Programs with Respect to Relief and Rescue of Refugees: Evacuation To and Through Spain and Portugal
Mr. J. W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of September 19, with check for $203,88, which we utilized in settlement of $4,077.50 disbursed by our Mission in Madrid as per our letter of September 11.

Very truly yours,

R. P. Fursey
Assistant Vice President
Dear Mr. Puray:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated September 11, requesting reimbursement at the rate of 5 cents per peseta for the 4,077.60 pesetas paid out by the U.S. Commercial Company Mission in Madrid for port charges in connection with the evacuation of refugees from Spain to French North Africa.

Enclosed is a check for $205.00, the amount requested by you. I thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) J. W. Peble

J. W. Peble
Executive Director

Mr. R. F. Puray
Assistant Vice President
U. S. Commercial Company
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosure

Original signed by

Markedro
9/14/44.

WM

Copy to Mr. Imaka
Mr. J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

This is to confirm our today's telephone conversation with your Mr. Friedman during which we informed him that our Mission in Madrid disbursed on August 24 for account of the War Refugee Board for port charges in connection with embarkation of refugees which took place at Cadiz on June 21 ex the "SS GOVERNOR GENERAL LE PINE" Ptas. 4,077.88. We would appreciate your kindly reimbursing us for same at the rate of 5 cents per peseta, by sending us your check for $253.88.

Thanking you for your kind attention, we are,

Very truly yours,

R. F. Pursey  
Assistant Vice President
Secretary of State
Washington

3028, September 4, 9 p.m.

Reference your letter August 11 No. 106, USG

paid from its expense account on August 24 postage
4077.60 for account of War Refugee Board to defray
port charges in connection with embarkation of
refugees which took place at Cadiz on June 21 on the
SS GOUVERNUR GENERAL LE FERE.

HAYES

EDA

Miss Chauncey (for the Select) Abrahamsen, Arkin, Cohn, DuBois,
Friedman, Gesteon, Kudol, Laughlin, Lesser, Mahon, Marks,
McCormick, Ploho, Saroy, Standish, Wolstein, Cable Control Files.
In view of USCO's letter to us of August 25, stating that the Board owes USCO nothing and in view of the confusion that has already resulted from this pesta deal, I suggest that we do nothing until USCO requests us to reimburse them for the $077,60 pesetas expended on our account. Furthermore, when USCO submits the bill, I recommend that we reimburse them from our own funds rather than bother with SSA. We have well over a half a million dollars of unexpended funds and it will save loads of red tape.

Matthew J. Marks
TR-6
3028, September 4, 9 p.m.

Reference your letter August 11 No. 106. USGC paid from its expense account on August 24 pesetas 4077.60 for account of War Refugee Board to defray port charges in connection with embarkation of refugees which took place at Cadiz on June 21 ex the SS GOVERNEUR GENERAL LE PINE.

HAYES

EDA
Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of August 24, 1944, (your reference FL-1501-101) requesting an accounting of the expenditure in Madrid, Spain of 50,000 pesetas advanced by the U. S. Commercial Company for Spanish port dues in connection with refugees evacuated to Camp Lyujay in French North Africa from Spain.

We have just been advised by the U. S. Commercial Company in a letter dated August 25, 1944, a copy of which is enclosed herewith, that the 50,000 pesetas were returned to the Madrid office of that company by the War Refugee Board and that the company considers the matter closed. This information supersedes prior information received from the U. S. Commercial Company that the 50,000 pesetas had actually been expended for the above purpose and, of course, renders unnecessary the accounting requested in your letter of August 24.

We wish to take this opportunity of thanking you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. L. R. A'Hearn,
Assistant Administrator,
Office of Finance,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosure.

AUG 28 1944

N: Fehle/FL-1501-101/5/28/44
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
Office of Finance
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

In reply refer to:
FI-501-MO

AUG 24, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Executive Office of the
President
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Reference is made to your letter of August 21, 1944, regarding the Foreign Economic Administration making reimbursement to the U.S. Commercial Company for 50,000 pesetas advanced to your representative in Spain to pay Spanish port dues on refugees being evacuated to the North African Refugee Center in Morocco.

It is our desire to close this transaction as quickly as possible as you will note from the enclosed copy of my letter to Mr. J. B. Friedman of your staff dated August 15, 1944. However, it is necessary that we receive an accounting from your representative in Spain of the exact amount of pesetas used of the total of 50,000 advanced. This accounting report should be itemized and be supported by receipts stating the number of refugees involved and purpose of the expenditure. This accounting is quite necessary since we must make the reimbursement to the U.S. Commercial Company from Congressional appropriated moneys that require strict accounting and are subject to post audit by the General Accounting Office. Therefore, upon receipt of the accounting report requested, we will initiate action to make settlement with the U.S. Commercial Company for that portion of the 50,000 pesetas accounted for in the report. Should your representative have on hand an unused balance of the initial advance of 50,000 pesetas, we will have to receive additional accounting reports as mentioned above before further settlements can be made to the U.S. Commercial Company for the total value of the 50,000 pesetas.

Your assistance in bringing this matter to a prompt conclusion will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[L. W. A'Hearn]
Assistant Administrator

Attachment
Office of Finance

In reply refer to:

Fi-501-nll

August 15, 1944

Mr. J. B. Friedman
Acting Executive Director
War Refugees Board

Executive Office of the President
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

Subject: Pesetas disbursed for port uses

Thank you for your letter of August 4, 1944, regarding the above subject.

We are initiating action to reimburse the U. S. Commercial Company for the 50,000 pesetas they advanced to your representative in Spain.

It would be appreciated if an accounting report stating in detail the expenditure of 50,000 pesetas be furnished this office at the earliest possible date, in order that our records may be complete on this transaction.

Kindly keep us advised regarding the remaining 50,000 pesetas now being held by the Madrid mission of the U. S. Commercial Company for the demand of the War Refugees Board.

Very truly yours,

L. H. Aldean
Assistant Administrator
Mr. John W. Pehle  
Assistant to Secretary of Treasury  
Foreign Funds Control  
Treasury Department  
Washington, D. C.  

Dear Mr. Pehle:

This will refer to your letter of August 21 concerning payment of Pesas, 50,000 which the U. S. Commercial Company made to a Representative of the War Refugees Board in Madrid on June 17.

We have just received advice that on July 20, 1944, this amount was returned by the War Refugees Board to our Madrid Office. Consequently, we shall consider this matter closed and you may disregard our request for payment of the dollar equivalent.

As confirmed to your Mr. Friedman in a telephone conversation on August 23, we are cabling to our Madrid Mission authorising the cancellation of the other 50,000 pesetas lot now being held at the War Refugees Board's disposal.

Very truly yours,

R. F. Purdy  
Assistant Vice President
Dear Mr. Purdy:

Please refer to your letter of July 10 concerning the 22500 passing to the United States Commercial Company in reimbursement for 50,000 pesetas paid out by the Madrid Mission of the United States Commercial Company at the request of the War Refugee Board.

I greatly regret the Foreign Economic Administration’s delay in making the payment agreed upon, and have just written a letter to Mr. Abear, Assistant Administrator, Office of Finance, Foreign Economic Administration, requesting him to expedite the payment. If you do not hear from the Foreign Economic Administration within the next week, please advise me, and I will arrange to have you paid immediately from War Refugee Board funds.

I should appreciate it if the 50,000 peseta balance now being held at the Board’s disposal by the Madrid Mission of United States Commercial Company could be handled as follows: Arrangements have just been made for Mr. James H. Mann to go to Madrid as Special Representative of the War Refugee Board. It is expected that Mr. Mann will leave for Madrid within the next few days to establish an office there. It would be extremely helpful if you could advise your Madrid Mission to make available to Mr. Mann, upon his request, the 50,000 pesetas. Upon your advising me of the cost of such pesetas, you will promptly be reimbursed therefor from War Refugee Board funds.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pohle
J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. R. P. Purdy
Assistant Vice-President
Foreign Economic Administration
United States Commercial Company
Washington, D.C.
Dear Mr. Ahearn:

In connection with the evacuation of a number of refugees from Spain to Camp Lyautey in French North Africa, the United States Commercial Company at the request of the War Refuge Board made an outlay of 80,000 pesetas for Spanish port fees and agreed to hold another 50,000 pesetas at the disposal of the Board for similar payments in the event of future evacuations to Camp Lyautey. Previous to this, it had been agreed between Mr. Norman Anderson of your office and Mr. Joseph B. Friedman, Assistant Executive Director of the War Refuge Board, that the Foreign Economic Administration would reimburse the United States Commercial Company in Washington from funds now held by the Foreign Economic Administration for the financing of Camp Lyautey. This understanding was later confirmed in a letter dated June 5th from Mr. Friedman to Mr. Anderson.

On July 10th we were advised by Mr. Purdy, Assistant Vice-President of the United States Commercial Company, that he would contact you in order to collect the dollar equivalent of the pesetas paid out by the United States Commercial Company. Mr. Friedman has now been advised by Mr. Purdy that the United States Commercial Company has not yet received payment from the Foreign Economic Administration.

 Needless to say the Board is much embarrassed by the Foreign Economic Administration's delay in making the agreed payment to the United States Commercial Company. It would be much appreciated if
you would advise Mr. Furey within the next few days that the Foreign Economic Administration will reimburse the United States Commercial Company as quickly as possible for the 50,000 pesetas paid out.

With respect to the additional 50,000 pesetas now being held at the Board's disposal by the Madrid Mission of the United States Commercial Company, I have today requested that this balance be made available to Mr. James E. Mann, who is proceeding to Madrid within the next few days as Special Representative of the War Refugee Board. I have advised the United States Commercial Company that it will be reimbursed for this additional 50,000 pesetas directly by the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Leonard Ahearne
Assistant Administrator
Office of Finance
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D.C.

JRFriedmanrro
8/10/44.
Reference Department: Telegram S105, August 8, 4 p.m., from War Refugee Board.

Total port charges incurred in connection with embarkation of stateless refugees at Cadiz on June 21 amounted to only 4,075.70 pesetas, which amount USCC has been requested to pay to consignee. No other funds have been advanced from original 100,000 pesetas authorized in the Department's telegram 1652 (USCC 1941), June 7, 1 p.m.

BUTTERWORTH

Copy for Algiers for Saxon
Copy for USCC, Madrid.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF FINANCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

In reply refer to:
FI-501-RG1

AUG 15 1944

J. B. Friedman
Acting Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

Subject: Pesetas disbursed for port dues

Thank you for your letter of August 4, 1944 regarding the above subject.

We are initiating action to reimburse the U.S. Commercial Company for the 50,000 pesetas they advanced to your representative in Spain.

It would be appreciated if an accounting report stating in detail the expenditure of 50,000 pesetas be furnished this office at the earliest possible date, in order that our records may be complete on this transaction.

Kindly keep us advised regarding the remaining 50,000 pesetas now being held by the Madrid Mission of the U.S. Commercial Company for the demand of the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

L. W. A'Hearn
Assistant Administrator
AMSHABBY,

MADRID:

The cable below to Bettendorf and Kitchenstaff from War Refugee Board.

Please refer to our 1934 July 18 concerning the 50,000 peseta balance being held by the USCG at the disposal of the War Refugee Board.

Saxon recommends the retaining of this balance at the disposal of the War Refugee Board in view of the expenses which may arise as a result of the evacuations discussed in your 2413 of July 11. The Board concurs with Saxon's recommendation and has requested the USCG to hold this balance at its disposal.

Please confirm by pouch that the original 50,000 pesetas were disbursed for port dues in connection with the Camp Lycoming evacuation.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)
[Signature]

6/5/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 1 5 1972
CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO BUTTERWORTH AND BLICKENSTAFF, MADRID, SPAIN

Please refer to our 1944 July 15 concerning the 50,000 peseta balance being held by the USOO at the disposal of the War Refugee Board.

Saxon recommends the retaining of this balance at the disposal of the War Refugee Board in view of the expenses which may arise as a result of the evacuations discussed in your 2415 of July 11. The Board concurs with Saxon's recommendation and has requested the USOO to hold this balance at its disposal.

Please confirm by pouch that the original 50,000 pesetas were disbursed for port dues in connection with the Camp Lyautey evacuation.

3:00 p.m.
August 4, 1944

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

[Handwritten note: 8/4/44]
HIS DISTRIBUTION OF THIS TELEGRAM WILL BE LIMITED TO PERSONNEL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

AMREP.

ALGIERS.

2358

This following for Baxen in WRB 42.

The Board is requesting the USGO to hold the 50,000 peseta balance at the Board's disposal as recommended in your letter of July 28. Blinksenstaff has been advised.

STEFFINIUS

ACTING

REMARKS

AF

BMP

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

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

6 p.m.

8/1/66

August 5, 1966

8/4/44

By R. H. Parks dated SEP 15 1972

DECLASSIFIED
CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO AMBASSADOR WILSON FOR ALGIERS

The Board is requesting the USCO to hold the 50,000 peseta balance at the Board's disposal as recommended in your 2507 of July 26. Blickenstaff has been advised.

THIS IS WRS CABLE TO ALGIERS NO. 42

10:20 a.m.
August 4, 1944

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

M/Marks/ag 8/3/44

Nym 887
Dear Mr. Irwin:

Reference is made to my telephone conversations with you on August 2 and 4, concerning the 100,000 pesetas placed at the disposal of the War Refugee Board by the Madrid Mission of the United States Commercial Company.

Attached for your information is a copy of Mr. Glasser’s reply to Mr. Furay’s letter of July 10.

This letter will confirm my statement to you on the telephone that the original 50,000 pesetas were disbursed for port dues in Spain in connection with the evacuation of refugees from Spain to Camp Lyauté in French Morocco.

Very truly yours,

J. B. Friedman
Acting Executive Director

Mr. R. O. Irwin,
Office of Finance,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Washington Gas Light Building,
Washington, D.C.

Enclosure.

Marks/sg 8/4/44
Dear Mr. Furey:

Reference is made to your letter of July 10, and my letter of July 17 in reply, concerning the 50,000 peseta balance now being held by the Madrid Mission of the United States Commercial Company at the disposal of the War Refugee Board.

The Board has now heard from its representative in Algiers and would appreciate your permitting this balance to remain at the disposal of the Board in Madrid.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Harold Glasser
Assistant Director of Monetary Research

Mr. R. P. Furey,
Assistant Vice President,
Foreign Economic Administration,
United States Commercial Company,
Washington 25, D. C.

Copy to: Mr. Freedman
Mr. Glasser (217)
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
U. S. COMMERCIAL COMPANY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 10, 1944

Mr. Harold Glasser
Assistant Director of Monetary Research
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Glasser:

As suggested in your undated letter, we are contacting Mr. Leonard A'Hearn, Assistant Administrator, Office of Finance, Foreign Economic Administration, Washington, D. C., in order to collect the $2,500 due the U. S. Commercial Company in payment of Ptas. 50,000 which we, at the request of your Mr. Bernstein, advised our Madrid Mission to hold at the disposal of the War Refugee Board Representative, Madrid.

Upon receipt of the $2,500 check, we shall consider this part of the transaction closed and we would appreciate your advising us whether the balance of Ptas. 50,000 now being held by our Madrid Mission at the disposal of the War Refugee Board Representative is to be cancelled or permitted to stand.

Very truly yours,

R. P. Furey
Assistant Vice President

Copy for Mr. Matthew J. Marks
Room 176
U. S. Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.
It is suggested that you retain balance 50,000 pesetas (NEUDEL No. 33, July 15) in Spain in view of expenses which may arise, evacuations discussed your telegram No. 3/4, July 18.

CHAPIN

BB
Treasury Department
Division of Monetary Research

Date: 7/12/19

To: Mr. Rehle

From: Mr. Wasser
Dear Mr. Purdy:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of July 10 concerning the $9,000 pesos balance now being held by the Madrid Mission of the U.S. Commercial Company at the disposal of the War Refugee Board.

Inquiry is being made of the War Refugee Board representative in Algiers whether he desires that this balance should be permitted to stand. I shall advise you as soon as a reply is received.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

/J/ Harold Glasser

Harold Glasser
Assistant Director of Monetary Research

Mr. R. P. Purdy
Assistant Vice President
Foreign Economic Administration
U.S. Commercial Company
Washington 25, D.C.

Markstro 7/18/44

mailed by FP - Run 417 - 7/18/44
ALGERIA

The following MAD cable no. 33 is for Saxon.

Please refer to your L/WO of May 30 repeated to Madrid as 102 and our 1756 of June 3.

USCC advises us that it has disbursed 50,000 pesetas for port dues in Spain and inquires whether it should continue to hold open 50,000 peseta balance. Please advise whether you desire 50,000 peseta balance to remain at our disposal.

Repeated to Madrid for Blixtenstaff as 1084.

HULL
HULL
(GLM)

CODE ROOM: Please repeat to Madrid and insert above number of Madrid cable.

MADISON, WIS.
9/14/44

S/E
SEP 3/CR

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 11/11/72
By R.H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972
CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO AMBASSADOR WILSON FOR ALGIERS, ALGERIA,

Please refer to your 1790 of May 30 repeated to Madrid as 108 and our 1795 of June 6.

USOC advises us that it has disbursed 50,000 pesetas for port dues in Spain and inquires whether it should continue to hold open 50,000 peseta balance. Please advise whether you desire 50,000 peseta balance to remain at our disposal.

Repeated to Madrid for Bicknoff as _______.

THIS IS WAR CABLE TO ALGIERS NO. 33.

1:10 p.m.,
July 13, 1944

WMorse. 7/13/44

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

D
Dear Mr. Purey,

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of June 28, 1944, addressed to Mr. Bernstein, requesting reimbursement for 50,000 pesetas furnished by your representative in Spain to Mr. David Schlesinger. I am informed by the War Refugee Board that these funds were used for port dues in Spain in connection with the evacuation of refugees from Spain to Camp Leytey in French Morocco.

The War Refugee Board has made arrangements with the Foreign Economic Administration pursuant to which the latter agency will reimburse the U.S. Commercial Company for the pesetas in question out of funds now held by Foreign Economic Administration for financing Camp Leytey. Attached is a copy of a letter dated June 5, 1944, from the War Refugee Board to Foreign Economic Administration regarding this matter.

Your letter has been discussed with a representative of the Foreign Economic Administration who suggests that you make a request for reimbursement directly to them in the usual form. Your request to the Foreign Economic Administration should be accompanied by the above-mentioned copy of letter dated June 5, 1944 from the War Refugee Board, and may be addressed to Mr. Leonard Abernethy, Assistant Administrator, Office of Finance, Foreign Economic Administration, Washington, D.C.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Harold Glaser
Assistant Director of Monetary Research

Mr. R. P. Purey
Assistant Vice President
Foreign Economic Administration
U.S. Commercial Company
Washington 25, D.C.

Enclosure

27416 7/7/44
Department of State

Outgoing Telegram

June 6, 1944

11 p.m.

AMBASSADOR,

MADRID.

1944

Following from Wey Graphic Records refers to no. 1790

May 30 from Algiers to Department repeated to Madrid for

USCG as no. 102.

There has been taken up with USCG here the request

of Ackermann, Board representative in Algiers, that

USCG supply pesetas for port dues in Spain in connection

with forthcoming refugee evacuation voyage. Its Madrid

representative advised by USCG to make available for

this purpose up to 100,000 pesetas. You will be informed

by Ackermann of persons to whom such pesetas should be

delivered and amount of pesetas necessary. Reimbursement

in Washington for pesetas furnished will be made USCG.

For security reasons the

text of this message must be closely guarded.

S/CR

W/34: MV/ KG

6/6/44

WE SWP

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date
S/P 15 1972
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR HAYES, MADRID, FROM WAR REFUGEES BOARD AND DEPARTMENT

Please refer to No. 1790 May 30 from Algiers to Department, repeated to Madrid as No. 102 for US00.

Request of Ackermann, War Refugees Board representative in Algiers, that US00 supply pesetas for port dues in Spain in connection with forthcoming refugee evacuation voyage, has been taken up with US00 here. US00 advising its Madrid representative to make available up to 100,000 pesetas for this purpose. Ackermann is being requested to advise you of amount of pesetas necessary and persons to whom such pesetas should be delivered. US00 will be reimbursed in Washington for the pesetas furnished.

**********
June 5, 1944
4:10 p.m.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

OUTGOING

TELEGRAM
dto

VI.

JUN 8, 1944

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JULIE MURPHY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

June 8, 1944

JULIE MURPHY

the cable below is for Murphy, Chapin and Ackerman. It is WAB no. 20 and refers to your 1709 May 24, 1769 May 28, and 1790 May 30.

Funds have been transmitted to Yugoslav Refugee Committee in Paris as recommended your 1709.

Refer your 1790 USCC requesting its representative in Madrid to furnish up to 100,000 pesetas to persons designated by you, for payment port dues in Spain. Please communicate with Embassy Madrid indicating to whom such pesetas should be furnished and amount thereof required. Reimbursement in Washington for pesetas furnished will be made USCC.

We have not taken up question here as suggested your 1759 of assurance of availability of ship for evacuation of refugees from Spain, in view statement in your 1790 that the local War Shipping Administration representative is giving full assistance. Please advise if Kalloch and you consider it necessary we do so.

S/CR

VRRM: R. H. Parks

6/6/44
CABLE TO MURPHY, CHAPIN AND ACKERMANN, ALGIERS, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please refer your 1709 May 24, 1739 May 28, and 1790 May 30.

