody by the American authorities.
- (c) The French military and civilian authorities will receive the refugees in Morocco only under the following conditions:
 - 1) The preliminary investigation of refugees by the French Military Security in Spain.
 - 2) The strict control at the time of departure and arrival by the French Military Security.
 - 3) A month's quarantine of refugees upon their arrival at the camp.
 - 4) The regulation of visits to the camp and of the refugees' leaves and freedom of movement by the French Military authorities.
 - 5) The discipline and the control of the refugees in the camp will be the responsibility of the camp's director.
 - 6) The liaison between the American and French authorities (military and civilian) will be the responsibility of the Frenchman appointed as assistant to the camp's director.
- (d) The American, British and French officials, who were present at the March 25th meeting, would be considered as a kind of board of directors of the Fedala Camp who will settle questions which could not be settled by the Camp's director and the local French authorities.

Attachments:

- 1- French translation of Summary of Mr. Beckelman, UNRRA, with French and British officials, on the Casablanca Camp.

Olinger/ap
19 apr 44

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NOTE

Une reunion s'est tenue a la Residence Generale le 25 mars 1944, pour mettre au point diverses questions concernant l'hebergement provisoire au Maroc de refugies apatrides actuellement en Espagne.

M. MARCHAT, Ministre Plenipotentiaire, Conseiller Diplomatique de Protectorat, a preside cette reunion a laquelle assistaient:

a)- du cote americain:

M. COLE, Consul des Etats-Unis a Rabat
M. BECKELMAN, Delege du gouvernement americain
Lieutenant HOOKER
M. COPE, Delege des organisations de secours americaines

b)- du cote britannique:

Colonel BREAN

c)- du cote francais:

Capitaine CHEVALIER
Capitaine BLONDET
L. GABRIEL, de la Direction des Affaires Politiques
M. LAUJAC, des Services de la Securite
M. PAYOTTE
M. LEVASSEUR, du Cabinet du Resident General.

COMPTE-RENDU DE SEANCE

M. MARCHAT ouvre la seance et donne la parole a M. BECKELMAN.

A- M. BECKELMAN - Nous sommes reunis pour fixer les details de l'arrivee et de l'installation au camp de Fedala d'apatrides qui sont actuellement en Espagne. Sous quelle forme on doit presenter la question? Je l'ignore. Il faut tout d'abord s'occuper du transport; un depart aura lieu probablement vers le 10 ou le 15 avril.

M. LEVASSEUR - C'est l'Ambassade britannique a Madrid qui devait s'occuper de cette question.

M. MARCHAT - La genese de cette affaire?

M. LEVASSEUR - Il s'agit de refugies apatrides qui se trouvent en Espagne. Les Gouvernements americain et anglais ont manifeste le desir que certaines personnes soient hebergees provisoirement au Maroc en attendant de

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rejoindre leur pays d'origine ou un pays de leur choix. La Comité Français de la Libération Nationale a donné son accord. Nous avons posé à Madrid les bases de cette affaire (lecture d'une note). Voilà les bases; il faut régler les détails.

M. LARCHAT - Combien y a-t-il de réfugiés?

M. BECKELMAN - Si un départ a lieu vers le 10 avril, il faut compter sur 400 personnes environ. Un autre convoi d'égale importance suivra plus tard.

M. LARCHAT - Donc, il faut compter 800 personnes à peu près qui arriveront au Maroc dans un délai plus ou moins proche. Arrivées à Casablanca elles seront dirigées sur le camp de Fedala? Dans quelles conditions?

M. LEVASSEUR - Ce sont les autorités américaines qui les prendront en charge.

M. PAYONNE - Il y a une première tranche de 484 candidats. Sur ce nombre 46 ou 47 ont été éliminés pour des raisons de sécurité militaire. Une question très importante est celle de savoir si nous pouvons considérer comme réfugiés des personnes qui se trouvent en Espagne depuis 1910, par exemple.

M. LARCHAT - Je ne crois pas.

M. LEVASSEUR - On ne peut les considérer comme réfugiés; il ne peut être question, semble-t-il, de les autoriser à venir au Maroc.

M. BAYONNE - D'autre part, il y a tout de même à la base de ce mouvement de réfugiés à travers la péninsule des accords passés entre les autorités allemandes et l'Espagne. Ces personnes viennent de pays occupés par l'Axe et la Sécurité Militaire aura d'immenses difficultés pour exercer un contrôle; des agents ennemis se glisseront parmi les réfugiés. C'est un précédent et les autorités espagnoles ne manqueront pas de l'invoquer par la suite pour nous envoyer les personnes qu'elles considéreront comme indésirables; nous ne pouvons accepter sans prendre toutes les précautions nécessaires.

M. MALAPLAT (s'adressant à M. LEVASSEUR) - Nous avons comme point de départ l'accord que vous avez conclu à Madrid.

M. LARCHAT - Oui, il a porté, en particulier, sur les conditions dans lesquelles les réfugiés, volontaires pour venir au camp de Fedala, seraient accueillis.