(1) As recommended in your No. 1709, the funds have now been transmitted to Yugoslav Refugee Committee in Paris.

(2) USCG is requesting its representative in Madrid to furnish up to 100,000 pesetas to persons designated by you, for payment of port fees in Spain as indicated in your No. 1790. You should communicate with Embassy in Madrid indicating the amount of pesetas required and to whom such pesetas should be furnished. USCG will be reimbursed in Washington for the pesetas furnished.

(3) In view of the statement in your No. 1730 that the local Var Shipping Administration representative is giving full assistance in assuring the availability of a ship for evacuation of refugees from Spain, we have not taken this question up here as suggested in your 1799. If you and Falseh consider it necessary for us to do so, please advise.

THIS IS WAR CABLE TO ALGIERS NO. 30.

********
June 6, 1944
4:10 p.m.

JWFrk = 6/5/44
June 5, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

I discussed with E. M. Bernstein, Ackermann's request for Spanish pesetas for port dues in connection with the refugee evacuation voyage to take place in the near future. (See No. 1790 of May 20 from Algiers). Bernstein stated that the best way to handle the matter was to have USCC instruct its representative in Madrid to make the necessary pesetas available and to reimburse USCC here through the Treasury. Accordingly, I prepared the attached cables to Algiers and Madrid, both of which were cleared with Bernstein. Bernstein requested USCC to advise its Madrid representative accordingly. (See attached memorandum).

In order to obtain some idea of the amount of money involved, I called Leavitt of JDC concerning port dues in Spain. He stated that according to the JDC's records the port dues were approximately 50 pesetas a person. Assuming that this is correct, the total charges for 500 refugees would be 25,000 pesetas. In order to take care of possible additional charges, I have suggested the outside figure of 100,000 pesetas.

I called Norman Anderson of the Finance Division of FPA (9th Floor, Gas Light Building) and explained to him the request made in Ackermann's No. 1790 that USCC make available pesetas for port dues in Spain in connection with the forthcoming refugee evacuation voyage. I explained that the Treasury was arranging with USCC to furnish the pesetas required for this purpose but that it was necessary for the USCC to be reimbursed in Washington. I asked whether FPA would be prepared to make this reimbursement to USCC out of the $500,000 allocated from the President's Fund for Camp Lyautey. Mr. Anderson stated that FPA would make this reimbursement. Anderson did mention that since the British are obligated to furnish sea transport he was inclined to think that the British should pay the port dues. I indicated that I was inclined to agree but stated that in view of Ackermann's reports it appears that the British do not intend to do so. I also mentioned that I thought it was important to authorize as promptly as possible the payment of pesetas, working out the details of reimbursement later. Anderson agreed with this and agreed that FPA would, if necessary, make the reimbursement.

I sent the attached letter to Anderson confirming my understanding with him.
ALGIERS
DATED MAY 30, 1944
Rec'd 2101 a.m. 31st

Secretary of State,
Washington
1790, May 30, 11 p.m.

WOR WAR REFUZEE BOARD FROM ACKERMANN.
Number 24:

Local office of War Shipping Administration giving full assistance
to ensure that there will be no further delay in making ship available
for evacuation refugees from Spain. Assure to know definitely in few
days when ship will sail. As French ship will be used, French authorities
have asked whether pesetas will be made by us for port dues in Spain.

Suggest you immediately take up with U800 question whether it can supply
pesetas in Spain. Reply urgently whether this method available or
whether Treasury desires that pesetas be furnished another manner.
Repeated to Madrid as 102 for U800; sent to the Department as 1790.

CHAPIN

WVD
LMS
GABLE TO AMBASSADOR HAYES, MADRID, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD AND DEPARTMENT

Please refer to No. 1790 May 30 from Algiers to Department, repeated to Madrid as No. 102 for USCO.

Request of Ackermann, War Refugee Board representative in Algiers, that USCO supply pesetas for port dues in Spain in connection with forthcoming refugee evacuation voyage, has been taken up with USCO here. USCO advising its Madrid representative to make available up to 100,000 pesetas for this purpose. Ackermann is being requested to advise you of amount of pesetas necessary and persons to whom such pesetas should be delivered. USCO will be reimbursed in Washington for the pesetas furnished.

JHF/dbk - 6/5/44
CABLE TO MURPHY, CHAPIN AND ACKERMANN, ALGIERS, FROM WAR REFUGEES BOARD

Please refer your 1709 May 24, 1759 May 28, and 1790 May 30.

(1) As recommended in your No. 1709, the funds have now been transmitted to Yugoslav Refugee Committee in Paris.

(2) USGO is requesting its representative in Madrid to furnish up to 100,000 pesetas to persons designated by you, for payment of port dues in Spain as indicated in your No. 1790. You should communicate with Embassy in Madrid indicating the amount of pesetas required and to whom such pesetas should be furnished. USGO will be reimbursed in Washington for the pesetas furnished.

(3) In view of the statement in your No. 1790 that the local War Shipping Administration representative is giving full assistance in assuring the availability of a ship for evacuation of refugees from Spain, we have not taken this question up here as suggested in your 1759. If you and Killoch consider it necessary for us to do so, please advise.

JWribbs - 6/5/44
MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

June 6, 1944

I spoke to Mr. Pury of the U.S. Commercial Company and he agreed to telegraph to his representative in Madrid instructing him to pay out up to 25,000 pesetas on the instruction of Ackermann.

In previous conversations, we agreed that the U.S.S.C. would be reimbursed in Washington at approximately 5 cents a peseta.

I read the attached telegram to Mr. Pury and his secretary made a record of it.

Mr. Friedman asked me to change the figure to 100,000 pesetas. I informed Mr. Pury's office of the corrected figure.

E. M. Bernstein

EMB:ff 6/8/44
June 5, 1944

Mr. Norman Anderson,
Finance Division,
Foreign Economic Administration,
9th Floor, 111 Light Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Anderson:

This will confirm our conversation of this morning concerning the request which has been made for Spanish pesetas to pay port dues in connection with a forthcoming refugee evacuation voyage from Spain to Camp Lyautey in North Africa.

Attached is a copy of Cable No. 1790 of May 30 from Algiers to the State Department in which this request was made.

As I stated to you the exact amount of pesetas required is not known to me. According to information received from the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee which has financed evacuation voyages from Spain, the cost apparently is 50 pesetas a person. Assuming the correctness of this figure, the cost for 600 refugees (the approximate number to be evacuated) would be 30,000 pesetas. In order to give some lee-way, however, it would seem wise to request US$30 to furnish up to 100,000 pesetas.

As I explained to you the US$30 representative in Madrid is being requested to make available the pesetas required (up to 100,000) with the understanding that the US$30 will be reimbursed here in Washington. It is my understanding that US$30 expects to be reimbursed in Washington at approximately five cents a peseta.

Attached are copies of proposed cables to Madrid and Algiers which are being sent by the War Refugees Board in this connection.

I understand that FAA will reimburse US$30 through the Treasury in Washington for the pesetas made available for this purpose. I also understand that the reimbursement will be made from the funds now held by FAA for financing Camp Lyautey.

Very truly yours,

J. B. Friedman,
Assistant Executive Director.
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1790, May 30, 11 p.m.

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD FROM ACKERMANN.
Number 24.

Local office of War Shipping Administration giving full assistance to ensure that there will be no further delay in making ship available for evacuation refugees from Spain. Expect to know definitely in few days when ship will sail. As French ship will be used, French authorities have asked whether prsetas will be made by us for port dues in Spain. Suggest you immediately take up with USCO question whether it can supply prsetas in Spain. Reply urgently whether this method available or whether Treasury desires that prsetas be furnished another manner. Repeated to Madrid as 102 for USCO; sent to the Department as 1790.

CHAPIN

WTD

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 11-72
By R. H. Parks Date: SEP 15 1972
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington, 
TO: American Legation, Lisbon 
DATED: May 10, 1944 
NUMBER: 1319 

FOR WOOD AND DEXTER FROM MORGENTHAU AND FEHLEN

Please refer your No. 1341 of May 3.

Pending final determination of scope of War Refugee Board operations in Spain Board does not plan to make disbursements of its own in Spain.

If, however, situations arise in which you feel that Board should make disbursements please advise us.

This is WRB Cable to Lisbon No. 18

HULL

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
CABLE TO MINISTER KORMER, LISBON, PORTUGAL, FOR WOOD AND DEREF FROM
MORGENTHAU AND FISHER

Please refer your No. 13/41 of May 3.

Pending final determination of scope of War Refugee Board operations in
Spain Board does not (repeat not) plan to make disbursements of its own in
Spain. If, however, situations arise in which you feel that Board should
make disbursements please advise us.

This is WRB Cable to Lisbon No. 18


************
May 10, 1944
10:40 A.M.

c:o: Secretary, Abrahamson, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser,
Mann, Cohn, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

SECRET - 5/9/44

B+
For security reasons the text of this message must be censored. (SCOO)

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

Lisbon

Dated May 3, 1944

Rec'd 7:10 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1941, May 3, 7 p.m.

FOR SECRETARY OF TREASURY FROM WOOD

War Refugee Board has no facilities of its own to make disbursements of pesetas in Spain. Office of Financial Attache has taken steps to effect payment 25,000 pesetas in Spain but does not desire conduct other such transactions without approval of Washington. Please inform Peble of foregoing and advise me of how Board is arranging for financing and paying in Spain.

NORWEB

EDA
WMB

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of 70160

By SEP 15 1972
Emerson Bigelow of OSS called me about this matter. He had received a corresponding cable through OSS channels. The cable did not make it clear whether Wood was effecting the payment of 25,000 pesetas or wanted authority to do so. Bigelow is cabling back that no future payment should be made without clearing with Washington. This would also apply to the instant payment if it has not been effected. Bigelow will keep us advised. Please consider what reply we should make to the attached cable No. 1341 of May 3.
BJR - 528
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental Agency. (SC-00)

Lisbon
Dated May 3, 1944
Rec'd 7:10 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1341, May 3, 7 p.m.

FOR SECRETARY OF TREASURY FROM WOOD

War Refugee Board has no facilities of its own to make disbursements of pesetas in Spain. Office of Financial Attaché has taken steps to effect payment 25,000 pesetas in Spain but does not desire conduct other such transactions without approval of Washington. Please inform Pehle of foregoing and advise me of how Board is arranging for financing and paying in Spain.

NORM

EDA

WEB

ef: copy
S-3-44

Distributed to: Secretary (Mr. Pehle); Mr. D.W. Bell (Mr. Dietrich);
Mr. White (Mrs. Gold-Orig.); Mr. Luxford; Mr. Pehle; Mr. Fisher;
Mr. Bernstein; Mrs. Gold; Mr. Nees.

From Mrs. Fontaine - Room 225
Text of telegram from Sir Sydney,
Madrid to Foreign Office No. 925.

Algiers telegram No. 37 to Madrid and your telegram
No. 775.

J.D.O. representative's arrangements which are proceeding
satisfactorily are threatened at the last minute by the
efforts of Mr. Liichtenstein (spell it 13 indicated) representative
of Jewish agency to hold back 34 Sep... Jews whom the Spanish
Government insist should leave for Fez, Mala for a later
opportunity for shipment to Palestine.

2. I have ascertained:
1) that these people have been only nominated for entry
into Palestine and not yet approved.
2) that holding for Palestine is not yet definitely fixed,
preliminary arrangements only having been made,
3) that the Spanish Government make the inclusion of this
party a condition for the departure of the whole group.
4) that J.D.O. representative is anxious that they should
not.

3. I feel therefore that rather than thus risk the whole
project at the last minute for the sake of a relatively
small group, these people should proceed to P., as arranged
and go on to Palestine from there afterwards.

4. Foreign Office please repeat to Nebbi and Chabrians.
From British Representative, to H.R. Ambassador, Madrid.

June 13, 1944.

Your telegram No. 37.

Ship is now definitely due to arrive 20th June. S.T.A. will be telegraphed as soon as possible.

2. Our Refugee Council have arranged that S.O.O. should furnish passage for port duty in Basque on the mission and telegraphing SHOCHER to arrange payment. Grateful if you would advise him if necessary regarding amount required and authority to whom it should be paid.

3. Foreign Office please pass to Red Cross office by telegram No. 48.
Cypher CTT

Mr. Nolans (Mission), To Madrid.

Algiers.

1925 8.6.44

36 Mission 8.6.44

Hast Immediate

Repealed to Foreign Office No. 748 Mission, Habit No. 10 saving, and Consulance No. 9 saving.

By telegram No. 39.

Ship could now arrive Cadiz June 20 repeat 20. Please reply most immediately whether this date is convenient.

2. U.S. Mission are telegraphing similarly.
PARAPHRASE FOR MR. ACKERMANN

FROM ALGIERS AUG 4, midnight, 1944
No 6.

For Ackermann form Saxon. Refer July 19 WRB No. 34.

In order to obtain the agreement of the French, we
are negotiating with them to take small groups of refugees
from Spain on French convoys carrying French refugees.
You will be advised of results later.

CHAPIN
MEMORANDUM TO GOVERNOR VALENTIN-SMITH:

The War Refugee Board, Washington, has communicated its desire that the French Authorities be requested to evacuate from Spain to North Africa 25 to 50 stateless refugees holding North African entry visas to Camp Fedhala on each French convoy which calls at Spanish ports for the purpose of evacuating French refugees to North Africa.

James S. Buxton,
Senior U. S. Treasury Representative.
Algiers, July 22, 1944

Mr. M. W. Beekelman,
United Nations Relief and
Rehabilitation Administration,
North African Refugee Center,
APO 759,
U. S. Army.

Dear Mr. Beekelman:

I wish to thank you for your letter of July 15 enclosing a communication dated July 6 received from Mr. Massigli in reply to your letter of May 1, together with a copy of your reply of July 14.

I have reviewed the conditions under which the Refugee Camp at Fedhala was made available to the American and British Governments and it would appear that the obligations assumed thereunder are essentially the same as those defined in Mr. Massigli's letter of July 6. In order that you may have a more complete understanding of the negotiations on the transfer conditions and the obligation assumed by the American and British Governments, I am sending you herewith copies of communications exchanged with the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs in 1943.

I am also enclosing a copy of a note dated July 6 from the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs to which is attached a copy of Mr. Massigli's letter of July 6 addressed to you. I should appreciate receiving from you an indication of your approval on behalf of UNRRA to the conditions of transfer stipulated in the note.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Selden Chapin
Counselor of Embassy, in Charge

Enclosures:
Copies of correspondence.
Dear Monsieur Levasseur,

As you know, the security control period for the residents of the North African Refugees Center ended the day before yesterday, 20 July. M. de Breteuil has just handed me a list of the names of 23 people who are not to receive visitors and are not to be permitted to go out of the camp. There is no indication of the length of time during which this prohibition is to be in effect, the implication is that it continues for the duration of their stay in Morocco and one of the cases, in fact, has been pending ever since 12 May.

You will recall that at the meeting we held in Rabat at which Monsieur Francois de Rose presided it was specifically agreed that at the close of the security period any persons regarded as suspect by the security services would be taken out of the camp and dealt with as the situation might indicate. All persons remaining in the camp were thereafter to have the status agreed upon in the exchange of notes among the French, British and American governments. It is my recollection that the representatives of the Securite Militaire who attended the meeting to which I refer specifically gave their agreement to this understanding of the procedure. I therefore assume that the present position which they are adopting is based on a misunderstanding.

Inasmuch as I understand from Monsieur de Breteuil that he has sent you a list of the 23 people involved, I would like to direct your attention to two cases in particular, which have thus far been brought to my attention and in which I think the present restriction is especially illogical.

Della Russo is a woman of 65 whose family is in England where some of them are in the armed forces. We have just been advised by Mr. Blicknetaff's office in Madrid that the British Embassy there has been authorized to grant her a visa for the United Kingdom and that the British Consulate in Casablanca has been asked to issue this visa as soon as transportation to England is once more available.

The second case concerns Alois Berger. Mr. Berger yesterday attempted to enlist in the Yugoslav Army but, I am informed, he was rejected because Securite Militaire informed the
Yugoslav representative that Mr. Berger would not be permitted to leave the camp. Inasmuch as it is our common interest and responsibility to see to it that the refugees now in camp leave Morocco at the earliest opportunity, I find this position exceedingly difficult to understand.

It therefore seems to me that there must be some misunderstanding on the part of the Securite Militaire with respect to the conditions governing the administration of the North African Refugees Center as formulated by agreement among the French, British and American governments. If this is so, I would prefer to avoid the necessity of taking this matter up with the British and American representatives and with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Algiers and would therefore welcome your advice and suggestion as to how we could most expeditiously dispose of the difficulty which seems to have arisen.

Sincerely yours,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Copies to: The Hon. Robert Murphy
Viscount Duncannon
Major Paul Warburg
M. de Breteuil

Monsieur Levasseur
Cabinet Civil
Residence General de France
Rabat, Morocco

MWB/KRCG
THE LEBRAM RECEIVED

Secstate
Washington

July 18, 1944 - 6 p.m.
2230
July 19, 1944 - 3:30 p.m.

The following SEC 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

decchl
el
Dear Mr. Saxon,

Before he left for Italy Len Ackermann asked me to keep you posted on any developments regarding the NARC in which the War Refugee Board might be interested. He may have told you before he left that I had written a letter to M. Massigli on 29 April asking for confirmation of a view which he had expressed to me orally to the effect that up to the agreed upon limit of 2,000, further convoys, if any, of Sephardic Jews coming from Spain would be admitted to the North African Refugee Center. I have just received the enclosed letter of 6 July from M. Massigli giving me the requested assurance on this point, and it occurs to me that you may want to have a copy for your files.

Sincerely yours,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Enclosure: Massigli to Beckelman, 6 July 1944, No. 150/824

Mr. J. J. Saxon
Treasury Representative
Civil Affairs
APO 534

MWB/krcg
My dear Mr. Minister,

This will acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of 6 July 1944, No. 149/122, Direction Politique, Afrique, Asie, Oceanie, which replies to my letter of 1 May. I note with appreciation that you are in agreement with the proposal which I have made on behalf of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) that the latter should assume responsibility for the administration of the North African Refugee Center (NARC) at Camp Marshal Lyautey.

So far as I am in a position to judge, the statements made in your letter of 6 July for the purpose of defining specifically the division of responsibility involved in the operation of the NARC substantially reflect the existing situation based upon the agreements previously reached among the French, British and American governments. However, in view of the fact that your letter makes reference to exchanges of notes between your office and those of the British and American representatives which took place before my participation in this question, and interprets the application of the terms of such notes to the future operations of the NARC, I am taking the liberty of sending copies of your letter of 6 July to the offices of the British and American representatives in Algiers for their comment. I am also sending a copy of your 6 July letter, as well as of this reply, to the office of the Director General of the UNRRA in Washington to obtain from him an indication of the date at which UNRRA proposes to take over administrative responsibility for the NARC.

As soon as I have heard from these offices I shall be in a position to communicate with you again and I trust that I shall at that time be able to give you the acceptance which you request of the statement regarding the NARC which is formulated in your letter of 6 July.

In the meantime, I take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation for the interest you have demonstrated in this
project and for the assistance you are giving me in the matter currently under discussion.

Sincerely yours,

M.W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

[Signature]

His Excellency
The Minister for Foreign Affairs
Gouvernement Provisoire de la Republique Francaise
Algiers, Algeria.

MWB/kreg
Dear Mr. Chapin,

You will recall that, with my letter of 6 May, I sent you a copy of the memorandum which I had left with M. Massigli prior to my departure from Algiers, covering the question of the proposed transfer of responsibility for the North African Refugee Center from the British and American governments, operating through the Foreign Economic Administration of the U.S.A., to the UNRRA. This memorandum I had previously discussed with you and with the Office of the British Resident Minister before leaving it with M. Massigli.

I have now received a reply from M. Massigli, dated 6 July 1944, No. 149/122, and I send you a copy herewith, together with a copy of my reply thereto dated 14 July 1944.

You will note that M. Massigli requests me to indicate to him my agreement with the statement of the transfer conditions and the obligations assumed thereunder by the British and American governments as well as by the UNRRA, as stated by him in his letter of 6 July. I do not feel that I should make such a statement to him since, in the first place, I am not familiar with the details of the original negotiations between the British and American governments on the one hand and the OFLM on the other, nor am I sure about the propriety of my saying to M. Massigli, as he requests, that I agree with a statement which he has made regarding responsibilities assumed by agencies other than the one which I represent directly.

I would appreciate it, therefore, if you would have an opportunity to go over the two letters enclosed and give me the benefit of your suggestions with respect to any further communication which I ought to address to M. Massigli.

Selden Chapin, Esquire
Office of the American Representative
Civil Affairs
APO 759

Enclosures - two, as stated.

Sincerely yours,
/s/ M.W. Beckelman
M.W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED
Dear Mr. Chapin,

You will recall that, with my letter of 6 May, I sent you a copy of the memorandum which I had left with M. Massigli prior to my departure from Algiers, covering the question of the proposed transfer of responsibility for the North African Refugee Center from the British and American governments, operating through the Foreign Economic Administration of the U.S.A., to the UNRRA. This memorandum I had previously discussed with you and with the Office of the British Resident Minister before leaving it with M. Massigli.