M. LEVASSEUR - Nous sommes obligés de recevoir des gens sous certaines conditions. C'est une question de sécurité. Je me retiens vers les autorités militaires allemandes et italiennes. Je considère qu'un très petit nombre de réfugiés peuvent être, a priori, considérés comme suspects; nous sommes donc obligés de les garder dans le camp de Fedala en attendant leur recasement dans un camp indéterminé. Il faut donc d'abord un contrôle au départ; en second lieu un autre contrôle à l'arrivée au camp et en troisième lieu nous devons surveiller ce qu'on peut appeler le recasement: trois chefs de chapitre à étudier.

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M. LAUJAC - Il n'est pas question pour ces personnes de rester au Maroc; ces gens sont amenes en transit tout simplement et il n'est pas question de recasement. J'ai l'impression qu'on a modifié un peu ce qui avait été dit avant.

M. LEVASSEUR (apres avoir lu un texte concernant le recasement éventuel des refugies). Il s'agit des possibilites de travail qui pourront être accordees a certaines personnes.

M. MARCHAT - Il faut voir chaque cas particulier; si un individu est suspect, nous refusons le permis de travail.

M. LEVASSEUR - Il y a d'autres considerations dont il faudra tenir compte et ceci est conforme a ce qui avait été entendu avec BECKELMAN a Madrid: compatibilite avec l'economie du protectorat, conditions de transport et de logement.

M. MARCHAT - Le recasement et la sortie d'un individu du camp de Fedala seront soumis a certaines restrictions. Qui fera les enquetes necessaires?

M. LEVASSEUR - M. BECKELMAN, qui sera directeur du camp, est d'accord pour avoir aupres de lui un adjoint francais.

M. MARCHAT - Vous avez toutes garanties de securite; on ne laissera pas sortir du camp les suspects et seuls seront autorises a travailler ceux dont la profession sera profitable a l'economie du protectorat.

M. BECKELMAN - Je me permets de vous rappeler l'échange de notes entre les representants britanniques et americains a Alger et le Comité Francais de la Liberation Nationale dans lesquelles les trois parties soulignaient qu'il ne pouvait s'agir de mettre les refugies dans un camp de concentration.

M. MARCHAT - Il n'est pas question d'un camp de concentration; mais nous avons tout de même un certain nombre de precautions a prendre, et ceci dans l'interet commun.

Colonel CARMAN - Le camp devra rester consigne pendant trois semaines au moins afin qu'on puisse établir l'identite aussi exacte que possible des refugies. Il vaut mieux être en mesure de depister les suspects et de les separer des autres auxquels plus de liberte pourra ainsi être laissée par la suite.

Capitaine BLONDET - Il y a donc trois categories de gens: les suspects, les inoffensifs et ceux qui sont parfaitement inconnus. Si on les laisse sortir dès le debut il sera impossible de faire le tri.

B- M. MARCHAT - Prenons le probleme de la date a partir de laquelle les apatrides installes en Espagne pourront être consideres comme refugies.

M. BAYONNE - Que decidez-vous en ce qui concerne les 116 apatrides qui sont arrives en Espagne avant 1933. Pouvons-nous les accepter?

M. CABBRIELLI - Ce ne sont pas des refugies.

M. MARCHAT - L'Espagne les expulse-t-elle?

M. BAYONNE - Non.

M. MARCHAT - Je pars de ce principe que nous poursuivons un but humanitaire mais l'epoque actuelle n'est pas favorable aux voyages de famille. Il s'agit d'autre part d'un transit et nous ne devrions prendre en consideration que les candidatures des refugies ayant des chances d'obtenir assez rapidement les visas necessaires. Combien de temps faudra-t-il pour cela?

M. COLE - Je n'en sais absolument rien.

M. MARCHAT - La personne qui vit a Madrid ou a Barcelone sera au camp de Fedala dans des conditions moins confortables. Je ne sais pas si elle sera disposee a partir et si elle ne preferera pas rester en Espagne.

M. BECKELMAN - Ces gens-la ont fait leur demande pour etre recus ici tout a fait volontairement.

M. MARCHAT - Volontairement, mais sans savoir les conditions.

M. LEVASSEUR - Ils ont tous lu la circulaire redigee a Madrid par M. BECKELMAN, M. BAYONNE et moi, qui leur indique les conditions dans lesquelles ils seront admis a resider au Maroc.

M. MARCHAT - Ils savent qu'ils peuvent quitter l'Espagne pour aller dans d'autres pays mais dans des conditions qui manquent de confort et d'agrement.

M. LEVASSEUR (lecture de l'engagement) que doivent signer les refugies desirant de venir au camp de Fedala et par lequel ils s'engagent a se soumettre aux conditions indiquees dans la circulaire).

Je crois que ces gens s'imaginent qu'ils pourront partir tres vite et c'est surtout pour cela qu'ils viennent.