I have now received a reply from M. Massigli, dated 6 July 1944, No. 149/122, and I send you a copy herewith, together with a copy of my reply thereto dated 14 July 1944.

You will note that M. Massigli requests me to indicate to him my agreement with the statement of the transfer conditions and the obligations assumed thereunder by the British and American governments as well as by the UNRRA, as stated by him in his letter of 6 July. I do not feel that I should make such a statement to him since, in the first place, I am not familiar with the details of the original negotiations between the British and American governments on the one hand and the UNRRA on the other; nor am I sure about the propriety of my saying to M. Massigli, as he requests, that I agree with a statement which he has made regarding responsibilities assumed by agencies other than the one which I represent directly.

I would appreciate it, therefore, if you would have an opportunity to go over the two letters enclosed and give me the benefit of your suggestions with respect to any further communication which I ought to address to M. Massigli.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ M.W. Beckelman
M.W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Selden Chapin, Esquire
Office of the American Representative
Civil Affairs
APO 534

Enclosures - two, as stated.
KMB/Krog

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED
My dear Mr. Minister,

This will acknowledge with thanks receipt of your letter of 6 July 1944, No. 145/122, Direction Politique, Afrique, Asie, Oceanie, which replies to my letter of 1 May. I note with appreciation that you are in agreement with the proposal which I have made on behalf of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) that the latter should assume responsibility for the administration of the North African Refugee Center (NARC) at Camp Marshal Lyautey.

So far as I am in a position to judge, the statements made in your letter of 6 July for the purpose of defining specifically the division of responsibility involved in the operation of the NARC substantially reflect the existing situation based upon the agreements previously reached among the French, British and American governments. However, in view of the fact that your letter makes reference to exchanges of notes between your office and those of the British and American representatives which took place before my participation in this question, and interprets the application of the terms of such notes to the future operations of the NARC, I am taking the liberty of sending copies of your letter of 6 July to the offices of the British and American representatives in Algiers for their comment. I am also sending a copy of your 6 July letter, as well as of this reply, to the office of the Director General of the UNRRA in Washington to obtain from him an indication of the date at which UNRRA proposes to take over administrative responsibility for the NARC.

As soon as I have heard from these offices I shall be in a position to communicate with you again and I trust that I shall at that time be able to give you the acceptance which you request of the statement regarding the NARC which is formulated in your letter of 6 July.

In the meantime, I take this opportunity to express to you my appreciation for the interest you have demonstrated in this
Beckelman to Minister for Foreign Affairs, 14 July 1944, page 2

project and for the assistance you are giving me in the matter currently under discussion.

Sincerely yours,

M.V. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

His Excellency
The Minister for Foreign Affairs
Gouvernement Provisoire de la Republique Francaise
Algiers, Algeria.

MWB/krog
205, Seventh, 4 p.m.
July 7, 1944
TO HOWARD BROOKS FROM ELIZABETH DEXTER.

Estimates from three Christian committees indicate that a maximum of twenty stateless or Allied refugees would apply for Camp Fedala. Jewish committees will report shortly. My personal guess not over twelve in all will really go but some of these are eager and desirable.

Situation here unchanged. All well.

NORWEB

els
Monsieur W. BECKELMAN
Chef de Mission
Civil Affairs
5, rue du Professeur Curtillet
ALGER

Par une lettre du 29 Avril, vous avez bien voulu me demander s'il serait possible d'accueillir au camp de Fedala des refugiés israélites sepharadites qui seraient prochainement acheminées sur le Maroc.

J'ai l'honneur de vous confirmer que je ne vois aucune objection à l'installation provisoire des refugiés en question, étant entendu toutefois que cette latitude ne s'étendra pas aux sepharadites ressortissants de nations qui ne sont pas touchées par la guerre - telles que l'Espagne ou le Portugal -.

Je crois d'autre part devoir ajouter que:

1°) En aucun cas, le nombre total des refugiés qui seront admis au Maroc ne devra dépasser 2,000 personnes, ainsi que cela avait été fixé dans l'accord conclu entre les trois gouvernements alliés.

2°) Les mesures de sécurité qui ont été prises à l'égard des premier groupes de refugiés venant d'Espagne devront être également appliquées aux refugiés sepharadites. Notamment aucune personne ne sera admise au Maroc sans l'accord préalable des services de Sécurité français, américain et britannique.

3°) Les sepharadites seront soumis, en tous points, à la réglementation arrêtée, d'accord entre les gouvernements français, américain, et britannique, pour tout ce qui concerne le séjour des refugiés dans le Protectorat./.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de ma considération distinguée.

Signature: Illisible
Dear Len:

I thought I would write you this note to go along with your personal mail and some cables and other material in the pouch which is leaving tomorrow.

Jim and I have been following the war refugee problems here, although there actually haven’t been any new developments since your departure. Our main function has been to transmit cables through our channels for some of the representatives of the private relief organizations.

The boat bringing the refugees from Spain has arrived in Fedala, and we are checking with Beckelman for details as to the number of persons arriving, etc. When we have all the facts, we will send off a cable to Washington on the matter.

One small problem has arisen concerning the refugees from the Gripsholm, upon which I would like to have some word from you. Right after your departure the Mess Office called and inquired about who was going to pay for the mess bills of these people. They referred to a letter which they had requesting that the refugees be granted mess privileges, which states that all expenses incurred by the refugees should be forwarded to Mr. Ackenmann of the War Refugee Board. I tried to track down the origin of this statement, and so nearly as I can find out, it was a verbal agreement between you and Col. Green. Four persons have been eating in the army messes under this arrangement since 6 June. They are apparently still there. What plans had you in mind for covering these expenditures? Will you please advise me as to what we ought to do in this matter?

There have been no world-shaking developments on this front. We are all well and send you best regards. Juanita is enclosing a letter for Ruth Kelley, which she would appreciate your delivering or forwarding as required.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

D. J. McGrew
U.S. Treasury
Representative
SecState

June 21, 1944

Clear

2090

FEA

BOC 2462

For Hannigan FEA from Boyd

We wish to withdraw three Plymouth cars FEA ownership now in Casablanca allocated to refugee camp at Lyautey, in view of imminent turnover of this operation to UNRRA. These cars are urgently needed in Algiers to replace assigned Army cars no longer fit for service. Please advise that this withdrawal is acceptable to UNRRA.

CHAFFIN

A/21

sent: p

jc

Distribution:
1. MAJEN file
2. Am. Leg. Miss. - Boyd
3. " " " - LeRoche
4. " " " - Files
5. " " " - Files
6. " " " - Ackerman
7. " " " - Backelman
MEMORANDUM FOR J.J. SAXON:

Miscellaneous WRB matters.

1. Fedala. This seems to be under control. However, Board should be advised by cable as soon as refugees have arrived. You can get this information from Beckelman (Beacon 210 J) or possibly from Massville of WSA (Farmer 121) or perhaps Lord Dunsmoor (Franchise 57). The boat should have left Spain on the 20th and be at Casab on the 21st or 22nd. If you do not hear otherwise, would you please try to find out on the 22nd about the arrival and the number of people who came.

2. Medical personnel for refugee camps. As you know, unless we get personnel, the Army may again slow up refugee movement from Yugoslavia. Several cables have already been sent to Washington which is working on the problem. In the meanwhile I've been working on my own over here to fill this gap. The following projects are under way.

a) 3 trained nurses (Spanish refugees) will soon be released from an Army clinic. Major Walker of G-5 wants to use them and knows about them.

b) Dr. Imomitor, now in Lisbon. Walker is also interested in this man and will send a memo to me in the next few days. My memo to Col. Spofford is attached. Howard Brooks of the Unitarian Service Committee (Franchico 131) will do most of the work in connection with getting this man over. He might need your help in order that the State Dept. assist in getting the necessary papers. G-5 will assist on getting the necessary travel orders.

c) Spanish refugee doctors secured by American Friends Service Committee. They have tentatively turned up 5 and may turn up more. Kimberland of AFSF is in charge.

The principal problem on this medical help is their payment. The Army will give them quarters and rations but cannot pay them. As soon as UNRRA takes over, they will be paid by UNRRA. In the meanwhile, it will be up to private agencies or possibly the WRB to pay them small salaries. If the private agencies cannot pay them, will you cable the board for funds and authority to make these payments? I am writing to John about this in the meanwhile.
3. Refugees from the Gripsholm. 3 families were taken off the Gripsholm. They have now been cleared by the security agencies and are ready to be moved to Fedhala. The Army will move 2 of the families. The third family (Mr. and Mrs. Strauss) present a more difficult problem. Mrs. Strauss has a knee injury and is now in a British Army hospital. The hospital needs the space and I have asked Kessler of the JDC (Franchise 131) to arrange to move her to a civilian hospital. Space should be available in a few days so this should be easy. Mr. Strauss is still in a POW camp and while he has been cleared for movement to Fedhala has not been cleared to stay in Algiers until such time as he and his wife can move. Col. Crean G-2, AFRQ (Freedom 203) is working on this now. If there is any trouble, Tom Estes has promised to give us diplomatic support, since it was the State Dept. which dumped these people upon us in the first instance.
SUBJECT: Employment of Civilian Medical Personnel in the Care of Refugees.

TO: The Special Representative, Mediterranean Area, U.S. War Refugee Board, c/o The Office of the American Political Adviser.

Reference is made to your memorandum of 14 June, and to conversations between Mr. Ackerman and Major Walker of this Section.

1. In principle it is agreed that use should be made of civilian medical personnel, not being members of UNRRA or other Allied relief or welfare agencies, in the care of refugees in French North Africa and Italy, provided that all such persons are first screened and approved by the security authorities. Assistance will be afforded to the Representative of the American Unitarian Service Committee in providing facilities for Dr. Frederic Amiaidtor to enter French North Africa.

2. As, however, it is not possible to arrange for the payment of such persons by the Army it is requested that until UNRRA can be held responsible payments may temporarily be made by the War Refugee Board, or by another agency as you may think best. Accommodation and food would be provided from military sources.

3. It is understood that, in addition to Dr. Amiaidtor, three nursing personnel are now available in Algeria. Information as to the assignment of these persons will be given on receipt of confirmation that their payment can be effected by some agency other than military.

CHARLES M. SPORFORD
Colonel, O.S.O.
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-5
AM EMBASSY, MADRID

FOR BLICKENSTAFF FROM ACKERMANN

URGENT

Have seen cable from British Embassy concerning Leichenstein efforts to hold back 64 sephardim. Since this may endanger whole shipment and since possibility movement Palestine is just as great from Fedhala as from Spain suggest strongly that you impress on Liechtenstein importance change his position. You can also inform all refugees that Fedhala is not repeat not a duration camp but that all efforts for emigration will be made soon as possible.

CHAPIN
Office of the British Representative to the French Committee for National Liberation,
5, Rue Professeur Curtillot,
ALGERIA.

TO: Mr. Ackerman.

With the compliments of,

[Signature]

15 JUN 1944.
Mr. Hoare presents his compliments to His Excellency the Coordinator for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to inform him that the British and American Governments have agreed in principle to transfer to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the North African Refugee Centre at Fuka, near Alexandria.

2. It is proposed that the British and American Governments should retain responsibility for transport of the refugees to North Africa, C.M.B.A. being primary responsible for the care and maintenance of the refugees after their arrival at Fuka. The responsibility for finding new places for their eventual settlement will remain unchanged by the transfer, although the responsibility to assist in regulation for such purposes as can and are willing to return to their countries of origin or of former residence. It is proposed that the transfer should take place some time this month. The refugees are due to be embarked by 31st April 1948.

3. Mr. Hoare will be glad to inform the latter, in accordance with Article 4 paragraph (a) of the United Nations agreement, the French authorities will grant their consent to the transfer.

His Excellency,
M. André Habib Elphig,
Minister for Foreign Affairs.
No. 237

The Office of the Representative of the United States of America in Algiers presents its compliments to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs and has the honor to inform him that the American and British Governments have agreed in principle to transfer to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration the responsibility for the maintenance and operation of the North African Refugee Center at Fedhala, near Casablanca.

UNRRA proposes that the American and British Governments should retain responsibility for transport of the refugees to North Africa, UNRRA's primary responsibility being the care and maintenance of the refugees after their arrival at Casablanca. The responsibility for finding new places for their eventual settlement will remain unchanged by the transfer, although UNRRA is prepared to assist in repatriation for such persons as can and are willing to return to their countries of origin or of former residence. It is proposed that the transfer should take place some time this month. The refugees are due to be embarked at Cadiz on June 20.

This Office would appreciate being informed whether, in pursuance of Article 1, paragraph 2(a) of the UNRRA agreement, the French authorities will grant their consent to the transfer.

June 16, 1944
CWR/jec

cc/ Mr. Ferguson
Mr. Ackerman
Madrid June 9, 1944, 8pm

No. 326
June 10, 1944.

US Urgent
For Ackermann

Blickonstaff states that necessary arrangements 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
CASABLANCA
June 9, 1944
33

June 9, 2200

For Lieutenant Colonel Green O-2 AFHQ from Reckelsen No. 1.

Still hopefully expecting French approved lists North African refugee center applicants whose requests transmitted with third, fourth, fifth and sixth lists. Understand that third and fourth lists processing completed. Appreciate anything you can obtain copies for me soonest. Also copies fifth, sixth approved lists when completed. Urgently require this information in order prepare adequate housing arrangements.

RUBBEL

3H
June 9, 1944.

URGENT

Dear Admiral Howitt:

I believe that you are already cognizant of the reasons for, and the difficulties attendant upon, the evacuation of the group of approximately 800 stateless refugees from Spain to Camp Marshall Lyndley at Varnhianes. However, I have recently received a cable from Ambassador Hayes in Madrid, a paraphrase of which is enclosed, which emphasizes the seriousness of the problem which has arisen because of a series of delays in the evacuation of such refugees. He points out that not only will further delays seriously embarrass the present relief organizations in Spain and possibly result in the internment of large numbers of refugees, but also that it will impede the entry into Spain of further refugees.

I understand that shipping difficulties of one sort or another have delayed the evacuation of this group for several months but that it is now planned to move them on or about the 20th of June in the "Gouverneur General Lapina", a French vessel. Since it is the declared policy of both the British and American Governments to do all within their powers to aid these unfortunate people, I am sure that the Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean, will wish to take all necessary steps to avoid any further delay. In view of the urgency of this matter, and especially the fact that further delay may result in the failure to rescue refugees now in occupied territory, I should be grateful if you would give this matter your effective support and urge that it be given sufficient priority to...

Vice Admiral H. K. Howitt, U.S.N.,
Commander, U.S. Naval Forces,
Northwest African Waters,
Allied Force Headquarters.
to implement a policy laid down by the President of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed): ROBERT D. MURPHY,

Robert D. Murphy,
American Ambassador.

Enclosure:
Paraphrase of telegram as stated.

Copy to:
British Resident Minister,
Ministry of War Transport,
War Shipping Administration,
U.S., AFR.

INA/SHM/18b
Paraphrase of telegram No. 306, dated May 31, 1944, from Ambassador Hayes in Madrid to the Secretary of State.

Information has been received from Algiers by the British Embassy in Madrid that shipping cannot, repeat cannot, be made available for scheduled evacuation on June 7 from Cadiz of stateless refugees proceeding to Fedhala center from Spain.

Though fully aware of the difficulties of procuring shipping at this stage of the war for such a purpose, I feel it necessary to point out that a further postponement of this group's departure will have on the position in Spain of stateless refugees and on the position of Blickenstaff's organization via the Spanish Government an extremely unsatisfactory effect. The Spanish Government has become increasingly disturbed over the repeated delays in the evacuation of these refugees, who have been for the most part ready to leave for more than three months, and the postponing of the June 7th departure, for which assurances have already been given and arrangements made, may well cause it to question the good faith of the interested Allied authorities and Blickenstaff. The result of this reaction may in turn be the reinstatement and reimprisonment of many stateless refugees who have been permitted to remain at liberty on the basis of assurances of their early departure, and therefore tend to discourage entry of further numbers of such refugees into Spain.

The extent to which the Spanish Government is willing to cooperate with Blickenstaff's organization in the care of stateless refugees has been shown by experience to have a direct relationship to the rate at which that organization is able to evacuate these persons from Spain, and yet another delay in evacuating the approximately 700 persons comprising the Fedhala group will, it is feared, surely strain that willingness.
CODE: WRB  To Madrid  No. 105  June 8, 5 p.m.

MOST IMMEDIATE

Ship for evacuation stateless refugees now scheduled to arrive Cadiz June 29th. Please reply immediately whether this date gives sufficient time to make necessary arrangements. From Ackermann for Bickelstaff.

CHAPEL

LEA

DJ

JM
MESSAGE CENTER
OUTGOING MESSAGE

TO FOR ACTION: MBS
REF NO: F 56366
SIGNED: NATOURA

Distribution:
10. MAJEM file
11. A. Bonniman, La Mars
12. " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " 
As number 2014 the following telegram has been sent to the Department:

Embassy has in mind possible desirability of retaining refugee food supplies now at Cadiz for use in Spain rather than forwarding them to Fadhala as previously agreed in view of probability of increased flow of refugees into Spain as consequence of military operations in France.

Reference Department's 117 of January 15 and my 44 of January 7 and 236 of January 26. Beckelman has assented to relinquish claim to these supplies if greater need exists here and inasmuch as they would be originally intended for use in Spain it is assumed that there would be no objection on part of Department or AmCross.

The foregoing assumes clarification in Embassy's favor of question of ownership of the supplies raised in my 1872 of May 27, to which a prompt reply would be appreciated.

Instruct please.

This wire has been sent to Algiers as a repeat.

HAYES

JM
SUBJECT: Female Refugees

TO: The Visitors Bureau, Villa Vella

1. The following refugees were landed by the state department from H/Y GRIPSHOLM at Algiers on 21 May 1944:

   Mrs. ZILLIENBERG
   Miss ZILLIENBERG
   Mrs. GRUNSTEIN
   Mrs. STRAINES

2. Accommodation and boarding arrangements are requested for the above for a period of approximately 4 or 5 days.

3. It is understood that any expenses incurred in this commitment will be met through the War Refugee Board by U.N.R.R.A.

   For the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

   Copy to:

   Mrs. ACKERMANN,
   War Refugee Board.
To Secstate

June 3, 6 p.m.
1833 (Madrid 103)
EWB

For War Refugee Board from Ackermann No. 25.

Advised today by War Shipping representatives that ship should sail from Spain about 24 June. Definite date will be fixed about 15 June. Sent to Department repeated to Madrid for Bleekestaff.

CHAPIN

LEA
MMG
JM

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

June 1, 1944, 6 pm

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

The following message from Schwartz in Lisbon received by JDC:

"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 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."

Your comments on the foregoing will be appreciated.

HULL
From Madrid

May 31 Midnight
308

June 3, 0900

British Embassy Madrid has been informed from Algiers that
shipping cannot repeat cannot be made available for scheduled evacu-
ation form Cadiz on June 7 of stateless refugees proceeding from Spain
to Medhala 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 unsalutory effect on position of stateless refugees in Spain
and on position of Blickenstaff's organization via a vis the Spanish
Government. Latter has become increasingly disturbed over repeated delia
in evacuation these refugees most of whom have been ready to leave for
overthree 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 the reimprison-
ment and reinishment of many stateless refugees who have been allowed
to remain at liberty on the 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 govt is willing to cooperate with Blickenstaff's
organization in care of stateless refuge es bears direct relation
ship to rate at which that organization is able to evacuate them
from Spain and it is feared that their willingness will be sorely
strained by yet another delay. Repeated to Algiers.

DECLASSIFIED

HAYES

State Dept. Letter, 1-15-72

By R. H. Parke Date, 15-1-72
Office of the British Representative to the French Committee for National Liberation.

5, Rue Professor Curtillet, Algiers.

To: Mr. Ackerman

With the compliments of

British Representative

1-6-44.
Copy of telegram from H.M. Charge d'Affaires
Madrid, to British Representative, Algiers
No. 23, dated 29th May.

Your telegram is...

Spanish authorities and J.D.C. representative have been informed. The latter was naturally angry after all detailed arrangements he has made.

1. Since it was impossible to meet operational requirements, it was told that ship needed repair and could not be available until about June 20th.

2. Grateful for an early reply about this final date.
British Representative, Algiers.

1400 26.5.44
34 Mission 27.5.44
Repeated to Foreign Office No. 63 Mission.

[Secret]

Your telegram No. 24.

I much regret operational requirements have again intervened and ship will not be available until latter half of June.

2. Definite date will be telegraphed as soon as possible.
La question de la garde du camp est abordée. M. de Bosa lit le projet de note de la S. M. d'Alger. Cette ci est rejetée, tout le monde étant d'accord que la garde incombe aux autorités américaines et en aucun cas à l'armée française. M. Hochelman s'occupe de la question qui relève directement de l'administration du camp.

(signed) Thomas Fyn Gepe

Copied 21/5/44 obs.
Office of the British Representative with the French Committee of National Liberation.

To: Mr. Glass (U.A. Mission) —
   Mr. Beaudouin (F.E.L.O.)
   Mr. Acherian (B.P.A.E.)
   Sir A. Bensouda (R.P.A.M.)
   L.V. Col. Green (1-2, C.I., A.P.I.)
   M.J. Major (W.I.D., A.P.I.)
   M.P. Madsen
   Mr. Fawcett, 
   North African Refugee Centre.

It is proposed to hold a meeting at 10.30 a.m. on Saturday, 27th May, in the Civil Affairs Building to discuss the North African Refugee Centre.

The following Agenda is suggested:

(1) Progress of contact from U.A. Army to U.E.N.O.R. on question of informing French Committee of National Liberation.

(2) Present position in regard to extraction of refugees from Italy.


[Signature]

Copies to: Mr. Pooler,
   Mr. Hoadley (U.A. P.L.)

24th May, 1944.
FROM Aguar
To: "Frederick Devers"

Ref No: 40102  25 May 1944

Following questions presented in message 152
of FSA representative at Casablanca on transfer refugees
to North Africa.

1. These refugees are to be located at what place?
2. Are provisions made for safeguarding refugees
   and their personal property?
3. What is availability of Army material and
   instructors to train refugees?
4. Method of continuing supplies?

Will closing of ABS affect the transfer?

EG 114 13889
TO: British Representative, Algiers.

Addressed to Algiers telegram No. 427 May both repeated to Madrid.

Your telegram No. 31 to Madrid repeated to me as telegram No. 994.

I agree to date proposed.

2. Cost of chartering appears to be about double what it ought to be. Please ask Buckingham or whoever is chartering the vessel to get into touch with Gibson Graham Mediterranean representative of J.W.T. who has been instructed to help with advice.
FROM: Casablanca

DATE: May 19, 1944

NO.: 28

CODE: Clear

RECEIVED: May 20, 0900

Following telegram sent to Madrid "nineteenth from Beckelman for Hayes No. 5 reference your 270 May 15 applications numbered 960 through 1025 and also 1026 through 1069 being handled by French security whom we are pressing for earliest possible action. Repeated to Algiers for Duncannon British Resident Ministry."

RUSSEL

JM
INCOMING PARABRASE

From GG SOS NATOUSA
To GG NATOUSA

19 May, 1944

Beokelmann not willing accept responsibility and take over U.S. property due to lack adequate personnel guarding our caretaking. Arrival refugees has been progressively delay. 38 there now but Beoklemens expects 800 near future. Date not definite.

Essential State Department take over without delay since ABS will close out shortly. They should accept full responsibility for acceptance and personnel.

Plans contemplate maintenance by shipment supplies by rail from MBS on requisition basis.

MG IN 11612
FOR BECKELMAN FROM MENSHIKOV, No. 32.

Reference your 1454 May 9th. Draft terms of transfer in preparation. Will draw upon your suggestions paragraphs two through eight as to paragraph eight UNRRA does not propose to accept responsibility for operation of camp unless continuing supply arrangements assured. Your paragraph ten any formal action by UNRRA in Tunisia must of course be proceeded by a request from the Comite and discussions with French officials in this country. If such a request is made UNRRA will of course ask your views. No commitments should be made either formally or informally without authorization from headquarters. We suggest under these circumstances it would perhaps be unwise for you to go to Tunisia at this time.

HULL

/dec
From Casa blanca No. 27 May 17, 9 AM

As No. 139 dated May 16, 5 PM the following telegram has been sent to the Department.

I have just been reliably informed that orders are already enroute for the closing of the army ground force headquarters in this area. Existing authority and arrangements for supplies and services established making are cancelled by this and it is imperative that immediate action be made on the five proposals contained in my 132 May 10, 10 a.m. Pending word from you, I will attempt to postpone dispatching ship to Spain for the main refugee group.

This wire has been repeated to Algiers for Ferguson and was sent to the Department on May 16, 5 PM as No. 139. From Russell. References 1332 second GOB 2106 F&A 301 from Beckelman for Lehman and Crowley No. 3, from Emerson and Hannigan for Ferguson. Refer to my May 16, 4 PM No. 138 also.

RUSSELL

JM
On Applications Nos. 960 through 1025 French have transmitted decision to Bayonne, French Mission, Madrid, by their letter of May 6th, 1944. The letter instructed Bayonne to prepare a definitive list of accepted persons and forward copies to Algiers.

Sent to Madrid, repeated to Casablanca as No. 14 for Beekelman.

FROM: War Refugee Board representative, Algiers.

CHAPIN

Jas/
ens; wil
para/do
MEMORANDUM TO MR. ACKERMAN:

At Mr. Saxon's request I called Mr. Beckelman in Casablanca concerning the question raised in Madrid's No. 270 of 15 May, 1944, as to when a decision on the Fedala applicants, whose applications were sent to North Africa in April, numbers 960 through 1025, could be expected. Mr. Beckelman advised me that Colonel Green here in Algiers was in touch with the French Securite Militaire on this question and could give me the up-to-date information.

I then called Colonel Green and learned the following details. Colonel Green's office gave its decision to the French concerning this group of applicants on 25 April. By letter No. DIN/0/L/8696 of 6 May, 1944, the French Securite Militaire transmitted to Beyonne, in the office of the French Mission in Madrid, the "Liste des Personnes Elimines." That letter also instructed Beyonne to draw up the definitive list of persons included in this group of applicants who are to be admitted to North Africa for the Fedala camp. Colonel Green advised me that 17 out of the 65 applications in this group were denied. He said that, although this represented a higher percentage of refusals than in previous groups, it did not mean that the security people had changed their standards of screening. Beyonne is to transmit five copies of the definitive list to Algiers.

I discussed what I had learned with Mr. Saxon, and we decided to prepare an answer to Madrid's cable on this basis.
Arriving a few days ago thirty-eight refugees are well settled now at camp and the security check was practically completed without incident. With reference to my 132 of May 10, 10 am, it is urgent I know the action taken as in a few days the boat is prepared to proceed to Spain to embark the main refugee group of approximately 800. If it is impossible to provide an army guard it might possibly be arranged to have an external guard of reliable French civilians at a cost of $3,000 approximately provided the American army issues the firearms but this is very doubtful.

Accountant Mosca arrived unannounced and expects to proceed to Algiers. This is for your information.

This telegram has been repeated for FEA, Ferguson, to Algiers. From Russell. For Crowley and Lehman No. 2 from Beckelman. The above telegram has been sent to the Department dated May 16, 4 PM as No. 138.

RUSSELL
Paraphrase for

From Madrid No. 270 May 15, 6 PM

When can a decision on Fedhala applicants, whose applications were sent to you in April, numbers 960 through 1025, be expected? For Beckelman. This wire was sent to Casablanca as a repeat.

HAYES

JM
Paraphrase for Action

To Secstate No. 1493 May 6, 12 PM

It has been requested that an approach be made to the French by the Political Section of AFHQ for their agreement to move 750 stateless refugees from Italy to the refugee center at Fedhala. It is our information that Palestine visas are not wanted by these refugees so that homes must be found for them elsewhere eventually. To accommodate these refugees plus approximately 350 Sephardic Jews in occupied territory whose release Schwartz in Lisbon is working for and 800 from Spain, there will be sufficient room at Fedhala. Except that Beckelman worried about supply and initial equipment situation on which he will cable separately, no objection is seen here. If you perceive objection please reply urgently.

(To Salter, Menshikov and Crowley from Aokermann)

CHAPIN

JM
MEMORANDUM TO LT. MORGAN:

You are requested to secure air passage for Mr. James F. Falck, United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and a member of the staff of the North African Refugee Center at Casablanca. Mr. Falck desires to travel from Casablanca to Oran in order to meet a boat arriving there on 8 May, 1944, carrying refugees. Mr. Falck will make the necessary arrangements to transfer these refugees from Oran to Casablanca. It is absolutely essential that Mr. Falck travel on 7 May so that he may be in Oran when the ship arrives on 8 May. A high priority is therefore requested.

Leonard E. Ackermann,
Special Representative
Mediterranean Area
U.S. War Refugee Board.

6 May, 1944
PARAPHRASE of Outgoing Message

To for action: CG SOS NATOUSA
Information: CG MRS ABS Chief Gibraltar
Ref No. F 42294
Signed: CINC

54 stateless refugees are boarding Ville D'Oran on May 7, 1944. Party which includes following families, Pace, Benjamin Elias, Frances, Gattagno, Soperta, Sasson, Jas Karzec, Hassid, Mördehay and Bembors at will land at Oran.
Transport to camp at Fedala, should be arranged. Also arrange for guards and reception there. Estimated they will reach Oran May 7. Conducting officer or non commissioned officer should go with party from Oran to Fedala. Representative of UNRRA will be sent to Oran by Beekelman to meet group.

Auth. H. V. Roberts, Col.

MC Out 1435 6 May 1944

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED
Approximately 50 Sephardic perpignan (?) and another 300 from Greece are now in Germany is reported by Schwartz. Arrangements are trying to be made to transport via Swedish ship by water to Palestine via Greece and Istanbul but they may go to Spain if the former arrangements are impossible. We are trying to rescue another 100 who are now interned in Greece. Madrid and Washington are helping. Even if 750 from Italy and 770 from Spain come, most additional Sephardic should be accommodated in Fedhala. For the balance Palestine is possible. Reference Algiers 97 May 4 WNB 16.

For Ackerman, Lisbon's, WNB 21.
Dear John:

Contrary to our earlier expectations, no refugees have arrived at Fedhala as yet. This is due to shipping difficulties. As I previously told you, no British ship was available and it was therefore necessary to secure a French ship. The first ship suggested was at Oran undergoing repairs. I visited Oran last week and discovered that the chances of having this ship ready before the end of May was very doubtful. On my return it was decided that another French ship might be better. This ship is at Casablanca also undergoing repairs but should be ready by the 15th of May or within a few days thereafter. We are all hoping that this ship becomes available at the expected date and that the movement will take place within a few days thereafter.

In the meanwhile Buckelman received a cable from Madrid yesterday stating that unless he had any objection, it was proposed to include about 50 Fedhala refugees on the next French convoy scheduled to leave from Algiers within a few days. The cable further stated that this was the only condition under which the Spanish authorities would permit a French convoy to leave Spain before the departure of stateless refugees and that the continued presence in Spain of the stateless refugees was causing the Spanish some concern. After advising the security authorities of this movement, we replied to Madrid telling them there was no objection to the movement of this first group of refugees, requesting them, however, to include, if possible, cooks, mechanics and carpenters who would assist in making the camp more comfortable.

The attitude of the Spanish with respect to the stateless refugees ties in closely with your cable No. 5 of April 25 concerning the 50 Sephardic Jews now in Perpignan, France. Before the arrival of this cable I had already started discussions with certain persons
in the Committee concerning the interpretation put on the
refugee agreement by the Israeli authorities. I did not
approach Massigli directly because I did not know
whether or not the problem would become a real one. I
did, however, talk to Mandan-Franco and explained the
situation to him. Mandan-Franco was of the opinion that
the restriction for admission to Pedhala of those Sep-
phardic Jews already in Spain on March 1, 1944, was un-
fortunate and should be changed. He asked me to prepare
a memorandum and stated that he would discuss the matter
with his colleagues. After forwarding my memorandum to
him, I received an extremely cordial letter in which he
stated that he hoped to be able to report within a short
time that my fears were groundless. However, before I
received any further reply, your cable arrived and I
communicated with him again by telephone and advised him
of this information. The cable arrived about the same
time that Beekelman reached Algiers for the purpose of
initiating discussions for the transfer of the jurisdic-
tion of the camp to UNRRA. As an appointment had already
been arranged to see Massigli, it was decided, after con-
sultation with Beekelman and Chapin, that Beekelman should
raise this matter during the course of his conference. He
did so and Massigli replied that it was his understanding
that 2,000 refugees should be admitted and that this agree-
ment had not been changed. On the advice, however, of
Fraen's assistants, we confirmed this statement in writ-
ing to Massigli and asked for a reply.

One other factor may arise which may interfere with
the continued movement of the Sephardic Jews from occupied
territory. This relates to the limitation of the camp
capacity to 2,000. It is now planned to bring between 800
and 850 from Spain to Casablanca. The political section
of AYN is now discussing the possibility of moving 750 or
more Jewish refugees from Italy to the refugee center. If
both of these movements take place, the capacity of the
camp to absorb further refugees will be extremely small.
I do not know how many more Sephardic Jews are in occupied
territory and in a position to be evacuated to Spain. If
this group is more than a few hundred, some new arrangement
will have to be entered into in order to bring them to
Pedhala. I expect to discuss this matter further with
Robert Murphy when he returns to town, and in the meanwhile
will discuss it with his assistants. I will ask them, in
considering the movement of refugees from Italy to Pedhala,
to bear in mind the fact that they may be filling space
which might otherwise be used for Sephardic Jews. I also
intend to cable to Jr. Schwartz in order to get from him some estimate of the number of Sephardic Jews who may be rescued.

With respect to Yugoslavia, not much has taken place since the arrival of your cable No. 6 of 28 April. I have had talks with Robert Murphy's assistants and also with Kalloch of War Shipping Administration and will have another discussion at AFRQ tomorrow. So far the consensus of opinion seems to be that I should take a short trip to Naples and Bari to investigate further the availability of small ships. Kalloch has promised as much aid as possible, but before asking for anything it is necessary to develop a factual basis as he does not have complete records in Algiers. Once it has been decided exactly what is needed, it will be necessary to present the whole question to AFRQ, Italy, which controls all shipping on the Italian coasts. We may be more successful in our requests if the ACO will support us, and I intend to talk to Ed Foley about this while I am in Italy. Of course a directive from the Combined Chiefs of Staff will be even more helpful, and I assume that you are working in this direction not only on the shipping problem but on the other problems mentioned in our earlier reports. I was also shown a cable from Cairo today stating that Tito had agreed to assist in the rescue of Hungarian Jews. Of course this may depend to a great degree on the assistance which we may be able to furnish. I will look further into this matter in Italy since there are no Yugoslav representatives in Algiers at the moment.

I find it necessary from time to time to write letters to the French authorities or to others and in this regard I believe it would be helpful if you will forward to me a small supply of War Refugees Board stationery.

With kindest regards, I am

Very sincerely,

Leonard E. Ackermann
Special Representative
Mediterranean Area
War Refugee Board.

Mr. John W. Fehle
Acting Director
War Refugee Board,
2854 Main Treasury Bldg.,
Washington 25, D. C.
For Messhikov and Salter. From Beckelman No. 1. I saw Massigli reference your 6120 No. 12 third paragraph. I gave him an informal memorandum for his study and suggestions as preliminary to my requesting official French approval for transfer, at his request, a copy of which I am sending you. As soon as the British representative receives notice from London, the American and British representatives are sending Massigli confirmation of their governments acceptance of transfer.

After transfer to UNRRA is effected, it is recommended that the American and British representatives in Algeria and French Morocco be instructed to give refugee center administration all proper assistance as is necessary in maintaining refugee rights and privileges.

American and British consulates in Algeria, Morocco, Portugal and Spain be authorized to give refugee center administration all proper facilities in communications, fiscal transactions, purchases and transportation.

Treasury license transmission of funds for purchases to Lisbon and Tangier.

Refugee center staff retain present special passport status or equivalent with continuing access to privileges now or subsequently available to American and British government employees here.

Priority be obtained for shipment and procurement.
from United States of necessary items unobtainable from Army. Transportation be foreseen for eventual further refugee groups from whatever assembly points to North Africa. Mentioned in your second paragraph that continuing supply arrangements reckon with possible early further sharp reduction in army installations here. Because ship is unavailable, refugee arrival is again delayed for your information. I hope that ship will proceed about May 17 to Spain. Meanwhile at Spanish insistence, I expect the arrival of about fifty refugees next week who will travel with current French refugee transport. Concerning the need for UNRRA assistance to Tunisian war victims, I was approached informally by French official. As time permits, I intend inspecting this situation and transmitting findings without commitment unless you object.

CHAPIN

JM
My dear Mr. Ambassador:

In accordance with our conversation of Saturday last I am herewith writing you, informally, regarding the Refugee Center which is to be established at Camp Marshal Lytton near Fedala in Morocco. The basis for the establishment of this Center is set forth in notes exchanged by yourself as Commissioner for Foreign Affairs of the French Committee of National Liberation and Mr. Robert Murphy, formerly the Personal Representative of the President of the United States of America. (Reference is made to your letters of 2 October, 1943, 8188/A.E. and 9 November, 1943, 10832/A.E./24 and to Mr. Murphy's letters of 10 August 1943 No. 45, 16 October 1943 No. 36 and 3 December 1943, No. 11, as well as to notes of similar content from the British Representative with the French Committee of National Liberation.)

As representative in North Africa of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA) I have been advised by the office of the Director-General of the UNRRA in Washington that the British and American governments, which, under the exchange of notes above referred to, are responsible for the maintenance and operation of the refugee center in question (North African Refugee Center - NARG), have agreed in principle to transfer that responsibility to the UNRRA. It is my understanding that the intent and effect of such transfer would be to convert the NARG from an activity of the three governmental authorities now concerned (French, British and American) to an international activity of all the United Nations acting through the UNRRA and its executive, the office of the Director-General.

It is my further understanding that the Agreement for United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration signed at Washington on 9 November 1943 (the French representative being M. Monnet) provides that "the form of activities of the Administration (UNRRA) within the territory of a member government wherein that government exercises administrative authority, and the responsibility to be assumed by the member government..."
for carrying out measures planned by the Administration (UNRRA) therein shall be determined after consultation with and with the consent of the member government. 6. 7. (P. 8, lines 9-12) 8. First Session of the Council of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, U.S. Government Printing Office, 1944.) In accordance with this provision I should like to present to you for informal discussion preliminary to official consideration by the French Committee of National Liberation and, if the latter is indicated, the appropriate authorities of the French Protectorate of Morocco, the following bases for the transfer of the NARG from its present status to that of an activity conducted by the UNRRA on the territory of French Morocco:

1. Responsibility for the transportation of the refugees group already approved for admission from Spain remains as at present with the British and American Governments; transportation to North Africa of later refugee groups up to the maximum permissible figure of two thousand refugees in the NARG at any one time will be arranged by the UNRRA in consultation with the British and American or other interested authorities;

2. Transportation of the refugees from the port of arrival in North Africa to the NARG and their care and maintenance therein are the responsibility of the UNRRA, with the cooperation of the appropriate French authorities;

3. Responsibility for the ultimate removal of these refugees to countries where their residence may be more prolonged remains, as at present, with the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees; the UNRRA is, however, prepared to assist in the repatriation of such persons as can and are willing to return to their countries of origin or of former residence, and the administration of the NARG will, further, cooperate closely with the local representatives of the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees in facilitating the earliest possible emigration from North Africa of as many refugees as practicable;

4. The status of the refugees, once they have arrived at the NARG, is to be that indicated in the exchange of notes above referred to, together with the following provisions which have been developed since that exchange in accordance with the experience of the administration of the NARG and the various authorities concerned:

a) approval of refugee groups for admission to the NARG shall be preceded by a security screening in which the French.
British, and American military services will participate;

b) immediately following the arrival at the NARO of those refugees now in Spain whose applications have already been approved, there shall be a security investigation in which the British, British and American military services will participate during this period an exterior guard will be maintained over the NARO;

5. The relationship between the NARO and the French Committee of National Liberation and the French authorities of Morocco, and the responsibilities assumed by each will be those indicated in the exchange of notes above referred to; a French representative acceptable to the French authorities and to the administration of NARO will serve as a member of the Administration of the NARO;

6. The normal currency, customs, health, travel, residence, employment and other relevant regulations of the French Protectorate of Morocco shall apply to the refugees upon their admission to the NARO and during their stay in North Africa;

7. The transfer of the NARO from the supervision of the French, American and British authorities to the UNRRA shall take place after the appropriation to the UNRRA of funds by the Congress of the United States (presumably during June, 1944) at a date to be agreed upon; in the meantime the arrangements for the reception and installation of the refugee group already approved for admission to the NARO are to go forward on their present basis.

The above proposals seem to me to provide a basis for effecting the transfer of the NARO to the UNRRA as simply as possible and without in any way upsetting the existing arrangements or impeding their progress. Their intent is to accomplish a simple transfer of jurisdiction of the NARO from the three governmental authorities to the UNRRA on exactly the same terms and conditions as those now prevailing. I am most grateful for the interest you have indicated to me in this question and shall greatly appreciate your advice and assistance both with respect to the content of these proposals and to the procedure to be followed in presenting them officially. I am particularly interested to have them cleared with the appropriate authorities of the French Protectorate of Morocco since the latter will be closely related to the actual administration of the NARO.
I may have to go back to Fadala in a few days but I shall be glad to have your comments on this letter or to return to Algiers if you will let me know, at the above address, when you believe that a further discussion will be useful.

Respectfully yours,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

His Excellency, Rene Massigli,
Commissioner for Foreign Affairs,
French Committee of National Liberation,
Lycee Fromentin, Algiers.
DATE: May 1, 6 pm, 1944
No. 86
Charged to: FEA

FROM BECKELMAN - No. 3

Reference your No. 223, April 29, proposal to include Fedhala refugees in next French convoy approved. Pending arrival of main refugee group, it is suggested that so far as possible group should include mechanics, carpenters and cooks to help make camp more comfortable. Inability to obtain ship reason for delay in movement of main group, but it is believed ship will leave approximately May 17th for Spain. Exact date will be confirmed. According to Blickenstaff lists, please cable departure date and list of persons coming by numbers.