M. BECKELMAN - Je voudrais signaler que parmi les gens qui sont arrives en Espagne avant 1933 et qui ont fait des demandes pour etre recus ici, il y en a quelques dizaines qui se trouvent actuellement en prison ou dans des camps de concentration en Espagne pour ne pas avoir quitte ce pays apres un ordre d'expulsion. Ce sont des apatrides du point de vue du gouvernement espagnol qui est actuellement au pouvoir. Il s'agit de ceux qui ont recu des ordres d'expulsion en 1938-39-40 et qui n'ayant eu aucune possibilite de sortir d'Espagne ont ete mis en prison; ils peuvent, maintenant, sortir de prison ou du camp de concentration a la seule condition de quitter l'Espagne. Il me semble que c'est pour eux que les trois gouvernements francais, americain et britannique ont eu le desir de faire quelque chose; on peut regarder comme refugies ces gens-la pour qui meme le manque de confort a Fedala sera quelque chose de mieux que leur situation actuelle en Espagne.

M. MARCHAT - Je fais une difference entre les deux cas: le prisonnier et celui qui vit dans un hotel. Je serais plutot dispose a accueillir le premier cas plutot que le second.

M. BAYONNE - A condition qu'il ne s'agisse pas de condamnés du droit commun.

M. MARCHAT - Il y a un triage au départ, n'est-ce pas?

M. BECKELMAN - S'il s'agit de prisonniers politiques, l'Espagne les regarde comme indésirables et si la Sécurité n'a pas d'objection, je propose qu'on considère comme réfugiés les apatrides qui sont arrivés en Espagne avant 1933 et qui se trouvent actuellement en prison.

Colonel CREAN - L'Ambassade britannique m'a demandé de dire qu'à son point de vue il y a des gens qui souffrent en prison parmi les 116 candidats arrivés en Espagne avant 1933.

M. BAYONNE - D'accord, sous réserve de l'examen des cas particuliers.

M. MARCHAT - Combien y en a-t-il en prison? Une cinquantaine?

M. BECKELMAN - Pas une cinquantaine, 40 ou 30.

M. MARCHAT - Evidemment, il y a tout intérêt à faire sortir ces gens de prison.

M. BAYONNE - Nous établirons la liste de ces gens.

M. MARCHAT - Quel est votre avis pour ceux qui étaient en Espagne avant 1933 et qui y vivent librement?

M. BECKELMAN - On ne peut pas les considérer comme réfugiés.

C- M. BAYONNE - Les gens que nous avons examinés en Espagne sont ceux qui étaient là depuis quelque temps et au moment où nous avons quitté l'Espagne, est arrivé un lot de 360 Séphardites renvoyés par les Allemands.

M. BECKELMAN - Ils sont presque tous nés à Salonique; ils ont passé six mois dans des camps allemands et comme suite à un accord passé entre les gouvernements allemand et espagnol, on les a fait entrer en Espagne.

M. BAYONNE - La question de principe se pose de savoir si on peut accepter ces gens. Il y a un lot de 360 qui vient d'arriver; les Allemands sont en train de constituer d'autres convois pour faire des évacuations massives sur l'Espagne. Cela pose une question de principe. Les Espagnols interviendront pour qu'ils soient hébergés au camp de Fedala.

M. MARCHAT - Je remarque qu'ils tombent sous le coup de l'accord.

M. LEVASSEUR - Dans quelles conditions vivent-ils en Espagne?

M. BECKELMAN - On les a reçus à Port-Bouc le 16 ou le 17 février. Ils sont partis à Barcelone en attendant la possibilité de sortir d'Espagne. Le gouvernement espagnol a demandé aux ambassadeurs américain et britannique si leurs gouvernements étaient disposés à comprendre ces gens parmi ceux qui pourraient être hébergés au camp de Fedala. L'ambassadeur américain à Madrid a répondu oui à cette question et nous en avons discuté l'autre jour avec M. Guiramaud à Alger et nous étions tous d'accord pour comprendre ces gens parmi les réfugiés pouvant être admis au Maroc.

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M. LEVASSEUR - Il s'agit de proteges espagnols.
(lecture d'un document)

M. MARCHAT - Espagnols, mais a quel titre?

M. LEVASSEUR - C'est tres vieux.

M. MARCHAT - Ils sont ou bien nationaux espagnols ou bien ils ne le sont pas...
Je ne comprends pas le mot de protege espagnol.

M. LEVASSEUR - C'est une survivance qui date du 16eme siecle.

M. GABRIELLI - Je crois que cela se rapporte aux capitulations.

M. MARCHAT - Les capitulations ont ete abandonnees en Bulgarie il y a assez peu de temps; c'est peut-etre, en effet, une survivance. Il s'agirait d'une protection efficace; mais quelle est leur nationalite?

M. BAYONNE - Je ne les ai pas vus. Les dossiers sont a Madrid, nous ne les avons pas recus ici. L'organisation qui travaille la-bas a commence a etablir les dossiers. Si vous prenez la decision de les accepter ici, ces gens doivent faire l'objet d'un examen beaucoup plus approfondi que les autres.

M. LEVASSEUR - Est-ce qu'il y a d'autres Sephardites qui doivent arriver en Espagne?

M. BAYONNE - Il en arrivera au fur et a mesure que nous degagerons l'Espagne.

M. MARCHAT - Nous pourrions alors la liste des departs et nous opposer au depart d'un second convoi. Nous acceptons ceux qui sont en Espagne actuellement et de nouvelles negociations seraient necessaires entre les trois gouvernements pour l'admission d'autres refugies.