CHAPIN
In accordance with our conversation of Saturday morning, I shall be sending you later today an informal memorandum with respect to the transfer of the North African refugee center (near Medenine) to the jurisdiction of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA). I find, however, that one of the questions which we discussed during my visit has become the subject of an inquiry from the UNRRA Board in Washington and I therefore take the liberty of writing you about it separately.

You will recall that in our conversation I touched upon the possibility of admitting to the North African refugee center additional refugee groups beyond the approximately 1,000 persons currently scheduled to arrive there as soon as transportation can be arranged. I greatly appreciated your assurance that the original understanding of the French, British, and American governments that up to 3,000 refugees might be admitted to the North African refugee center at any one time was still in effect and that we might consequently expect to organize further transports of refugees up to that figure.

I am informed that the North African representative of the U.S. War Refugee Board has received a cable from his Washington headquarters inquiring about the possibility of admitting further groups of Sephardic Jewish refugees to the North African refugee center. In order that an appropriate reply may be sent to this cable, I should appreciate word from you that my understanding is correct as mentioned above. I take the liberty of asking for your reply as quickly as possible since it appears that the success of further transports may be held up pending clarification of the misunderstanding which appears to have arisen in the mind of the authorities in Spain. The earliest possible removal of this difficulty will facilitate the rescue of further refugees from the imminent danger that threatens them under German control, a purpose with which all of us are concerned.
May I once more express my appreciation for the interview you accorded me this morning and for the friendly interest you expressed in the North African Refugee Center. I shall take the liberty of calling your office for a further appointment after I have submitted the memorandum you have requested. In the meantime I shall hope to hear from you with respect to the question I have raised in this letter.

Respectfully yours,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission.

His Excellency, Hone Massigli,
Commissioner for Foreign Affairs,
French Committee of National Liberation,
Lycee Premontre, Algiers.
Cher Monsieur,

Je vous remercie de votre memorandum du 22 avril.

Je vais m'occuper très activement des questions qui y sont traitées, comme je l'ai fait jusqu'ici. Je serais content de pouvoir vous dire bientôt - comme je le crois - que certaines de vos inquiétudes ne sont pas justifiées.

En attendant le plaisir de vous voir, je vous prie de croire, cher Monsieur, à l'expression de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Leonard E. ACKERMANN
Special Representative Mediterranean Area, War Refugees Board.

Ambassade des ETATS-UNIS
Civil Affairs
5 rue du Professeur Curtillet
ALGER
Dear John:

I am enclosing herewith another batch of material on the dissemination of the President's message. With the exception of the first two items, they all come from Italy and include an excerpt from a leaflet thrown over the German troops by air, information and excerpts from Naples and Vare, broadcasts, news bulletins distributed by the BBC in English and Italian, and newspaper clippings.

The latest development on Fedhala is the trouble in connection with securing a ship for the transport of the refugees. After one ship had been promised, it was found to be unavailable and we were therefore given a French ship. This ship, however, is now being repaired and, according to present estimates, will not be finished for another three to four weeks. Upon inquiry I learned that the long delay in repair is due to the shortage of manpower and that I intend to go to Spain as soon as I receive travel orders to discuss with the United States Naval authorities the possibility of hastening the repair. If no extra help is secured, the ship should sail from Spain in the latter part of May. If I am successful in securing the Navy's cooperation, the sailing date may be advanced by several weeks.

A few minutes ago I received a call from a Colonel connected with the OSS. I will see him tomorrow and discuss with him the possibility of securing OSS assistance in France and in Spain. As you are no doubt aware, we are already receiving cooperation from the Italian and Yugoslav representatives of this organization.

M. Mendozas-France called me the other day and told me that he had received a message from Monnet regarding difficulties in connection with the Fedhala refugee center. I called upon him and explained that some of our earlier problems had been solved, but that I anticipated more trouble in connection with the admission of further Sephardic Jewish groups and that I feared the camp might turn out to be a concentration camp. He was quite sympathetic and asked...
me to prepare a memorandum which I have done. He stated that he would take the matter up with Massigli and Prexay in an effort to clear up these problems.

Sincerely,

Leonard B. Ackerman
Special Representative
Mediterranean Area
War Refugee Board

Mr. John W. Pohle
Acting Director
War Refugee Board
2381 Main Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.
MEMORANDUM FOR M. MASDEU-MINIER:

This will briefly summarize the statements which I made to you informally yesterday in connection with the refugee center which is shortly to be opened near Fedhala, Morocco. As I then told you, the fears that I have in connection with this matter may be groundless and I may be anticipating events which may never happen. However, since there appears to be some basis for my apprehensions, and since I believe it best to arrange matters in advance, I appreciate your having asked me to call upon you and having given me the opportunity to explain some of the problems that may arise.

The possible problems fall into two categories. The first is the restrictions which may be placed upon the refugees once they arrive at the center. In the note of M. Massigli to Mr. Murphy of 9 November, 1943, it was stated that the Comité desired to furnish, subject to necessary precautions, an asylum as generous as possible; that persons would be allowed to work if in so doing they did not inconvenience the economy of the Protectorate; and that those persons who did not work and remained at the center would be given permission from time to time to absent themselves therefrom temporarily.

On 25 March, 1944, Mr. Beckelman and other persons representing the administration of the center met with certain French representatives at Rabat to discuss the operations of the center. While the representatives of the Residency did not deny that certain persons might be granted work permits, the general impression appeared to be that such permits or permission for residents to leave the center would be granted reluctantly and only in exceptional cases. It also appeared that the center would continue to be guarded even after all security screening had been completed.

As I told you yesterday, I realize that at the outset it is absolutely necessary that all precautions be taken in order to assure the utmost security. However, a continuation of rigid guarding and a strict attitude with respect
to the granting of permits after the refugees have been thoroughly examined and screened will make the center into something resembling a concentration camp. I am sure that this was not the intention of all parties concerned at the time when plans for the center were originally agreed upon.

The second question which I discussed with you relates to the admission of further persons to the center once the present group of approximately 800 has arrived. This present group includes about 350 Sephardic Jews. Many of these Sephardic Jews have Spanish papers although they had never been in Spain prior to February, 1944. Most of them were born near Salonika and until after the last war were considered as Spanish proteges but not as Spanish citizens. Because of population exchanges and other political events which took place at that time, some of these people were finally given a type of Spanish passport. More recently these persons were placed into a concentration camp in Germany and they were finally released to Spain in the early part of this year. They, however, have not been treated by the Spanish as Spanish citizens and, I am informed, the admission into Spain from Germany of similar groups may depend upon the removal from Spain of such groups as arrived earlier.

At the Rabat meeting of 21 March, above referred to, it was stated that no further Sephardic Jews with Spanish papers would be admitted without a further agreement. While this is not a pressing problem at the moment because all such persons now in Spain are being admitted to the refugee center, it may handicap the rescue of refugees at an early date in the future. If a second group arrives in Spain and we are unable to remove them, it may prevent the admission into Spain of a third group; or, if the Spanish authorities should learn of this decision, they may prevent the admission into Spain of even a second group. Since, as you know, the rescue of refugees from occupied territory is an extremely difficult problem, you can realize my fears when any matter is raised which might impede a rescue movement which appears to have some chance of success.

Leonard E. Auerbach
Special Representative Mediterranean Area, War Refugee Board.
REPORT ON NORTH AFRICAN REFUGEE CENTER AT FESHLA

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 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 Lyautay is located near Fezhhala, 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 500 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 20th 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 Beekslamn, the camp director, was at Rabat the other day, the Moroccan Residency authorities stated that the present group would be the maximum. Beekslamn, 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
pasaporta, 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 decision expressed by the Moroccan authorities is apparently contrary to the Algiers authorities. When I had a discussion with Malamado, President's assistant, Malamado stated that I should not press the question of the pre-1931 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 Malamado, 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 press further with this question.

Pre-1931 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 not old that a move of this sort might endanger their lives. I discussed the cases with Bechelman 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 those 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 Hickenstaff 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 Pedhola. We intend to press on those cases only.
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
The following is a list of supplies which we were unable to obtain from United States Army sources with an explanation if one were given.

**ENGINEER CORPS**

It was reported that the following supplies were not available in the Casablanca area:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Torch, blow</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iron, soldering</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solder</td>
<td>lbs.</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Braces</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nails, 10 penny</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bars, pinch</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ORDNANCE CORPS**

It was reported that the following supplies were not available in the Casablanca area:

Tool set, c/w tools, unit equipment 2d echelon set #1 (hand tools) each 1

**QUARTERMASTER CORPS**

The following supplies were said not to be available in the Casablanca area:

Machine, mimeograph, complete, hand-operated each 1

Shakers, salt (table use) each 100

There is reported to be a short supply of the following which can therefore not be made available to us:

**QUARTERMASTER CORPS**

Range, field M/97 Pack "A" complete (Three of these ranges have been approved; however five are needed in order to supply each kitchen with one - a unit) each 5

Ink, mimeograph machine can 6

Paper, mimeograph 8 x 10½ ream 150

Paper, mimeograph 8 x 13 ream 100

Paper, mimeograph stencil waxless dry ream 1

Thread, cone, white, size 50 each 20
It was reported that issue of the following supplies was refused by MATOU:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Soccer Balls</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volley Balls</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volley Ball nets</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checker Board w/checkers</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Checkers w/checkers</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominoes</td>
<td>set</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caros, standard playing</td>
<td>decks</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringo games, complete</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dart board w/dart</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxing gloves</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft balls</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soft ball bats, ass't</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cribbage board, complete</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Punching bag</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phonograph, portable</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio, portable</td>
<td>each</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Use of electric lights in tents was also refused by Chief of Staff ABS on the basis that no equipment was available and that electric lights in tents were not approved for this theatre. The use of lights would necessitate wire, switches, insulators, sockets, globes, etc., and one generator 5 KVA minimum capacity.

Campbell/wt
Dear John:

I am enclosing herewith an additional batch of material on the dissemination of the President's message on refugees collected since I last wrote you on April 6th. As I have already cabled you, there has been only a small amount of publicity on this statement since April 1st. The local OWI representatives have used it twice in radio broadcasts. Except for special features which are usually broadcasts by local foreign persons to their homelands, the OWI principally broadcasts news. As you will note from the enclosed directive for the week beginning April 10th, item 4 calls for a repetition of the President's statement in connection with other news items. I believe that it is questionable whether this will result in any great use of the statement. I therefore suggested in my cable that you approach the OWI in an effort either to get them to use the statement in broadcasts which are relayed by the Algiers radio, or to have them cable their local representatives as to the importance of continuing to keep the message alive.

Everything on Fedhala appears to be moving according to schedule. All of the preliminary screening of refugees has been completed. Bokelman and his staff at Casablanca are getting the camp into shape for the reception of refugees and the only remaining problem is the question of transportation. It was originally planned to send a British ship to Cadiz, but due to shortage of both British and American ships the present plan is to use a French ship. This may raise certain difficulties since no French ships have put in at a Spanish port since the landing of the Allies in North Africa. The British Ministry, which is handling the question of shipping, is cabling its Madrid office today to ascertain whether or not this will cause any difficulties. I am advised that no problem is anticipated.

Your cable No. 4 of April 13th just arrived. I will examine the lists of excluded pre-1933 refugees with Bokelman and then decide whether or not to press the question further.
Your cable No. 3 of April 12th, extending my jurisdiction and designating Jim to work with me, was received today. Jim and I are discussing the matter in an effort to plan for the future. We are also awaiting your reaction to the report given orally to Mr. Hirschmann.

In the meanwhile I have been continuing to discuss various minor problems with local Army people here. I have received several reports that G-2 was discouraging the entrance of refugees into Italy, both those coming from Yugoslavia and those through the enemy lines, because of the difficulties of security screening. It appears that the Germans have been forcing refugees through the lines as a cover for their own agents. The G-2 authorities, with whom I am now fairly well acquainted, advised me that the necessary arrangements for screening all refugees have now been completed and that while they will not publicly encourage the admission of refugees, they will neither discourage their entrance nor send them back.

Discussions have also been held with a number of French officials, particularly that branch of the Secret Service which is in contact with the underground movement in France and assists in the evacuation of persons from France. While they expressed their sympathy with the idea of removing as many refugees from France as possible, they stated that their facilities were now overtaxed. They assist not only in bringing out Frenchmen, but also Americans and British and they state that they have a priority list which precludes them from assisting in the escape of any but the most important people. I discussed their statements with our G-2 officials and received confirmation thereof. This same statement also follows in the case of evacuations by boat from the mainland to Corsica. This movement has been very slow because the coast of Southern France is extremely well guarded. I doubt whether we will be able to affect any movement at all through this route as long as present conditions continue.

As soon as I have definite word on the date for the number of refugees to Fedala, I will advise you by cable.

Sincerely,

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

I have just received a third batch of applications from Madrid, numbered 960 to 1005 inclusive, and covering 49 persons, inasmuch as #995 of these applications specifies four people.

The covering letter which I have received says that a copy of the list, but not the applications themselves, has been sent to me in Algiers.

I hesitate to impose upon you but I feel sure that I shall get quickest action by sending this package to you. I therefore take the liberty of sending the six copies of these applications to you with the request that you be good enough to turn them over to the appropriate authorities, presumably through Col. Crean. Were there any prospect of my coming up to Algiers I would take these along myself, but as I explained over the phone the other day, I don't want to come up until the various negotiations now pending have ripened sufficiently to make my presence really useful.

M. Bayonne left for Madrid via Tangier on Tuesday evening and should, according to schedule, be arriving there tomorrow. I assume that he will be there until the convoy sails and that Mr. Blickenstaff will show him a copy of this third list upon his arrival. I would therefore suggest that as soon as the security authorities have checked this latest batch, we prepare a cable to go to Madrid indicating which numbers, if any, are to be rejected.

Your "Turkish" colleague, Ira Hirschman, passed through here today and we took the opportunity to show him the camp and exchange notes on refugee problems.

With many thanks for all your cooperation, and looking forward to seeing you soon, I am

Sincerely yours,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Mr. Leonard Ackermann
War Refugee Board
Civil Affairs
APO 534

B/krcq
Dear Leonard,

Following up my letter of 30 March 1944, with which I transmitted to you the memorandum which I had dictated following a meeting in Rabat, on 25 March 1944, to discuss the preliminary preparations for the NARC, I send you herewith a copy of the official minutes of this meeting as transmitted to me by M. Levasseur of the Cabinet Civil, Rabat. I also enclose a copy of a letter which I have sent to M. Levasseur, acknowledging receipt of these minutes and commenting upon them.

Sincerely,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Mr. Leonard Ackermann
War Refugee Board
Civil Affairs
APO 534

Enclosures, as stated

MWB/krcg
Dear M. Levasseur,

I herewith return one copy of the minutes which you were good enough to give me during my visit to Rabat last Friday. I have gone over them carefully and it is my impression that they accurately reflect the gist of the March 25th meeting. I have, however, one suggestion to make which I trust you will find satisfactory. These minutes are obviously not a complete verbatim transcript of everything that was said at the March 25th meeting. Nevertheless the form in which they are prepared might suggest to an outsider who was not present at the meeting that they purport to be a complete stenographic report of everything that was said by all those present at the meeting. I would propose, therefore, that a sentence be added either at the beginning of the first page or at the end of the last, stating that these minutes are a summary of the statements made, the discussion which went on and the agreements reached at the March 25th meeting.

So far as the text itself is concerned I have only two minor suggestions. In the list of persons present given on page 1, I think it would be more accurate if Mr. Cope and I were referred to as representatives of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration. On page 7, toward the bottom of the page, I am quoted as having said: "On ne peut pas les considérer comme refugies." I think my intention would be more accurately reflected by the statement: "On peut ne pas les considérer comme refugies."

I am also a little puzzled as to the basis on which certain sentences and statements throughout the minutes were selected for underlining.

If some such sentence as I have suggested were to be added to the enclosed minutes to indicate that they are not a verbatim transcript, I should be very glad to sign a copy for you.

I was very glad to have the opportunity of meeting M. Simoni, whom you introduced to me last Friday. The brief contact we had was of course insufficient to determine his suitability for the post which you are proposing. However, I assume that before camp opens we shall have an opportunity to discuss this matter at greater length and that when M. Simoni comes to town it will be possible for me to spend some time with him and to obtain a better idea of his utility for our coming undertaking.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

Monsieur Levasseur
Cabinet Civil
The Residence
RABAT

M. W. Beekelman
Assistant Chief of Mission
NOTE

Une réunion a été tenue à la résidence générale le 25 mars 1944, pour mettre au point diverses questions concernant l'hébergement provisoire au Maroc de réfugiés apatrides actuellement en Espagne.

M. MACHAT, Ministre Plénipotentiaire, Conseiller Diplomatique du Protectorat, a présidé cette réunion à laquelle assistaient:

a)- du côté américain:
   M. COLE, Consul des États-Unis à Valence
   M. BECKELMAN, Délegue du gouvernement américain
   Lieutenant HOOKER
   M. COPE, Délegue des organisations de secours américaines

b)- du côté britannique:
   Colonel GREN

b)- côté français:
   Capitaines CHEVALIER
   Capitaines BLONDERT
   M. GABRIEL, de la Direction des Affaires Politiques
   M. LAUJAC, des Services de la Sécurité
   M. BAYONNE
   M. LEVASSEUR, du cabinet du Président Général.

COMPTE-RENDU DE SÉANCE

M. MACHAT ouvre la séance et donne la parole à M. BECKELMAN.

A- M. BECKELMAN - Nous sommes réunis pour fixer les détails de l'arrivée et de l'installation au camp de Fedala d'apatrides qui sont actuellement en Espagne. Sous quelle forme on doit présenter la question? Je l'ignore. Il faut tout d'abord s'occuper du transport; un départ serait prévu probablement vers le 10 ou le 15 avril.

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

M. MACHAT - Le génère de cette affaire?

M. LEVASSEUR - Il s'agit de réfugiés apatrides qui se trouvent en Espagne. Les Gouvernements américain et anglais ont manifesté le désir que certaines personnes soient hébergées provisoirement au Maroc en attendant de
rejoindre leur pays d'origine ou un pays de leur choix. Le 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. ANGAT - Comment ça va-t-il de réfugiés?

M. IRCAIAN - Si un départ s'effectue vers le 10 avril, il faut compter sur 400 personnes environ. Un autre coulent d'une importance suivie plus tard.

M. ANGAT - Donc il faut compter 600 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 Fédala. Dans quelles conditions?

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

M. MACHER - Il y a une première tranche de 454 candidats. Sur ces 454, 447 ont été citoyens pour des raisons de sécurité militaire.

Une question très importante est celle de savoir si nous pouvons considérer ces réfugiés des personnes qui se trouvent en Espagne depuis 1910, par exemple.

M. ANGAT - Je ne crois pas.

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

M. MACHER - D'autre part, il y a tout de même 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'Allemagne et la Sécurité militaire aura d'importantes difficultés pour exercer un contrôle ; des agents ennemis se glisseront parmi les réfugiés. C'est un procédé et les autorités espagnoles ne manqueront pas de l'invoquer par la suite pour nous envoyer les personnes qu'elles considèrent comme indésirables ; nous ne pouvons accepter sans prendre toutes les précautions nécessaires.

M. ANGAT (s'adressant à M. LAVASSON) - Nous avons comme point de départ l'accord que vous avez négocié à Madrid.

M. LAVASSON - Oui, il a porté, en particulier, sur les conditions dans lesquelles les réfugiés, volontaires pour venir au camp de Fédala, y seront admis.

M. ANGAT - Nous sommes évidemment obligés de recevoir ces gens sous certaines conditions. C'est une question de sécurité. Je me retiens pour les autorités militaires françaises et alliées. Je considère qu'un certain nombre de réfugiés peuvent être, à priori, considérés comme suspects ; nous sommes donc obligés de les garder dans le camp de Fédala en attendant leur recasement dans un camp indéterminé. Il faut donc d'une part 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 choses de chapeau à étudier.
Il n'est pas question pour ces personnes de rester au Kasa; ces gens sont en train de travailler 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.

II. LEVASSEUR (après avoir lu un bref concernant le recasement eventual des réfugiés). Il s'agit des possibilités de travail qui pourraient être accordées à certaines personnes.

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

II. LEVASSEUR — Il y a d'autres considérations dont il faudrait tenir compte et ce qui s'est convenu à ce qui avait été entendu avec BROCKMAN à Madrid: compatibilité avec l'économie du protectorat, conditions de transport et de logement.

II. MARCHAT — Le recasement et la sortie d'un individu du camp de Hadala seront soumis à certaines restrictions. Qui sera les enquêtes nécessaires?

II. LEVASSEUR — X. BROCKMAN, qui sera directeur du camp, est d'accord pour avoir auprès de lui un adjoint français.

II. MARCHAT — Vous avez toutes garanties de sécurité; on ne laissera pas sortir du camp les suspects et seuls seront autorisés à travailler ceux dont la profession sera profitable à l'économie du protectorat.

II. BROCKMAN — Je ne permets de vous rappeler l'échange de notes entre les représentants britanniques et américains à Alger et le Comité Français de la Libération Nationale dans lesquelles les trois parties soulignaient qu'il ne pouvait s'agir de mettre les réfugiés dans un camp de concentration.

II. MARCHAT — Il n'est pas question d'un camp de concentration; mais nous avons tout de même un certain nombre de précautions à prendre, et ce ci dans l'intérêt commun.