M. DECRELMAN - En Espagne nous avons toujours parle d'un seul convoi.

M. MARCHAT - Si ces gens-la viennent de Salonique, ou iront-ils?

M. BAYONNE - Dans les pays qui voudront bien les accepter.

M. MARCHAT - Je propose d'accepter ce convoi de 360 Sephardites, de les faire examiner avec beaucoup plus de soin que les autres par une commission de triage extremement severe; l'admission de ceux qui arriveront en Espagne par la suite fera l'objet d'une nouvelle etude. Je voudrais vous poser une question: supposez que ce triage severe revele des gens que vous ne voudriez pas accepter, qu'en ferez-vous?

M. BAYONNE - En ce qui concerne les 400 que nous avons examines a Madrid, le tri est deja presque fait. Pour les 360 Sephardites, d'apres les instructions d'Alger, il faut que nous, Securite Militaire, nous fassions en commun avec les services allies un examen preliminaire en Espagne, comme nous l'avons fait pour les autres.

M. MARCHAT - Les gens declares suspects ne partent pas.

M. LAUCAC - Et ceux qui seront decouverts ici?

000259

M. BAYONNE - Il n'y a pas de raison que nous traitions différemment ces gens que les Français qui viennent ici pour se battre.

M. BECKELMAN - On les fera sortir du camp pour les mettre à la disposition de la Sécurité Militaire. Ces gens ne compteront plus au centre.

M. BAYONNE - Pour les gens installés au camp depuis 8 ou 10 jours par exemple, si nous demandons la sortie de telle ou telle personne, il faut se mettre d'accord pour qu'il n'y ait aucune objection possible et que ces personnes ne se camouflent pas derrière vos services.

M. MARCHAT - Pour en revenir aux 360 Séphardites, il faut les admettre, étant bien entendu que s'il en arrive d'autres, c'est fini. Nous admettons ceux qui sont en Espagne à la date d'aujourd'hui.

M. BECKELMAN - Il me semble que la question ne se présente pas sous cette forme. Les trois gouvernements ont signé un accord pour recevoir des réfugiés apatrides actuellement en Espagne; il me semble que la question ne se pose pas de prendre une décision pour l'avenir: un nouvel accord entre les trois gouvernements sera nécessaire.

M. MARCHAT - Nous sommes d'accord. Les nouveaux réfugiés sont exclus de l'accord actuel.

M. LEVASSEUR - On avait bien dit: les réfugiés apatrides "vivant actuellement en Espagne;" on ne peut pas aller plus loin. Il y aura peut-être d'autres négociations à Alger par la suite; pour le moment il ne peut s'agir que de la mise en pratique de l'accord récemment intervenu. Reste à fixer la date limite d'application.

M. BECKELMAN - Nous pouvons fixer une date.

M. BAYONNE - 1er mars puisque le dernier convoi de Séphardites est de fin février.

M. MARCHAT - Nous déclarons que l'accord actuel cesse d'être appliqué à la date du 1er mars.

D- M. LEVASSEUR - Restent à régler les détails.

M. MARCHAT - Ces gens arrivent à Casablanca. Qu'en faisons-nous?

M. LEVASSEUR - C'est la Sécurité militaire qui s'en occupera.

M. MARCHAT - Vous avez pris vos dispositions? Où se trouve ce camp?

M. BECKELMAN - A Fedala.

M. LAUJAC - C'est assez loin de Fedala: c'est le camp Iyanteu.

M. BAYONNE - Il est entendu qu'à l'arrivée, sous aucun prétexte, les réfugiés n'auront de contact avec la population civile.

M. BECKELMAN - C'est entendu.

E- M. BAYONNE - Il reste la question des cartes d'identité. Il va falloir

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doter ces gens de cartes d'identité.

Capitaine CHEVALIER - On fera comme pour les Français.

M. LAUJAC - Je demanderai à ce que ce ne soit pas une carte d'identité puisqu'ils n'ont aucune pièce établissant leur identité.

M. LEVASSIER - Il faudrait une carte spéciale.

M. MARCHAT - Je prends le cas d'une personne qui part d'Espagne comme grecque et qui se déclare espagnole à l'arrivée; il n'y a aucun moyen de le prouver. C'est une question qui semble devoir être réglée par la sécurité. Ce qui importe du point de vue du gouvernement, c'est qu'ils soient munis d'une carte d'identité ou d'un document établi par une autorité quelconque.

M. LAUJAC - On devrait partir de carte d'étranger ceux qui seraient à l'extérieur du camp. À l'intérieur du camp on ne donnerait rien.

M. MARCHAT - Quels inconvénients voyez-vous à ce qu'on donne une carte? On pourrait spécifier: "se déclarant un tel," ce qui permettrait à l'autorité du camp de l'identifier, de ne pas le prendre pour son voisin. Ce n'est qu'une suggestion.

M. LAUJAC - Ce sont les autorités américaines qui devraient donner ça.

M. LEVASSIER - C'est à nous de donner ces cartes.

M. BAYONEL - En Espagne on donne un certificat d'identification.

M. MARCHAT - C'est un peu subtil: carte d'identification et non d'identité. Les renseignements portés sur cette carte n'ont aucune valeur juridique?