Colonel CHÉNIAU — Le camp devra rester consigné pendant trois semaines au moins afin qu'on puisse établir l'identité aussi exacte que possible des réfugiés. Il vaut mieux être en mesure de déplorer les suspects et de les séparer des autres auquel plus de liberté pourra ainsi être laissée par la suite.

Capitaine BLONDELT — Il y a donc trois catégories de gens: les suspects, les inoffensifs et ceux qui sont parfaitement inconnus. Si on les laisse sortir dès le début il sera impossible de faire le tri.

B- II. MARCHAT — Prenons le problème de la date à partir de laquelle les apatrides installés en Espagne pourront être considérés comme réfugiés.

II. RAYONNE — Que décidez-vous en ce qui concerne les 116 apatrides qui ont arrivées en Espagne avant 1933. Pourrions-nous les accepter?
M. CARJOL - Ce ne sont pas des réfugiés.

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

M. BACHELET - Non.

M. BALEY - Je pense de ce principe que nous pouvons avoir un bénéfice même s'il n'est pas favorable dans l'année actuelle. Si c'est un autre pays d'un transit et nous devrions prendre en considération que les candidatures ces réfugiés ayant des chances d'obtenir alors répandent les visas nécessaires. Combien de temps faudra-t-il pour cela?

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

M. BALEY - La personne qui vit à Madrid ou à Barcelone sera au camp de Pedral dans des conditions moins confortables. Je ne sais pas si elle sera dispensée de partir et si elle ne préférera pas rester en Espagne.

M. BACHELET - Ces gens-là ont fait leur demande pour être reçus ici tout à fait volontairement.

M. CARRÉ - Volontairement, mais sans avoir les conditions.

M. BACHELET - Ils ont tous la circulaire relâchée à Madrid par M. RICHEL-MAYE, en 1938-39 et moi, qui leur indiquent les conditions dans lesquelles ils seront amenés à résider en Maroc.

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

M. BACHELET (lecture de l'engagement) que doivent signer les réfugiés désireux de venir au camp de Pedral et par lequel ils s'engagent à se soumettre aux conditions indiquées dans la circulaire.

Je crois que ces gens n'imaginent qu'ils pourront partir tristement et c'est surtout pour cela qu'ils viennent.

M. BACHELET - Je voudrais signaler que parmi les gens qui sont arrivés en Espagne avant 1939 et qui ont fait des demandes pour être reçus 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 quitté ce pays après un ordre d'expulsion. Ce sont des étrangers du point de vue du gouvernement espagnol qui est actuellement au pouvoir. Il s'agit de ceux qui ont reçu des ordres d'expulsion en 1938-39-40 et qui n'ayant eu aucune possibilité de partir d'Espagne ont été mis en prison. Ils peuvent maintenant sortir de prison ou au camp de concentration à la seule condition de quitter l'Espagne. Il ne semble pas que ce soit pour eux que les trois gouvernements français, américain et britannique ont eu le désir de faire quelque chose; on peut regarder comme des réfugiés ces gens-là pour qui nous manque le confort à Pedral ou quelque chose de mieux que leur situation actuelle en Espagne.

M. BALEY - Je fais une différence entre les deux cas: le prisonnier et celui qui vit dans un hôtel. Je seraï plutôt disposé à accueillir le premier que plutôt le second.
- 5 -

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

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

M. BICHARRI - S'il s'agit de prisonniers politiques, l'Espagne les regarde comme intolérables et si la sécurité n'a pas d'objection, je propose qu'on considère aussi les officiers des armées qui sont arrivés en Espagne avant 1933 et qui se trouvent actuellement en prison.

Colonel CARA - L'ambassade britannique n'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. HAYTON - L'accord, sous réserve de l'assurer des cas particuliers.

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

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

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

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

M. LECHAT - Ceil est votre avis pour ceux qui étaient en Espagne avant 1933 et qui y vivaient librement.

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

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

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

M. HAYTON - 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 Pedela.

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

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

M. BICHARRI - On les a recus à Port-Bou 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 de leurs gouvernements étaient disposés à comprendre ces gens, parmi ceux qui pourraient être hébergés au camp de Pedela. L'ambassadeur américain à Madrid a répondu oui à cette question et nous avons discuté l'autre jour avec M. Quirrain à Alger et nous étions tous d'accord pour comprendre ces gens parmi les réfugiés pouvant être admiss au Maroc.
M. LEVASSOR - Il s'agit de protèges espagnols.

(lecture d'un document)

M. LEVASSOR - Espagnols, mais à quel titre ?

M. LEVASSOR - C'est très vieux.

M. LEVASSOR - Ils sont ou bien nationaux espagnols ou bien ils ne le sont pas... de ne pas accepter le mot de protèges espagnol.

M. LEVASSOR - C'est une survivance qui date du lônes siècle.

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

M. BIAUD - Les capitulations ont été signées en Bulgarie il y a deux ans de temps, peut-être, en effet, une survivance. Il s'agissait d'une protection officielle, mais quelle est leur nationalité ?

M. BIAUD - De ne les admettre, les questions sont à Madrid, nous ne les avons pas reçus ici. L'organisation qui travaille la base a commencé à parler les questions. Si vous prenez la décision de les accepter ici, ces gens doivent faire l'objet d'une assemblée beaucoup plus approfondie que les autres.

M. BIAUD - Les deux ? À d'autres shapedites qui devraient arriver en Espagne.

M. BIAUD - Il est arrivé au fur et à mesure, que nous commençons l'Espagne.

M. BIAUD - Nous ferons alors la liste des départs et nous opposer au départ d'un second convoy. Nous acceptons ceux qui sont en Espagne actuellement et de nouvelles négociations seraient nécessaires entre les trois gouvernements pour l'admission d'autres réfugiés.

M. BIAUD - En Espagne nous avons toujours parlé d'un seul convoy.

M. BIAUD - Si ces gens-la viennent de Salonique, ce sont-ils ?

M. BIAUD - Dans les pays qui pourront bien les accepter.

M. BIAUD - Je propose d'accepter ce convoy de 360 Séphardites, de les faire examiner avec beaucoup plus de soin que les autres par une commission de breed extrêmement vives, l'obtention de ceux qui arriveront en Espagne, par la suite, sera l'objet d'une nouvelle étude. Je voudrais vous poser une question : supposons que ce triage ait révélé des gens que vous ne voudriez pas accepter, que interrogeriez-vous, qu'en feriez-vous ?

M. BIAUD - En ce qui concerne les 480 que nous avons examinés à Madrid, le tri est déjà presque fait. Pour les 360 Séphardites, d'après les instructions d'Alger, il faut que nous, Sécurité Militaire, nous examinions en commun avec les services alliés un examen préliminaire en Espagne, comme nous l'avons fait pour les autres.

M. BIAUD - Les gens déclarés suspects ne partiront pas ?

M. LAUSSAR - Est ce qui seront découverts ici ?
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 sein.

M. BAYONNE - Pour les gens installés au camp depuis 2 ou 3 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 devant pas derrière vos services.

M. BAYONNE - Pour en revenir aux 360 Sapeurs-Blancs, il est loin d'être admis, 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 - Je ne présente que la question de se préoccuper pas avec cette force. Les deux gouvernements ont signé un accord pour recevoir des réfugiés espagnols actuellement en Espagne. Il ne semble que la question ne se pose pas de prendre une décision pour l'avenir un nouvel accord entre les deux gouvernements sera nécessaire.

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

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

M. BECKELMAN - Nous pouvons fixer une date.

M. BAYONNE - Le dernier contrôle de Sapeurs-Blancs est de fin février.

M. BAYONNE - Nous déclarons que l'accord actuel verra d'être appliqué à la date de la dernière.

M. LEVASSOR - Reste à régler les détails.

M. BAYONNE - Ceux qui arrivent à Casablanca. Qu'en faisons-nous?

M. LEVASSOR - C'est la Sécurité Militaire qui s'en occupera.

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

M. BECKELMAN - à Fedala.

M. LEVASSOR - C'est assez loin de Fedala: c'est le camp Lyneley.

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.

M. BAYONNE - Il reste la question des cartes d'identité. Il va falloir
doter ces gens de cartes d'identité.

Capitaine LEWIS - On ferait comme pour les Français.

L. ISACK - Je demanderais ce que ce ne soit pas une carte d'identité puisqu'ils n'ont aucun poste établissant leur identité.

L. ISACK - Il faudrait une carte spéciale.

L. ISACK - Je prends le cas d'une personne qui part d'Espagne comme française, qui se cache complètement à l'arrivée. Il n'y a aucun moyen de la 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.

L. ISACK - On devrait maintenir une carte d'identification ceux qui seraient à l'intérieur du camp. À l'extérieur, on ne donnerait rien.

L. ISACK - Quels inconvenient voyez-vous si on donne une carte. On pourrait assister "se déclarer en tant que" qui permettrait à l'autorité en camp de l'identité, ce ne sera peut-être pour son voisin. Ce n'est qu'une suggestion.

L. ISACK - Ce sont les autorités américaines qui devraient donner ça.

L. ISACK - C'est à nous de donner ces cartes.

L. ISACK - La police en donne un document d'identification.

L. ISACK - C'est un peu étrange carte d'identification et non d'identité. Les renseignements portés sur cette carte n'ont aucune valeur juridique.

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

L. ISACK - Cette carte pourrait être ainsi rédigée : "Je veux déclarer que je n'ai pas le moyen de le prouver." C'est au consul de décision si on peut, sur la foi des déclarations faites, faire confiance au déclarant et lui accorder le visa qu'il sollicite.

A. UCH - Diplomate.

F. BAY cries - Le camp est-il prêt à recevoir les gens ?

F. BAY cries - Nous avons fait tout notre possible.

F. BAY cries - Voyez-vous un inconvenient à ce que quelqu'un des services français, soit civil, soit militaire, au poste 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 ?

F. BAY cries - Aucun.
8. NAVIN - Et le garde camp?

H. LEVASSOIR - Les autorités américaines ou françaises?

M. RICHARD - Le camp est la propriété de l'armée américaine. Il faut poser la question au gouvernement américain.

8. LEVASSOIR - Il y a des naufragés américains dans le camp, il y a des Italiens, etc. C'est une question de langue française ou de langue difficile.

Lieutenant Richard - Pour le moment nous avons des réfugiés de guerre italiens qui partagent un entrepot qui va se bocimer la semaine prochaine. Le camp sera vide. On va continuer à garder le centre pour le cas où il y aurait d'autres prétendants à y mettre, par conséquent, il y aura une garde de toutes façons.

M. RICHARD - À qui va incomber la responsabilité des réfugiés qui seront dans le centre? Direction civile du camp, direction militaire du camp? C'est la question que je pose.

8. LEVASSOIR - Le directeur du centre doit avoir la responsabilité de la discipline interne.

Capitaine Giraudel - C'est sous la responsabilité des autorités américaines, c'est prévu dans l'accord

H. LEVASSOIR - (Lecture concernant la responsabilité du directeur du camp).

M. RAYONNE - Il y a un point de vue militaire. Il y a une territorialité nous devons donc l'impossible d'allier chercher dans le centre un suspect.

M. RICHARD - Il y a un réfugié étranger au centre?

M. RICHARD - Je crois que vous avez demandé quelqu'un d'étranger du centre?

M. MACMILLAN - ...Alors la gendarmerie française intervient?

M. RICHARD - en somme du centre ils se mettent en dehors du règlement; ils ont violé les lois du territoire et il est aux autorités du territoire qui doivent s'en occuper.

M. MACMILLAN - En cas d'évasion donc vous prenez la gendarmerie.

Capitaine Giraudel - Il y a une question de personnellement les visites dans le camp. Ces questions doivent être réglées d'accord avec les autorités américaines.

M. RAYONNE - Et la correspondance?

M. RICHARD - Tout le monde peut entrer par la poste française et tous les courriers de la poste française seront appliqués aux lettres des gens du centre comme à tout le monde sur ce terrain.

M. LEVASSOIR - L'administration du centre ne pourrait pas obtenir un visa?
- 10 -

M. RÉGNIER - Si on en voit l'utilité, d'accord; si on considère qu'il s'agit de 50 personnes qui habitent par leurs propres moyens à l'hôtel, de l'autre côté, silence, un camp au lieu. Autrement, si on considère que les lettres de la poste française pourraient être reçues, la chose la plus simple serait de regarder ces lettres comme les lettres de n'importe quel genre.

Q. LAHOUT - Pour en revenir à la question des visites au camp, est-ce qu'il va y avoir un personnage quelconque de la sécurité militaire pour faire la liaison?

M. VASSAL - Exact, comme qu'il y aura quelqu'un de l'administration ou du Protocole auprès de moi.

Q. LAHOUT - De cette façon je pourrai faire la liaison.

M. VASSAL - Un personnage civil ou un retraité au contrôle civil?

Q. LAHOUT - Il y a aussi la question de l'hébergement des gens malades ou agés. Comment exactement vas-tu organiser, dans ces conditions anormales, que je suppose difficiles, aller voir les malades dans des baraques? Au bout de 7 jours ils pourront être qu'ils ne peuvent vivre dans le centre et demander à aller dans un hôpital ou à louer un appartement.

M. VASSAL - Le but que vous leur donneriez la possibilité d'aller dans un hôpital.

M. LEVASSIR - Il y a aussi des infirmes, des gens qui pourraient-ils vivre dans ce centre?

M. LEVASSIR - Ce ne sont pas, de ne pas répondre à cette question avant de les voir.

M. BARLOT - Avez-vous une infirmerie?

M. BOUIN - Oui.

M. LEVASSIR - Vous croyez que les conditions de vie dans ce centre seront possibles pour des personnes de santé délicate?

M. FAURNIER - Vous allez mettre des gens dans un camp avec un climat qui n'est pas trop bon. Je sais qu'il y a un vieillard, un épileptique, un tuberculeux; vous allez avoir des connus; le climat est dur.

M. LEVASSIR - Nous ne voulons pas qu'en bout d'un certain temps nous nous disions: Il faut absolument que ces gens sortent du camp.

M. RÉGNIER - 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. VAURY - Il ne faudrait pas qu'elles soient une charge pour le Protocole; s'ils vont à l'hôpital prendre un lit, ce sera un lit de moins pour l'hôpital.

M. LAVOUC - En effet, il n'y a pas de place; nous avons un sanatorium à Arou et il est complet. Il y a des Français qui attendent depuis plusieurs mois, sans compter les étrangers.
K. MAMMÉ - Il y a des familles complètes parmi ces réfugiés; il y a des
vieillards, des enfants.

M. LÉVASSOR - Ce problème est assez grave.

K. MAMMÉ - Nous avons posé le principe d'une visite médicale avant le
départ d'Espagne; puis ce principe a été abandonné parce qu'il compliquerait
les opérations. On ne l'exigerait que si les pays où ils veulent aller le
demandent.

M. LÉVASSOR - Il y a un doute sur l'immigration. Pourquoi pour ces cas connus
ne faudrait-on pas passer une visite préalable. Je crois que nous n'avons pas
intérêt, aussi bien nous que les autorités américaines, à faire venir les
vieillards et les infirmes, qui sont, actuellement, convenablement installés
en Espagne.

M. MAMMÉ - Y a-t-il un doute quant à l'entrée en Protectorat d'un infirmier?

M. LÉVASSOR - Non.

M. MAMMÉ - Avec le pouvoir discrétionnaire dont nous pouvons user nous
pouvons décider qu'en temps de guerre, l'entrée d'un tuberculeux est contraire
effort de guerre.

M. LÉVASSOR - Le régime des visas permet de refuser l'entrée, mais cela ne
peut pas intervenir puisque les visas sont délivrés globalement; il n'y a
qu'un doute sur l'immigration.

M. MAMMÉ - Il faudrait décider que les conditions matérielles de vie à
Pedana excluent une certaine catégorie d'individus: malades, infirmes, etc.

M. LÉVASSOR - C'est un peu difficile. On va toucher beaucoup de ces
particuliers: une famille entière comprend le grand-père, très âgé,
infirme; les autres ne veulent pas partir sans elle.

M. LÉVASSOR - Mais s'il n'y a que deux ou trois cas, ils doivent être connus.

M. MAMMÉ - J'ai vu un infirmier, un tuberculeux; cela peut se reporter à 4 ou
5 personnes; mais cela peut présenter des difficultés pour le convoy, à
cause de la pression.

M. LÉVASSOR - Il y a un contrôle au départ.

M. MAMMÉ - Il y a la grande loi de police sanitaire à bord et à l'entrée
d'un pays déterminé; il y a des règles générales qu'on peut appliquer;
notre avons une base juridique très sérieuse et d'ordre international pour
eliminer les gens...

M. BRUNOIN - Voulons-nous que nous laissions ce soin à M. BLOCHMANN à
Madrid? Il a le personnel médical nécessaire. Nous n'avons pas règle les
visites au camp pour les gens qui viennent de l'extérieur.

M. MAMMÉ - Ces gens ne connaissent peut-être personne au Maroc.

M. LÉVASSOR - Ils ont beaucoup de références, ils ont de la famille et ils
connaissent des gens qui sont passés par l'Espagne.
... En outre, il faut s'assurer sur ces principes: nous avons déjà eu des incidents de relégations, des camps de réfugiés, un certain nombre de camps ou il y a eu régulièrement des débats intérieurs. Rester à savoir dans quelle mesure nous avons eu dans le camp tout à fait particulier et spécial. Par exemple, il y a une commission à prendre: il ne peut pas exister le droit de visite, mais faire une réglementation spéciale entre l'autorité du camp et les autorités militaires et civiles françaises.

1. RELATION - Il y a l'interrogatoire fait par le secrétariat militaire; ce sont ces services qui ont qualifié pour lire si ou non celle ou celle personne qui a avec ces contacts avec des personnes de l'extérieur. Les détails de visite dans le camp devront être transmis par voie à la société militaire.

2. RELATION - Une fois terminé l'interrogatoire et le triage du camp, est-ce une situation de ce genre que sont les motifs pour limiter leurs contacts avec le monde extérieur, étant donné que tous les gens qui vivent ailleurs sont des gens qui sont en dehors?

3. RELATION - Que ce soit vrai.

4. RELATION - Les mesures ont été prises, en vertu d'une convention de sécurité, des mesures pour limiter leurs contacts avec le monde extérieur, étant donné que tous les gens qui vivent ailleurs sont des gens qui sont en dehors?

5. RELATION - Que ce soit vrai.

6. RELATION - Certainement qu'il en soit ainsi; une loi qui l'interrogatoire ont fait il y a alors les suspects ou ceuils qui ne le sont pas. Nous pouvons sortir la question comme ci: que faire des suspects et ce qui ne le sont pas?

7. RELATION - Toutes ces questions ont été discutées à l'ordre. Leur règlement ces questions dans la note-circulaire arrêtées aux réfugiés.

8. RELATION - C'est-à-dire par une possibilité de renseignement. Tant qu'ils sont en camp intéressant le camp.

9. RELATION - Lecture de la note.

10. RELATION - Vous avez un grand interêt il y a alors les suspects ou ceux qui ne le sont pas. Nous pouvons sortir la question comme ci: que faire des suspects et ce qui ne le sont pas?

11. RELATION - Nous avons un grand interêt il y a alors les suspects ou ceux qui ne le sont pas. Nous pouvons sortir la question comme ci: que faire des suspects et ce qui ne le sont pas?

12. RELATION - Il est en même qu'une fois terminé le triage nous nous trouverons dans une autre situation.
13

M. MAZEN - Il n'y a aucune garantie. Sur quoi baser les interrogatoires? Sans une indication, c'est-à-dire de nos sources, des mesures sont à prendre. Il faut se rendre compte de la situation de guerre du territoire dans lequel on va les chercher. 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. LEVASSERRE - Je suis venu vous dire que l'ai suivant dit à Madrid.

M. LEVASSERRE - Le dossier est sous le régime de l'état de siège.

M. MAZEN - Jusqu'à 19, il n'y a pas de notoriété. Il faut être très sûr au début qu'elles ne soient pas prises par la suite.

M. MAZEN - Il faut s'en tenir strictement à ce qui a été prévu. Les personnes sont prévenues; elles ont l'engagement de respecter les conditions discutées à leur venue au Maroc.

Capitaine L. TEL - Il faudrait alors les consulter consulaires et les recharger.

M. MAZEN - Il y a des demandes qui vont au Canada, d'autres en Palestine. Il y a des gens que des amis spéciaux certaines 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 URR - Il y en a qui disent qu'ils resteront au Maroc pour faire du commerce; ils ne voulaient pas rester au camp.

M. MAZEN - Il y a des instances, je la repète, certaines personnes veulent retourner en Espagne par la suite.

M. MAZEN - Que lui demandent une demande régulière. Ces cas-là sont en dehors de l'accord.

M. MAZEN - Que decidez-vous pour ceux qui veulent venir en Afrique du Nord et retourner en Espagne?

M. MAZEN - C'est en dehors de l'accord; ces demandes seront examinées par la voie normale.

M. MAZEN - Le point de vue de l'accord il ne semble que tous ces gens ont signé une demande après avoir lu les explications ou il est dit qu'il s'agit de transit par le Maroc et qui leurs personnes qui entrent du camp de Fedala entre sous la protection des deux gouvernements américain et britannique qui ont donné l'assurance au Congrès national et à l'organisation que tout sera fait pour hâter la sortie de tout ce monde le plus tot possible.