M. LEVASSIER - Aucune valeur d'état-civil en tout cas. Cette question pourrait être réglée par la suite.

M. MARONAI - Cette carte pourrait être ainsi rédigée: "Je me déclare juif, je n'ai pas le moyen de le prouver." C'est au Consul de décider si on peut, sur la foi des déclarations faites, faire confiance au déclarant et lui accorder le visa qu'il sollicite.

M. SOLE - D'accord.

F- M. BAYONEL - Le camp est-il prêt à recevoir les gens?

M. BECKELMAN - Nous avons fait tout notre possible.

M. BAYONEL - Voyez-vous un inconvénient à ce que quelqu'un des services français, soit civil, soit militaire, se mette en relation avec vous, de façon à ce qu'on ne laisse partir le bateau pour aller chercher les réfugiés que lorsque tout sera prêt?

M. BECKELMAN - Aucun.

000261

C- M. BAYONNE - Et la garde du camp?

M. MARCHAT - Autorites americaines ou francaises?

M. BECKELMAN - Le camp est la propriete de l'armee americaine. Il faut poser la question au gouvernement americain.

M. BAYONNE - Il y a des soldats americains punis de prison, il y a des italiens, etc. Mettre une garde francaise semble assez difficile.

Lieutenant HOOKER - Pour le moment nous avons des prisonniers de guerre italiens qui subissent un entraînement qui va se terminer la semaine prochaine. Le camp sera vide. On va continuer a garder le centre pour le cas ou il y aurait d'autres prisonniers a y mettre; par consequent, il y aura une garde de toutes facons.

M. MARCHAT - A qui va incomber la responsabilite des refugies qui seront dans le centre? Direction civile du camp, direction militaire du camp? C'est la question que je pose.

M. LEVASSEUR - Le directeur du centre doit avoir la responsabilite de la discipline interieure.

Capitaine CHEVALIER - C'est sous la responsabilite des autorites americaines. C'est prevu dans l'accord.

M. LEVASSEUR - (lecture concernant la responsabilite du directeur du camp).

M. BAYONNE - Pas au point de vue militaire. S'il y a extraterritorialite nous sommes dans l'impossibilite d'aller chercher dans le centre un suspect.

M. MARCHAT - Et si un refugie s'evalue du centre?

M. BECKELMAN - Je crois que vous avez demande: si quelqu'un s'evalue du centre?

M. MARCHAT - ...alors la gendarmerie francaise intervient?

M. BECKELMAN - En sortant du centre ils se mettent en dehors du reglement; ils ont viole les lois du territoire et c'est les autorites du territoire qui doivent s'en occuper.

M. MARCHAT - En cas d'evasion donc vous prevenez la gendarmerie.

Capitaine CHEVALIER - Il y a une question de permeabilite: les visites dans le camp. Ces questions doivent etre reglees d'accord avec les autorites americaines.

M. BAYONNE - Et la correspondance?

M. BECKELMAN - Tout le monde peut ecrire par la poste francaise et tous les controles de la poste francaise seront appliques aux lettres des gens du centre comme a tout le monde sur ce territoire.

M. LEVASSEUR - L'administration du centre ne pourrait pas mettre un visa?

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M. BECKELMAN - Si on en voit l'utilité, d'accord; si on considère qu'il s'agit de 750 personnes qui habitent par hasard un camp au lieu d'autre part, ils écrivent des lettres par la poste française et ils en reçoivent; la chose la plus simple serait de regarder ces lettres comme les lettres de n'importe quels gens.

M. BAYONNE - Pour en revenir à la question des visites au camp, est-ce qu'il va y avoir en permanence quelqu'un de la sécurité militaire pour faire la liaison?

M. LEVASSEUR - Etant donné qu'il y aura quelqu'un de l'Administration du Protectorat auprès de vous.

M. BECKELMAN - Je crois que cela suffira pour faire la liaison.

M. MARCHAT - Qui serait chargé de cela? Un sous-chef de bureau du SCP, ou un retraité du contrôle civil?

M. LEVASSEUR - Il y a aussi la question de l'hébergement des gens malades ou âgés. Comment envisagez-vous cet hébergement dans des conditions normales? S'il y a des vieillards, allez-vous les mettre dans des baraques? Au bout de 8 jours ils pourront dire qu'ils ne peuvent vivre dans le centre et demanderont à aller dans un hôpital ou à louer un appartement.

M. BECKELMAN - Je pense que vous leur donnerez la possibilité d'aller dans un hôpital.

M. LEVASSEUR - Il y a aussi des infirmes. Ces gens-là pourront-ils vivre dans ce centre?

M. BECKELMAN - Je ne sais pas. Je ne puis répondre à cette question avant de les voir.

M. MARCHAT - Avez-vous une infirmerie?

M. BECKELMAN - Oui.

M. LEVASSEUR - Vous croyez que les conditions de vie dans ce centre seront possibles pour des personnes de santé délicate?

M. BAYONNE - Vous allez mettre des gens dans un camp avec un climat qui n'est pas très bon. Je sais qu'il y a un vieillard, un paralytique, un tuberculeux; vous allez avoir des écarts; le climat est dur.

M. LEVASSEUR - Nous ne voudrions pas qu'au bout d'un certain temps vous nous disiez; il faut absolument que ces gens sortent du camp.

M. BECKELMAN - Il ne s'agit pas alors que du problème de la sécurité. Ces gens-là, s'ils sortent du camp, ne seront pas à la charge des Français.

M. MARCHAT - Il ne faudrait pas qu'ils soient une charge pour le Protectorat; s'ils vont à l'hôpital prendre un lit, ce sera un lit de moins pour l'hôpital.

M. LAUJAC - En effet, il n'y a pas de place; nous avons un sanatorium à Azrou et il est complet. Il y a des Français qui attendent depuis plusieurs mois, sans compter les étrangers.

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M. BAYONNE - Il y a des familles completes parmi ces refugies; il y a des vieillards, des enfants.

M. LAUCHAT - Ce probleme est assez grave.

M. BAYONNE - Nous avons pose le principe d'une visite medicale avant le depart d'Espagne; puis ce principe a ete abandonne parce qu'il compliquerait les operations. On ne l'exigera que si les pays ou ils veulent aller le demandent.

M. LAUCHAT - Il y a un dahir sur l'immigration: Pourquoi pour ces cas connus ne ferait-on pas passer une visite préalable. Je crois que nous n'avons pas interet, aussi bien nous que les autorites americaines, a faire venir les vieillards ou les infirmes, qui sont, actuellement, convenablement installes en Espagne.

M. LAUCHAT - Y a-t-il un cahier espaquant l'entree du Protectorat a un infirme?

M. LAUCHAT - Non.

M. LAUCHAT - Avec le pouvoir discretionnaire dont nous pouvons user nous pouvons decider qu'en temps de guerre, l'entree d'un tubercule est contraire a l'effort de guerre.

M. LAUCHAT - Le regime des visas permet de refuser l'entree, mais cela ne peut pas intervenir puisque les visas sont delivres globalement; il n'y a qu'un dahir sur l'immigration.

M. LAUCHAT - Il faudrait decider que les conditions materielles de vie a Fedala excluent une certaine categorie d'individus: malades, infirmes, etc.

M. BAYONNE - C'est un peu difficile. On va toucher beaucoup de cas particuliers: une famille entiere comprenant la grand'mere, tres vieille et infirme: les autres ne voudront pas partir sans elle.

M. LAUCHAT - Mais s'il n'y a que deux ou trois cas, ils doivent etre connus.

M. BAYONNE - J'ai vu un infirme, un tuberculeux; cela peut se resumer a 4 ou 5 personnes; mais cela peut presenter des difficultes pour le convoi, a cause de la pneumonie.

M. LAUCHAT - Il y a un controle au depart.

M. LAUCHAT - Il y a la grande loi de police sanitaire a bord et a l'entree d'un pays determine; il y a des regles generales qu'on peut appliquer; nous avons une base juridique tres serieuse et d'ordre international pour eliminer les gens...

M. BAYONNE - Voulez-vous que nous laissions ce soin a M. BLICKENSTAFF a Madrid? Il a le personnel medical necessaire. Nous n'avons pas regle les visites au camp pour les gens qui viennent de l'exterieur.

M. LAUCHAT - Les gens ne connaissent peut-etre personne au Maroc.

M. LEVASSEUR - Ils ont beaucoup de references, ils ont de la famille et ils connaissent des gens qui sont passes par l'Espagne.

M. MARCHAT - Il faut s'appuyer sur des principes; nous avons déjà eu des camps de réfugiés, des camps de prisonniers, un certain nombre de camps où il y a un règlement du droit des visites; mais à savoir... quelle mesure nous pouvons l'adapter au camp tout à fait particulier de Fedala. D'autre part, il y a des prescriptions à prendre; il ne faut pas exclure le droit de visite, mais faire une réglementation spéciale entre l'autorité du camp et les autorités militaires et civiles françaises.

M. BERGHEM - il y a l'interrogatoire fait par la sécurité militaire; ce sont ces services qui sont qualifiés pour dire si ou non telle ou telle personne peut avoir des contacts avec des... demandes de visites dans le camp devraient être transmises... la sécurité militaire.

M. BERGHEM - Une fois terminée l'interrogatoire et le triage du camp, quelle sera la situation de ces gens? quels sont les motifs pour limiter leurs contacts avec le monde extérieur, étant donné que ceux qui ne vivent dehors sont des gens dont on est sûr.

M. BERGHEM - Pas de tout.

M. MARCHAT - Je confirmerai leur situation et disant qu'il s'agit d'une sorte de quarantaine. Ce sont des gens en transit qui attendent leur départ plus ou moins lointain pour d'autres pays. C'est un état de transit sans la liberté et le temps de liberté; ce n'est pas la liberté complète, mais ce n'est pas le camp de concentration, c'est quelque chose d'intermédiaire; dans la réglementation américaine nous avons plusieurs sortes de quarantaine.