M. MAZEN - L'accord exclut absolument le retour en Espagne après.

M. LEVASSERRE - L'accord prévoit que ces gens pourront retourner dans leur pays d'origine ou dans un pays de leur choix.

M. MAZEN - S'ils demandent à sortir de l'Espagne ce n'est pas pour y retourner.
Il y a beaucoup de gens qui veulent sortir d'une certaine zone après la guerre.

1. **Laliberté** - une question qui ne peut être réglée qu'après le temps d'appréciation. On ne peut décider d'aller ou rester avant de connaître la situation de la zone.

2. **Capitaine** - la zone au camp : la circulation se fera selon les besoins et proportions. Chaque personne qui veut aller au marché doit pouvoir faire une demande de circulation. Ce qui est certain, c'est que le préfet connaîtra qu'il veut avoir une permission pour faire le voyage entre le camp et le marché.

3. **Capitaine** - un point admissible que les gens qui quittent un camp doivent une chance d'être libéré progressivement.


5. **Capitaine** - on se rappelle toujours les mots et les pensées de l'avenir. Il faut aider les gens à se préparer à tout. Il faut trouver un moyen de faire un plan pour la zone.

6. **Capitaine** - il faut prendre de bonnes décisions pour la zone et les gens.

7. **Capitaine** - c'est la réponse de ... BONJEAN à ... BONJEAN (lecture)

8. **Capitaine** - où est-ce que la première lettre ? Il y en avait une autre.

9. **Laliberté** - oui, du mois de novembre. (lecture)

10. **Laliberté** - il faut contrôler aussi ceux qui n'ont pas des permissions de sortie. C'est une question importante.

11. **Capitaine** - la sécurité militaire est devenue une question de contrôle.

12. **Laliberté** - cette règle la question.

13. **Capitaine** - une personne qui habite l'endroit et qui veut aller au marché doit demander une permission.

14. **Laliberté** - C'est nécessaire, car les gens se sentent sur place par des transports variés, des personnes pourraient arriver en nombre et pousser...
les hautes crs parce qu'on ne les laisse pas entrer.

M. BAGNEUX - Le camp de Redona étant un camp spécial, il faut plus de souplesse. Il faut, par exemple, lorsque une personne se présente, ne demander qu'elle a des pièces d'identité ou montrer plus large.

M. MARC - Les gens arrivent qu'ils ne savaient pas qu'il fallait une permission.

Capitaine DUMONT - Pendant un mois on avait une visite.

M. BAGNEUX - C'est-à-dire qu'au moment de relations, les gens l'alterrent au camp.

M. MARC - Il y a beaucoup qui ont pose des relations avec ceux qui sont d'autres de l'île aide.

M. BAGNEUX - Il y a une mesure avant la question humanitaire, c'est celui de la sécurité qui passe avant tout; nous sommes obligés d'appliquer les mesures de sécurité humanitaire.

M. MARC - L'accord n'a pu être prévu que dans les limites même d'humanité.

M. BAGNEUX - C'est-à-dire qu'ils vont s'engager soit dans les armes britannique, américaine ou française. Il faut le faire volontaire de part et d'autre ou de toutes les positions d'arrangement. On ne peut décider à l'avance, il faut voir par la suite.

M. MARC - Aujourd'hui on est volontaires, il n'y en a pas beaucoup.

M. MARC - Dans nous on prend les étrangers dans l'arme. Nous pourrions faire un triage entre les mobilisables et les non mobilisables (M. BAGNEUX) quel est le point de vue anglicain ?

M. BAGNEUX - Il ne peuvent pas s'engager dans l'arme américaine parce qu'ils ne trouvent dans un territoire étranger.

M. BAGNEUX - Il y a un précédent pour ceux-là on leur laisse le choix ou ils sertent, ou en les interne. Ceux qui survivent auront la même liberté que les autres soldats. Mais pour ceux qui ne veulent pas servir quel est le régime qui peut leur appliquer au camp ? Il y a un jeune Allemand qu'on ne peut pas laisser en liberté.

M. LEWIS-BOY - Les autres sujets concernent des internees.

M. MARC - On ne pourra voir qu'en fur et à mesure.

M. NAY - Qu'est-ce qui nous décide pour les visites ?

M. MARC - Permission accordée par les autorités militaires françaises (Sécurité Militaire).
- 16 -

Capitaine Van Houten - Vous parlez que préverse qu'ils peuvent entrer à leurs

mais pour une valeur et sans l'autorisation de demander au bureau.

M. Van Houten

J- M. Van Houten - Vous avez d'autres questions?

M. Van Houten - Il y a un certain nombre de questions de détail qui viennent au

sur et au niveau de détails. On peut faire des réponses ici, d'après.

M. Van Houten - Je pose la question en vous demandant d'abord, nous avons

répondu en amont et le bureau est présentement non répondu, nous avons

répondu à la question de manière à ce que, pour le moment, les

questions ne peuvent être repoussées directement sous la responsabilité

de la délégation et de la délégation.

M. Van Houten - est celui qui le secondant.

M. Van Houten - le troisième et le quatrième qui le secondent.

Réponse : non

M. Van Houten - Nous avons plus que d'habitude les initiateurs de cette

œuvre considérée. Ensuite le moment que votre ministère arrive à bon

porte, qu'il soit ouvert ou fermé, impossible étant le point important.

Bien entendu, tout est bien et tout n'y avait aucun suspect.

La séance est levée.

Copy 12/4/44 - chb
For War Refugee Board. WRB #4.

Reference your cables numbers 1124 of War 15, 1082 of April 1, 876 of War 170 and your letter of March 21.

We concur with the view expressed in FEA cable of March 30 for Beckelman re desirability of removing all stateless nationals from Spain as quickly as possible. However, we feel that you are in better position than we to determine advisability of pressing further on pre-1933 groups rejected. We note that French have made some concessions as a result of representation made and you may not deem it advisable to press the matter further.
I had a meeting today with M. Lalanne in the Commissariat for Prisoners, Refugees and Expellees at the Government Generale. We generally discussed the work of the Commissariat and of the War Refugee Board and then finally reached the question of Fedhala, which is one of the problems in which we are actually interested. He told me that he had given instructions to Lalanne to be as liberal as possible in rejecting applicants for Fedhala for security reasons, and that Lalanne should leave the final decision on any doubtful case up to the A.R. authorities. I then mentioned to him the fact that while I had no quarrel with the security rejections, I felt that an improper discrimination had been made in the case of those applicants who had reached Spain prior to 1933.

He said that this question had been carefully considered by the French and that this was not an effort on their part to be arbitrary or avoid any problems. His argument was as follows: That Fedhala was only a temporary haven for refugees who were in dire need of some place to go; that persons arriving in Spain prior to 1933 (with the exception of those in concentration camps or prisons who were being admitted) were for the most part established persons and really should not be classed as refugees. I pointed out to him the fact that at least half of these people were Sephardic Jews who had arrived in Spain after being displaced by the population exchange between Turkey and Greece in 1921, and while they had apparently been well treated by Alphonso and the Republican Government, they were now universally denied the right of the communal practice of their religion, and in some cases had been refused work permits. I also mentioned the fact that there must be some reason for admitting them since they would not have applied to enter a camp if they were comfortably settled. He answered that he understood these facts very well, but that it was his opinion that the present oppression of this group by the Spaniards was only temporary; that France's position was unsteady, and that a new regime could be expected to take
hold in mind in the short time which would recognize the religious and civil rights of these persons.

As was pointed out that if we admitted these persons, we might thereby be denying haven for other persons in great need at some time in the near future. We felt that the Spanish-French border situation would ease considerably in the near future, and that we might need the space which would be occupied by these persons in order to accommodate refugees newly arrived from Franco. We said that we had discussed this question with Mr. Hall of the Intergovernmental Committee and that he was in agreement. I told him that I was not prepared to give a final opinion on this matter since I had not as yet had the opportunity to review all of the applications of persons rejected, but that I intended to do so within the next week and might thereafter present to him a selected group of cases to which further consideration should be given. He promised to furnish all possible cooperation to me either on this problem or any other problems which the War Refugee Board might have.

Leonard M. Ackerman
Special Representative
War Refugee Board.
6 April, 1944

Dear John:

I am enclosing herewith some material which is in addition to the clippings sent you in my last letter of March 29th. There are also enclosed some press releases, statements and copies of broadcasts. Finally, there is a statement monitored from the German-controlled Hungarian radio which indicates that official German groups, at least, have heard of the President's statement. I have also been informed by the Psychological Warfare Branch that the Germans mentioned the President's statement over Radio Berlin. A transcript of this announcement was not available. You will note that the President of the Austrian Committee in Algiers and the Greek Representative have made statements on the President's appeal. I am also informed that Bonnet, Commissioner of Information, will make a statement, but have not seen a copy thereof. There have also been several other broadcasts but the transcripts have not as yet been furnished to me. I will send this additional material to you as soon as it is ready.

I cabled the latest information on Fedhala to you yesterday. I do not have complete lists of all of the persons involved but can give you approximate figures thereon. Out of approximately 900 persons, 76 have been rejected for security reasons, and about 120 were rejected because of the claim on the part of the French that they were not refugees, having arrived in Spain prior to 1933. As I previously advised you, this pre-1933 group was larger but the French finally agreed to relax with respect to these persons in the pre-1933 group who were in prisons or concentration camps. I have made an analysis of the group of rejections numbering 41, who applied in the second batch of applications, and it is my opinion that at least half of them should be classified as refugees despite their early arrival in Spain, since they are stateless. The other half is made up of a variety of persons of all nationalities who, for one reason or another, apparently have decided to apply for admission to Fedhala as a means of getting out of Spain and going elsewhere. However, it would be difficult to call them refugees. I cannot give you a similar breakdown on the 79 persons rejected out of the first batch of applications, but as soon as I get a complete list, will furnish this to you.
As I cabled you yesterday, I have seen the cable FEA sent to Beckelman, No. 44 to Casablanca, dated 30 March, in which FEA states its position that all refugees desiring to go to North Africa from Spain should be accepted and that the length of residence in Spain was not taken into consideration in the original agreement. The cable also stated that the War Refugee Board and the State Department were conferring thereon and would cable Algiers with reference thereto. As yet no such cable has arrived and as it is the State Department representative's opinion that we should not press this question on a high diplomatic level until further instructions are received, I have not proceeded any further.

As I also advised you, the French raised no question with reference to the Sephardic Jews, as such.

Patrick Malin of the Intergovernmental Committee has been in town for a few days. He intends to leave for the States today. I have had several discussions with him concerning refugee problems from which I gathered that he is now principally engaged in planning for the movement of refugees to permanent homes where refugees cannot be repatriated to their former homes, which is, for the most part, a post-war job. In the course of his travels through Italy, Turkey and the Middle East, he also looked into the problem of immediate rescue. It is his opinion that this is extremely difficult and that while certain clandestine efforts may succeed in saving small numbers of persons, no mass movement is possible without the consent of the Germans. While he was in Italy he examined the question of the refugees on Rab. It is his opinion that there never were as many as 4,000 refugees on Rab, and that the number was closer to 2,000. He also states that according to the best information available to him, most of these refugees left Rab and reached other parts of Yugoslavia or Italy. If he is correct, it may be considered somewhat heartening news, since, as I previously advised you, the Army now believes that Rab has been or is about to be recaptured by the Germans. Nevertheless, the message from the Combined Chiefs of Staff is being forwarded to Marshal Tito for his opinion. The Army people who are in touch with Tito gave a preliminary opinion that financial considerations are an inconsequential part of the problem of the movement of refugees from Yugoslavia and that the principal questions appear to be the availability of the refugees, transportation and politics. I am not exactly sure what is meant by "politics" but intend to look into it further. It probably has something to do
with the enmity existing between the Partisans and the
Chetniks which has been a source of trouble in the Italian
refugee camps. I probably will also have further informa-
tion on this matter as soon as Jim Saxon returns from his
trip to Bari.

I received a telephone call yesterday from one of the
officials in the French Commissariat for Prisoners, Refugees
and Deportees asking me to call on him. I do not know the
purpose of this request but will be able to inform you better
after I have had the conference tomorrow morning.

I will write you again early next week and if anything
important develops in the meanwhile will keep you advised by
cable.

Sincerely yours,

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

Mr. John W. Pehle
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board
2834 Main Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.
TO: STATE
  WASHINGTON

Code: Washington

5 April 1944

Charge: War Refugee Board

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD FROM ACKERMANN

WAR REFUGEE REPRESENTATIVE No. 10, REPORT TO MADRID

FOR BLICKENSTAFF

Preliminary screen completed on second batch Fedhala applications. 28 rejected on security grounds. 41 objected to by French as arrivals Spain prior 1933. In this latter group are approximately 15 Greek and Turkish Jews, Balance is made up of one family group of 18 Greek Orthodox who want to return to Greece and 8 other persons of varying nationalities who apparently want to go to Fedhala as a means for emigrating to other parts of the world. Except on security or grounds just mentioned no objection to Sephardic Jews. Have seen FRA cable for Bockelman of March 30 No. 44 to Casablanca. Shall we press French on the pre-1933 group rejected in both sets of applications.

CHAPIN

AUTHORIZATION:
Dear Leonard:

I enclose a copy of a telegram I have just received from the office of Foreign Economic Administration which, as you know, is the agency which is assuming supervisory responsibility on behalf of the United States Government for the administration of the North Africa Refugee Center until such time as that operation is officially taken over by United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

I am not quite sure what telegram it is that the enclosed cable refers to, but I suppose it is probably the one which you sent soon after I got back from Spain. In any case, the intent of the second paragraph seems quite clear, and I have sent copies of the enclosed cable to Captain Warburg and Major Duncannon.

A number of items are beginning to accumulate which will require action in Algiers, and I expect that some time next week I shall be coming up your way. I shall look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely yours,

J. H. Beekhoven
Assistant Chief of Mission

Mr. Leonard Ackerman
War Refugee Board - Civil Affairs
APO 534 U.S. Army

Attachment:
1 - copy of telegram
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Secstate  
Date: March 30, 1 p.m., 1944

No.: 44 (150 groups)

Code: Non-confidential  
Received: March 31, 1944

AMERICAN CONSUL CASABLANCA  
44 March 30, 1 p.m.

FROM CROWLEY AND HARRIGAN, FEA, FOR BECKELMAN:

Confidential. Algiers 671 March 1.

War Refugee Board and State Department conferring on cable 671 March 1 and will cable American Representative, Algiers. However, so that you will have the thinking of this office, we are advising you that in answer to question one the disposition of those refugees who can be repatriated or returned to their former homes will be the responsibility of UNRRA. The disposition of those refugees who cannot be repatriated or returned to their former homes will be the responsibility of the Intergovernmental Committee for Resettlement.

In answer to question two, it is the thought of this office that all refugees desiring to go to the camp in North Africa from Spain should be accepted. The length of residence in Spain was not taken into consideration in original agreement as it was thought desirable to get all the stateless from Spain as soon as possible. It was our understanding that this was accepted by the French. We also think that the Sephardic Spaniards, as well as any refugees in Portugal and desiring to go to the camp, should be accepted.

Murphy is familiar with this whole subject.

HULL

copied (6) 1/4/44 krcg
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
Civil Affairs
APO 793

31 March 1944

Dear Len:

I am enclosing a self-explanatory letter from Madrid, with the enclosures therein mentioned, which I would appreciate your turning over to the appropriate persons so that the applications enclosed may be substituted for the copies contained in the parcels which you received.

Sincerely,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Mr. Leonard Ackerman
Civil Affairs
APO 534
U. S. Army

Attachments:
1 - Letter, Blickenstaff to Beckelman, 22/3/44
2 - Applications, 6 copies each, Cveic & Nenesic
Dear Len:

Following our telephone conversation of yesterday afternoon, I made a quick check of the 45 security rejections. Here is the tabulation:

Stated country of birth -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentine</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechoslovakia</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stated religion -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Religion</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jewish</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catholic</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protestant</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No religion stated</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sincerely,

[Signature]

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Mr. Leonard Ackerman
Civil Affairs
APO 554
U. S. Army
Have just been advised by British who are providing
sea transport that it is impossible to secure separate
ship now for 200 refugees already cleared for entrance to
Fedhala. (For War Refugee Board from Ackermann. For
Blickenstein. War Refugee representative No. 8) Second
batch of 375 applications were received from Spain yesterday
and immediately delivered to French and AFHQ security
services for processing. Because of urgent need shipping
elsewhere it now appears that ship cannot leave until last
week in April but ship available at that time will be of
sufficient size to carry both groups.

Sent to Dept. as No. 1050 and repeated to Madrid as
No. 72.

CHAPIN
30 March 1944

Dear Len:

As I indicated to you over the phone when I returned from the meeting we had at Habat, I prepared a summary report based on my recollection of what was said. I am sending you a copy for your information. I will be glad to have you read it as an outsider who was not present at the meeting himself and who has had no contact with the personalities involved.

After that, I would be interested in your reaction, so that I can check it against my own.

Sincerely,

V.F.

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Mr. Leonard Ackerman
Civil Affairs
APO 934
U.S. Army

Attachments:
1 - Report, as stated.
Following the meeting held last week in Algiers, of British, French and American representatives, regarding the admission of refugees to the North African Refugee Center, a meeting was held at the Residence in Rabat on March 25, 1944, to discuss more specifically the procedures of eligibility, admission to, and administration of the North African Refugee Center (NARC) as these might concern the authorities of the Protectorate. Those present at the meeting included representatives of the Residence, of French military and civilian security, ARS 0-2, AFHQ 0-2, the American Consulate in Rabat, and the Administration of the NARC. The representative of AFHQ 0-2 was likewise informally representing the office of the British representative in Algiers. Official minutes of the meeting were kept by secretaries of the Residence. We have been promised a copy of these minutes as soon as they have been prepared and corrected, which should be within a few days. Meanwhile, however, I think it may be useful to record and transmit to you my recollection of the main points which were discussed at the meeting.

The Chairman of the meeting was, I believe, the “Chef de Cabinet Diplomatique” of the Residence. He asked for a reading of the terms of reference of the NARC, and there was read to the meeting the text of the announcement which had been issued in Madrid to all refugees desiring to be admitted to the Center. After the reading, the Chairman called the attention of those present to the fact that the clauses regarding right of employment and right of the refugee to receive permission to leave the Center for varying periods were discretionary and would permit the authorities of the Protectorate to refuse to grant any employment certificates or to withhold permission to leave the camp for any reason whatever.

The first question discussed by the meeting was the eligibility of refugees to enter Morocco. It was reported that 43 applicants had been rejected by the French and Allied military services for security reasons. It was further reported that at the Algiers meeting the eligibility of those persons who had entered Spain before January 1, 1933, had been questioned and that the matter had been left in suspense. The subject was then discussed in some detail. It was estimated that the number of persons involved in this question was about 115. I urged that those persons in this group who are at present in Spanish camps or prisons, who are stateless, and whose release is therefore contingent upon their ability to leave Spain should be considered as eligible for admission to the NARC regardless of the date of their entry into Spain. I agreed that persons who had entered Spain before 1933 and who were now at liberty should not be considered refugees within the intent of the French, British, and American agreement regarding the Center. These two proposals were acceptable to those present. It was estimated that about 50 of the persons applying for admission to Morocco who had arrived in Spain prior to January 1, 1933, were now in camps and prisons in Spain and would be considered as eligible for admission to the Center.

A further question was raised with respect to the eligibility of those people who in filling out their applications for admission had indicated that the country in which they desired permanent settlement was Spain. This was referred to as “tourisme.” Investigation revealed, however, that only 5 such
persons were involved and that the majority of those were excluded because of their having come to Spain before 1933. This question was, therefore, passed over.

A further challenge was raised with respect to some 40-odd persons who had indicated North Africa as the country in which they desired permanent settlement. The admission of these persons was objected to on the grounds that inasmuch as it is specifically recognized by all concerned that the NAHC is to provide only temporary shelter in Morocco, all persons who desire to come to Morocco for permanent settlement ought to apply to the appropriate authorities for visas, under the normal procedures. I gave it as my opinion that most of the people who had indicated Morocco as their desired country of permanent settlement had done so under a misapprehension of the intent of that question on the application-blank and had probably meant only to indicate that they were applying for admission to the NAHC in Morocco. The French representative who had accompanied me during our interviewing of refugees in Spain, and who will be returning there to complete the work of preparing the departure of the refugee convoy, suggested that he would recommend each of these cases in Spain and obtain from all such persons a signed acceptance of their understanding of the fact that their coming to the NAHC is in transit only, as far as Morocco is concerned.