M. BERGHEM - Oui, surtout tout, l'interrogatoire peut être prolongé 3 ou 4 mois; la période de quarantaine c'est les interrogatoires, interrogatoires, triage....

M. MARCHAT - Cela dure un mois et vous voyez une fois que l'interrogatoire est fait il y a alors les suspects et ceux qui ne le sont pas. Nous pouvons series la question comme ça; que faire des suspects et de ceux qui ne le sont pas?

M. BERGHEM - Toutes ces questions ont été... tout à fait... règlement est indiqué dans la note-circulaire... des Français.

M. BERGHEM - Je ne sais pas une possibilité de... dans quels sont les camps, régime du camp.

M. BERGHEM (lecture de la note).

M. BERGHEM - Nous avons un grand intérêt à éviter une situation où les trois gouvernements démocratiques ayant décidé de faire quelque chose d'humanitaire pour des gens qui ont souffert pendant 4 ou 6 ans, ne trouvent à leur offrir qu'un camp de concentration.

M. MARCHAT - Nous sommes en guerre; il faut surveiller ces gens qui viennent ici dans des conditions plus ou moins suspectes.

M. BERGHEM - Il ne semble qu'une fois terminée ce triage nous nous trouverons dans une autre situation.

000265

M. BAYONNE - Il n'y a aucune garantie. Sur quoi baser les interrogatoires? Sans aucune animosité, du point de vue sécurité, des mesures sont à prendre. Il faut se rendre compte de la situation de guerre du territoire dans lequel on va les héberger. Nous allons être obligés de prendre vis-à-vis d'eux des mesures qui seront plus dures que celles qu'ils supportent en Espagne.

M. LEVASSEUR (a M. BAYONNE) - Je vous l'ai souvent dit à Madrid.

M. MARCHAT - Le Maroc est sous le régime de l'état de siège.

M. BAYONNE - Quand il y a des suspects il faut être très dur au début quitte à relâcher les mesures prises par la suite.

M. LEVASSEUR - Il faut s'en tenir strictement à ce qui a été prévu. Les personnes sont prévenues; elles se sont engagées à respecter les conditions mises à leur venue au Maroc.

Capitaine BLONDET - Il faudrait hâter les formalités consulaires et les embarquer.

M. BAYONNE - Il y a des convois qui vont au Canada, d'autres en Palestine. Il y a parmi ces gens des cas spéciaux: certains ont demandé à venir au Maroc et à retourner en Espagne; il y a des gens qui veulent résider définitivement en Afrique du Nord.

Colonel CHAM - Il y en a qui disent qu'ils viennent au Maroc pour faire du commerce; ils ne voudraient pas rester au camp.

M. BAYONNE - Il y a des cas bizarres, je le répète, certaines personnes veulent retourner en Espagne par la suite.

M. MARCHAT - Qu'ils fassent une demande régulière. Ces cas-là sont en dehors de l'accord.

M. BAYONNE - Que décidez-vous pour ceux qui veulent venir en Afrique du Nord et retourner en Espagne?

M. MARCHAT - C'est en dehors de l'accord; ces demandes seront examinées par la voie normale.

M. BAYONNE - Du point de vue de l'accord il me semble que tous ces gens ont signé une demande après avoir lu les explications on leur a dit qu'il s'agit du transit par le Maroc et que chaque personne qui entre dans ce camp de Fedala entre sous la protection des deux gouvernements américain et britannique qui ont donné l'assurance au Comité Français de la Libération Nationale que tout sera fait pour hâter la sortie de tout ce monde le plus tôt possible.

M. MARCHAT - L'accord prévoit absolument la sortie en Espagne après.

M. BAYONNE - L'accord prévoit que ces gens pourront retourner dans leur pays d'origine ou dans le pays de leur choix.

M. MARCHAT - S'ils demandent à sortir de l'Espagne ce n'est pas pour y retourner.

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M. BECKELMAN - Il y a beaucoup de gens qui veulent sortir d'une vingtaine de pays aujourd'hui pour avoir la possibilité d'y rentrer après la guerre.

M. MARCHAT - Je suis d'accord pour les pays occupés mais pour les pays neutres c'est différent. Le pays de leur choix ne peut être l'Espagne puisqu'ils s'y trouvent mal et veulent en partir. C'est comme ça que j'interprète cet accord. Je ne vois pas l'intérêt qu'ils ont à quitter l'Espagne puis à y repartir quelques jours après. Pour ceux qui veulent rester définitivement en Afrique du Nord ce n'est pas une question d'escala, c'est une question de demande régulière.

M. LEVASSEUR - La question des visites n'a pas été traitée.

I- M. Marchat - Qu'en pensent ceux qui ont l'expérience de ces choses?

M. LAUJAC - C'est une question qui ne peut être réglée qu'après un temps d'expérience. En principe, l'adjoint devrait voir les personnes qui viennent au camp.

M. BECKELMAN - Les visites au camp - la circulation au Maroc pour tout le monde est réglementée par les services français; chaque personne qui veut aller au centre pour voir n'importe qui présente une demande de circulation. Je crois qu'on peut dire logiquement qu'il faut avoir une permission pour faire le voyage entre Casa et le camp.

M. LEVASSEUR - On pourrait admettre que les gens qui iraient au camp devraient être munis d'un laissez-passer.

M. BAYONNE - Il y a deux poles d'attraction: Casablanca et Rabat. Donc les autorisations devront être demandées soit à Casablanca, soit à Rabat.

M. BECKELMAN - Je ne rappelle toujours les mots de notes échangées entre les représentants des trois gouvernements ou on soulignait que ce n'est pas l'intention de priver ces gens de liberté; on évoque la possibilité de garder la nécessité de la sécurité militaire et on ne peut donner l'impression de priver ces gens-là de leur liberté; j'essaie de trouver une formule.

M. LEVASSEUR - J'ai la réponse de M. LAUJAC à la lecture.

M. BAYONNE - Ça c'était la première lecture, il y en avait une autre.

M. LEVASSEUR - Oui, le mois de novembre. (lecture)

M. LAUJAC - Il faudra contrôler aussi ceux qui sortent des permissions de sortie; c'est une question importante.

Capitaine de T... - la sécurité militaire quant les Allemands se trouvent dans une meilleure situation que les Américains pour contrôler.

M. LAUJAC - Cela règle la question.

Capitaine de T... - une personne qui arrive à Rabat et qui veut aller au camp doit demander une permission.

M. LAUJAC - C'est nécessaire, car les gens s'amènent sur place par des transports variés; des personnes pourraient arriver en nombre et pousser

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les hauts cris parce qu'on ne les laisse pas entrer.

M. LAMBERT - Le camp de Pedala étant un camp spécial, il faut plus de souplesse. Il faut, par exemple, lorsqu'une personne se présente, du moment qu'elle a des pièces d'identité se montrer plus large.

M. LAMBERT - Les gens diront qu'ils ne savent pas qu'il fallait une permission.

Capitaine BLOMBERG - Pendant un mois au moins aucune visite.

M. LAMBERT - Parmi ces gens beaucoup ont certainement des relations. Les gens viendront au camp.

M. LAMBERT - Il y en a beaucoup qui ont noué des relations avec ceux qui sont déjà parti de l'Espagne.

M. LAMBERT - Il y a un autre souci avant la question humanitaire, c'est celui de la sécurité qui passe avant tout; nous sommes obligés d'appliquer les mesures de sécurité nécessaires.

M. LAMBERT - L'accord n'a pu être prévu que dans les limites maximales d'humanité.

M. LAMBERT - Il y en a qui veulent s'engager soit dans les armées britannique, américaine ou française. Il faut de la bonne volonté de part et d'autre pour que toutes ces questions s'arrangent. On ne peut décider à l'avance, il faudra voir par la suite.

M. LAMBERT - Quant à être volontaires, il n'y en a pas beaucoup.

M. LAMBERT - On nous en prend les étrangers dans l'armée. Nous pourrions faire un triage entre les mobilisables et les non mobilisables. (a M. BLOMBERG) quel est le point de vue américain?

M. BLOMBERG - Ils ne peuvent pas s'engager dans l'armée américaine parce qu'ils se trouvent dans un territoire étranger.

M. LAMBERT - Il y a un précédent: pour ceux-ci on leur laisse le choix: ou ils servent, ou on les interné. Ceux qui serviront auront la même liberté que les autres soldats. Mais pour ceux qui ne veulent pas servir quel est le régime qu'on peut leur appliquer au camp? Il y a de jeunes Allemands qu'on ne peut pas laisser en liberté.

M. BLOMBERG - Les autres sujets ennemis sont internes.

M. LAMBERT - On ne pourra voir qu'au fur et à mesure.

M. BLOMBERG - qu'est-ce que nous décidons pour les visites?

M. LAMBERT - Permission accordée par les autorités militaires françaises (Sécurité Militaire).

Capitaine BLONDET - Vous pouvez les prévenir qu'ils peuvent écrire à leurs amis pour leur dire de se munir d'autorisations à demander au bureau S. M. de Rabat.

J- M. L'ÉTAT - Vous voyez d'autres questions?

M. DECHAMPEL - Il y a beaucoup de questions de détail qui viendront au fur et à mesure. Ce qu'on peut faire maintenant c'est indiquer l'esprit.

M. L'ÉTAT - Je pose la question en vous demandant d'y réfléchir. Nous sommes réunis en une sorte de conseil de gerance de ces réfugiés; nous pourrions peut-être si le besoin s'en présente nous réunir à nouveau. Nous sommes une sorte de conseil d'administration, et ce centre pour régler les questions ne pouvaient pas être réglées directement entre le directeur du camp et les autorités locales.

M. L'ÉTAT - Ou entre M. DECHAMPEL et le Français qui le secondera.

M. L'ÉTAT - Voyez-vous autre chose?

Reponse: non

M. L'ÉTAT - Nous n'avons plus qu'à remercier les initiateurs de cette oeuvre humanitaire, exprimer le souhait que les convois arriveront à bon port, qu'il y aura le moins de suspects possible; c'est le point important bien entendu tout ira tout seul s'il n'y avait aucun suspect.

La séance est levée.

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