It was pointed out that in addition to the 484 applications examined by the security services, which were the subject of discussion at this meeting, there were documents from Madrid indicating the applications of an estimated additional 415 people of whom an estimated 365 were Sephardic "Spanish protectees" who had entered Spain during February, 1944, moving from Greece through Germany, under an agreement between the German and Spanish governments. It was agreed that these people were refugees within the scope of the agreement regarding the NAHC, but it was pointed out that their passage through Germany provided an excellent opportunity for the introduction of German agents into their numbers and that their acceptance into the NAHC might prompt the Spanish government to seek to dispose of additional groups of Sephardic "Spanish protectees" which were now reported in process of organization in various parts of German-occupied Europe, for transportation to Spain. Excerpts from a telegram were read to the meeting. The telegram, as I gathered it, was addressed to the French committee in Algiers and purported to announce the impending arrival in Spain of an additional 200 Sephardic "Spanish protectees" for whom the Spanish government would presumably seek admission into North Africa. It was agreed that all refugees who had arrived in Spain not later than March 1, 1944, should be eligible for admission to the NAHC. The Chairman states that the Sephardic "Spanish protectees" who had recently arrived in Spain through Germany would require an "extremely severe security check and interrogation" and that the authorities of the Protectorate would oppose the admission of any further refugees to the territory. In this connection, I suggested that the last point was not entirely relevant to our discussion since in any case the admission of refugees beyond those contemplated by the present intergovernmental agreement would have to be subject of new negotiation on the part of the British, French, and American authorities.

The meeting next discussed procedures to govern the reception of the refugee convoy at Casablanca and its initial installation at the NAHC. It was agreed that the American authorities would be asked to provide transportation from shipside to the camp. The French representatives proposed that the ship bringing the refugees should not leave Spain until the French authorities had
satisfied themselves that the camp was physically prepared to receive the refugees, in order to avoid any question of having to house the refugees in hotels or elsewhere in Morocco until the camp was ready. I indicated my willingness to have a French representative visit the camp prior to its opening. I agreed that the camp administration would not ask for permission for any refugees to establish contact with persons in North Africa until after the conclusion of an initial period of security check and interrogation, the duration of which could not at present be estimated but which might extend perhaps one month. During this time, refugees could have no communication with the outside. It was assumed that for this period a guard would be maintained on the camp by the American Army.

There was some discussion of the guard to be maintained at the camp after the conclusion of the security check period. The AID G-2 representative said that he did not know to what extent the American Army planned to continue to use the camp in the future and that, consequently, he did not know whether an American guard would be available. In view of this uncertainty, and because it was not clear whether it would be possible to use French guards for a camp which is American government property, the question of a guard for the camp after the preliminary security check period was not decided. The camp administration agreed that it would advise the French authorities of any persons absenting themselves from the camp without leave, and it was assumed that persons who did so who violated any of the laws of the Protectorate while outside the camp would be regarded as having made themselves subject to the police jurisdiction of the authorities of the Protectorate. It was agreed that during the period of security check “documents of identification,” (which would be distinguished from, and would not have the legal force of, a “carte d’identité”), would be issued to the residents of the Refuge Center, if during the course of the security check any person was regarded as a suspect, and in consequence had to be subjected to more intensive questioning, such persons were to be removed from the Refuge Center by the French authorities.

After the completion of the security check and intelligence interrogation, it was agreed that permits to leave the camp for temporary periods or for employment were to be under the jurisdiction of the French security authorities of the Protectorate. The refugees will sign a French official to act as liaison with the camp administration for this purpose. Permits will be permitted to visit refugees at the camp provided they have obtained a permit for this purpose from the French security authorities at Rabat. It was suggested that such permits be likewise issued by the French authorities at Casablanca in order to avoid the loss of time involved in writing for such permits since most of the persons involved would probably be residents of Casablanca. This question was not decided. I was asked whether I intended to institute a censorship of mail written by the refugees, and I explained that, inasmuch as all mail written by them would pass through the French post and would be subject to whatever controls were exercised over the postal service by the French authorities in Morocco, I did not believe that there would be any need for a special censorship service at the camp.

There was considerable discussion with respect to the basis on which the MAID should be operated after the completion of the security check and intelligence interrogation procedures. The Chairman pointed out that, inasmuch as the
intergovernmental understanding was that the refugees would be housed at the Refuge Center for a temporary period only, they should be regarded as being "in transit" and, consequently, in a situation comparable to "quarantine or the American Ellis Island procedure." It followed therefore, he went on, that the residents of the Refuge Center could not expect employment permits or permits to leave the camp as a matter of right, that there could be no question of their "lodgements" (ensafements) outside the camp, and that the basis of administration for the camp was to be one which lay between the regime of a group of persons at liberty and of a concentration camp.

I was then asked whether I had taken into account the possibility that there might be included in the refugee group coming from Spain a number of people too old or too sick to endure the rigors of camp life for an extended period. I explained that if any such cases presented themselves I hoped that our common humane interest would make it possible for some other arrangement to be found for such persons, with the express proviso that they would not become charges upon Moroccan economy. The Chairman pointed out that, regardless of who paid the charges involved, a person who occupied a hospital bed or a bed in a tuberculosis sanatorium became to that extent a charge upon Moroccan economy, and that such a procedure was therefore counter to the spirit of the intergovernmental agreement. I explained that we would have a physician and nurses as part of the permanent staff of the camp but that, anticipating that there might be illnesses of a nature which could not be adequately treated at the camp, we were in the process of negotiating with a Casablanca hospital for the acceptance of such cases upon payment by the camp Administration of the normal hospital charges involved. It seemed to be the consensus that this procedure was satisfactory, provided that it referred to persons with intercurrent illnesses and not to those requiring long-time care or permanent housing.

The Chairman asked whether consideration had been given to the possibility of excluding from eligibility to the Center persons whose age, infirmity, or illness suggested the likelihood that they would not be able to endure camp living conditions. It was pointed out that at the first meeting of British, French and American representatives in Algiers it had been proposed to include a medical examination in Spain as a preliminary procedure in the selection of refugees, but that this proposal had subsequently been abandoned. The Chairman inquired whether there were any applicable laws restricting admission to Morocco on health grounds, but it appeared to be the sense of the meeting that there were none. However, it was suggested that the wartime powers of the Protectorate authorities would permit the exclusion of persons for health reasons. It was proposed that, on his return to Spain to complete convoy preparations, the French representative would take up this question with the representative of the American relief organisations in Spain and that all doubtful cases would be reconsidered on the basis of medical advice to be taken by the office of the American relief organisations in Spain, and I agreed to accept the recommendations of the medical adviser of that office. It was further agreed, however, that this procedure would not be employed to break up a family group or to prevent the admission of an entire family where one member might present a health problem.

Addressing myself to the Chairman's remarks, I proposed that we recognize the fact that, although it was agreed by all concerned that persons coming to the
were to be housed there only temporarily and were to leave Morocco as soon as their transfer to another refuge, their repatriation, or their emigration was possible, no one could at present foresee the length of time during which they might have to remain in Morocco. I agreed that the "Ellis Island or quarantine" concept was a logical one for persons in transit, but that for its implications to be completely applicable the transit had to be either of known duration or for an indeterminate but probably brief period. This, I said, was recognized by all concerned to be not the case with the NAAC. Having regard to the fact that the representatives of the three democracies concerned had been motivated in the establishment of the NAAC by a common desire to assist a group of unfortunate people who had suffered enormously from the effects of the war and from the racial, religious and political persecution which had preceded it, I urged that the decisions of the meeting with respect to the operation of the camp be taken in the spirit of the French, British and American agreement to establish the NAAC. I recalled to the meeting that the exchange of notes between the three governments had stressed the fact that it was not the desire of any of them to deprive the refugees coming to Morocco of their liberty, or to adopt measures which would have the appearance of setting up a concentration camp. The Chairman indicated his agreement with my position and referred to the inherent difficulties and the apparent illogicality which were presented by the bringing of refugees from a neutral country, where the overwhelming majority of them were living in relative liberty in cities like Madrid and Barcelona, to a country like Morocco. The letter was in a state of war and the requirements of military security dictated restrictive measures not only upon the refugees coming from Spain but upon the resident population itself whether French, foreign, or native.

He asked for a reading of the text of the exchange of notes between the French Foreign Minister and the British and American representatives, and there was read out the relevant portion of M. Massigli's first letter to Mr. Murphy. This did say in effect that the French accepted the proposal to receive stateless refugees in North Africa, provided they would be interned. I pointed out, however, that this was a preliminary note rather than the final French proposal, and M. Massigli's second note to Mr. Murphy was then read. It supported the interpretation I had urged upon the meeting.

With specific reference to the question of employment permits for refugees, it was pointed out that there would be considerable difficulty in giving employment permits to refugees of military age. In all the convoys of French refugees which have arrived in North Africa in preceding months, it was reported, there have been small numbers of stateless refugees included. Persons of military age among them have been offered the alternative of military service or internment. It will be difficult to offer other alternatives to men of military age who will be coming in the present convoy of stateless refugees. For those of them who accept military service, it may be possible to arrange permission for their families to live outside the camp. This is, however, a question which can only be determined after the arrival of the refugees group. Similar questions of detail, the Chairman suggested, regarding possible privileges for certain individuals or categories of refugees could best be taken up after the arrival of the refugee convoy and after the termination of the preliminary period of security control. He proposed that the meeting constitute itself as an informal committee on the problem of the NAAC, to meet from time to time at the call of the Chairman, who will arrange
such meetings whenever members of the committee feel that they would like to take up problems presented by the operation of the camp. The Chairman did not ask for a vote on this proposal but indicated that he was adjourning the meeting and would leave subsequent events to determine the desirability of further such meetings.

###

In connection with the foregoing report, I should like to explain that no record votes were taken. In general, a subject was discussed until all who wished to do so had spoken to the question, after which the Chairman either stated a conclusion or passed on to another subject. At the conclusion of the meeting, the secretary of the Cabinet Civil told me that he would have minutes prepared summarizing "only the most important points" of the meeting and would transmit a copy to me as soon as possible. I do not know, therefore, which of the above items will be omitted from the official summary as representing perhaps material presented for information only and not the competent concern of the authorities of the Protectorate.

After the meeting, there was some general conversation between the French and the British and Americans, the general tenor of which was that now that the "juridical" basis for the operation of the camp had been established, one could proceed to examine the detailed questions which would present themselves, once the refugees had arrived, in a spirit of mutual concession, and the French expressed their confidence that a workable basis would be found.

As soon as I receive the official minutes of the meeting, I shall see that a copy reaches you, together with such comments from this end as may seem pertinent.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

W. R. Beekelman
Assistant Chief of Mission

Beekelman/chb

26 March 1944
March 29, 1944

Dear John:

After dispatching my letter of 25 March to you, I received a copy of your cable of the 24th containing the President's Declaration on refugees. I immediately discussed the matter with Helene Chapin who suggested that I see the Psychological Warfare Branch which is the local office of the OSS in this area. They advised me that they had already received word of the President's statement, strangely enough, through a neutral dispatch. On the basis of their preliminary information they prepared a press release, a copy of which is enclosed, which was distributed to all the local papers and was then radioed to the OSS offices in Naples, Paris, Tunis, Sardinia, and forward points. As a result of the issuance of the press release, the four local Algiers newspapers wrote short stories on the subject, all of which appeared on the first page of such papers on March 26, 1944. On March 27, 1944, the "Alger Republican" published an editorial on its front page. Clippings are enclosed. In addition, the story appeared in the "Stars and Stripes". A clipping on this was enclosed in my previous letter.

The OSS also broadcast the announcement in four languages over radio stations which they operate in Algiers and Tunis. It was broadcast from Algiers in French on March 24 and March 26. A copy of the French broadcasts are enclosed. It was broadcast in Italian on March 24 and twice on March 26. During the second Italian broadcast the British endorsement of the program was used. Algiers radio broadcast the story in English twice on March 24 and again on March 26. The last two broadcasts contained the British endorsement. Broadcasts in German to Austria were made on March 24 and 26. Copies of these broadcasts will be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

I do not as yet have a complete story of the broadcasts from Tunis, but I am informed that broadcasts were made on March 24 and 26 in the four languages mentioned above and that since that time news items have been issued containing the reaction of the press and Congress to the President's statement. I have also been promised copies of these broadcasts which will be forwarded as soon as available.
As for future dissemination. The OII directive for this week contemplates a program for the continued use of the statement and news items in connection therewith via radio, the issuance of further press releases for distribution to the local newspapers and for forwarding to other OII units, and the possible preparation and distribution of a propaganda leaflet. Harold Glasser, who just returned from Naples, also advises me that the story appeared in Naples newspapers. The OII will contact various French and foreign personages to get their reactions on a news basis. Selden Shapin will also approach these persons indirectly while I will also talk to several individuals with whom I am personally acquainted.

On March 22, after I had sent off my letter, I received a call from the head of the local office of the War Shipping Administration who showed me certain cables concerning the charter of a boat to the Turks in exchange for the one that they would make available for refugee evacuation. He said that there were many difficulties involved in such a transfer and had previously advised Washington that he thought it would be a bad precedent to propose to replace a ship for one that was lost. He said that it was possible that the French or Italians might ask for the same treatment. I spent some time with him explaining the work of the Board and told him that in my opinion the Turks, being a neutral nation, could be placed on a different basis from Greece or Italy, who were co-belligerents. Before I left he dictated three cables—one to Cairo, the second to Washington and the third to Ankara in an effort to move the program along. I believe that my talk had some effect since he stressed the need for speed in these cables. In view of the recent developments in Hungary and Rumania, it would appear to me that the program envisaged in these cables may not now be possible of achievement. However, it is my opinion that it was a good idea for him to proceed with his steps along these lines so that, if proper arrangements for evacuation can be accomplished in the future, some of the red tape will have been eliminated.

Jim and I have been continuing our calls on various people who might be of assistance. Thus far while we have been cordially received we have not achieved much in the way of active cooperation, since all of these persons are busyly engaged in their own problems. One suggestion was made, however, which might be entitled to some consideration. I might add that Gabby made the same suggestion to me some time ago but I proceeded on the assumption that you already had thought of it. Since I have heard nothing
from you along these lines, I pass it on. The suggestion is that a direct approach be made to the German Government through the Swiss, Belgian or Spanish Governments requesting the mass evacuation of refugees in exchange for the very large and extremely valuable consideration. It may be one that is impossible to accept, in the other hand, it may be a consideration which the United States could accept and if the proposal is made, even though never ultimately worked out, the discussion might possibly hasten the General needs for a time.

H. Harold was in Italy he met with General MacArthur who is connected with the Allied Control Commission on the question of evacuating refugees now in Hungary and repatriating through Yugoslavia. General MacArthur was of the opinion that the trip was so difficult that only very small numbers could be evacuated in this fashion without a great deal of harm. We are now going to discuss with General Sayers and General Hunsen whether an approach could be made to see if other assistance be given which would expedite such movement. Harold has an appointment with General Sayers for tomorrow morning and we will advise you of the results thereof as soon as possible.

A letter stating that the second batch of Redha's applications were being forwarded has been received but the applications have not as yet gone in an appearance. I should know today or tomorrow the exact number to be accepted in the first group and as soon as this is known will again resume my efforts to get this group moved by separate ship. Your letter of today has been received and we will make every effort to expedite the program mentioned therein. Just how it will be accomplished is something that we have not ascertained as yet.

Sincerely yours,

L. S. Ackermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board

Mr. John R. Childs,
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board,
209 Main Treasury Building,
Washington, D.C.
March 21, 1944

Dear John:

I have not written you since March 7 since I was awaiting the further development of several matters, and then was unfortunate enough to contract a bad cough accompanied by fever which put me into the hospital for a few days. Since then, however, there have been a number of interesting happenings which I will try to expand upon below.

First, as to Medhala. Action was delayed on our clearance of the admission of refugees from Spain until the French security representative returned from Spain. He arrived in Algiers on March 13 and a meeting to discuss the admission of the refugees group was held on March 17. I have already briefly advised you by cable of the results of that meeting. At that time we discussed a group of 40 applicants for admission to the refugee center. Approximately 30 were objected to on security grounds. This was the joint action of both French and Algeri security officers and, of course, we could and did make no objection thereto. The second question involved 116 refugees who had arrived in Spain prior to 1935. A small portion of this group came from South American countries and had not had much luck in getting their own diplomatic representatives to aid in their repatriation. However, by far the largest portion of this group of 116 were stateless refugees. Most of them were Jews who had been displaced as a result of the population exchange between Turkey and Greece in 1921. As they were of Spanish origin (dating back to 1492 when Jews were expelled from Spain) and still spoke an old-fashioned Spanish, they gravitated to Spain where they were apparently well treated first by Alphonso, and later by the Republic. Since Franco's accession to power they have not been too fortunate. In some cases work permits have been refused. In all cases they have been forbidden religious communal activity, and in many cases they have had to be supported by organizations, principally the JDD. We urged at the meeting that this group be admitted upon the ground that they were stateless, and further that their removal from Spain would ease the Spanish refugee problem and thus make Spain more receptive to the admission of more refugee groups. The French representatives promised to take these matters into consideration and advise us of
their decision shortly. We have not as yet received their reply. Later, Beakelman, the UNRRA representative who is to be in charge at Fadhala, spoke to Governor Lehman about this pre-1933 group. The Governor expressed some doubt as to whether we should urge the admission of this group too strongly since he felt that we might be setting a precedent which later might involve a much larger group of persons. I have not had an opportunity to discuss this further with the Governor since he had an accident and has been in the hospital for several days.

There is another question concerning the Fadhala center which is still unsettled. After Hayonna, the French security representative, left Spain an additional 415 applications were received, the overwhelming part of which came from Sephardic Jews. Only a small percentage of these Sephardic Jews entered Spain prior to 1933. The major portion moved to various other European countries, and then gravitated to Spain after the beginning of the Hitler regime, or stayed in France or Central Europe until Hitler occupied the countries in which they were located. Some of them, even though not born in Spain, had received Spanish passports because of the insistence in the early 30s on the part of the Turkish Government that these people, formerly known as Spanish proteges, either receive Spanish passports or accept Turkish nationality. Many of the present group accepted Spanish passports. The best information that I can obtain about their eventual removal to Spain is that when they were apprehended by the Germans, they exhibited their Spanish passports and that the Germans then made representations to the Spanish and insisted that the Spanish receive them in Spain. The Spanish version of the story is that they initiated the representations and insisted that the Germans release these people from concentration camps and permit their emigration to Spain. Whatever the correct story may be, they are now given few, if any, of the privileges of Spanish citizens, and accordingly, should also probably be classed as stateless. In our discussions with the French, no question has yet been raised as to the admission of these persons and we hope that no objection will be raised. I cannot give you the final answer upon these people since the applications have not as yet arrived from Spain. They should be here within one or two days, and will immediately be submitted to our own security people as well as to the French for screening.

The question which now arises is whether we should bring the refugees from Spain to Africa in one or two groups. At the time of the meeting most of the Allied representatives...
were of the opinion that it would be more feasible to delay the admission of the cleared group until the second group had been cleared. I was of a different opinion, as I felt that the early movement of approximately 350 people from Spain would be of immediate aid to the Spanish situation. After the meeting I discussed the matter with the British who are supplying the ships and learned that it might be possible to get two ships instead of one - at least I have not yet received a definite response in the negative. If two ships can be secured, the cleared group should move from Spain as soon as we get French visas which should not take more than a few days and as soon as the necessary arrangements in Spain can be made. If, on the other hand, the British are only able to supply one ship, the first group will have to wait until the second group is cleared, which will delay the whole project until the middle of April.

On January morning, March 19th, I received a call from Robert Murphy's office. When I reached there I found one of Murphy's assistants discussing a cable from the Combined Chiefs of staff, with an aide from Gen. Saffey's office. Saffey is head of G-3, Army. The cable, which no doubt was inspired by the War Refugee Board, related to the methods of financing movement of refugees from the island of Rau in Yugoslavia to Italy. I discussed the matter quite fully and urged upon Gen. Saffey's representative that only military exigencies should interfere with the operation of this program. I told him about the underlying reasons for the establishment of the WRR and explained that unless this action were taken, these people might be killed. I also expressed the opinion that difficulties of handling the groups once they arrived in Italy should only be a minor consideration since every effort would be made to ease this problem as quickly as possible. This morning I received a phone call advising that this cable had been referred to the Military Government Section for action. I called Frank Southard but discovered that he was again in the hospital. I spoke to Col. McFadden, British opposite number who advised that he would only handle the financial end providing the project were approved in other quarters. I offered my assistance in this connection but have not heard anything of it since.

As I advised you by cable, I believe it is important, if feasible, to have a representative in Italy in order to follow up this program. Up to the present at least the Army's attitude appears to have been one of avoidance due to the difficulty in caring for the refugees already in Southern Italy.
and that therefore a further influx should be restricted, if possible. An Italian representative might be in position to keep you advised of the facts in this area, aid in changing the Army's attitude, and assist in making the financial arrangements necessary in order to bring these people into Italy. I also asked that I be given certain directives with respect to Italy so that I can make representations at APRA. I believe this to be essential since the Army sometimes looks with disfavor upon a civilian who attempts to step into a field not clearly within his province. I can cite the following example with reference thereto. After the receipt of the cable from Marshall addressed to Eisenhower, Devers, Stilwell and MacArthur, dated March 3, 1944, containing the message sent at the direction of the Secretary of War with reference to the formation of the MIA, I went to see some of the people working on refugee problems in the Military Government Section. I discussed the matter with them fully and received the information on the Yugoslavian situation contained in my letter of March 7th. The officer to whom I talked pointed out that the cable appointing me the representative of the Board stated that I was to work in North Africa. Thereafter a cable was sent to various places in Italy in which it was stated that there was no information of the appointment of an attache for Italy but that one had been appointed for North Africa, and that the matter would be discussed further with Stalin of the Intergovernmental Committee on his return to Algiers. I had further discussions with the secretary of the Chief of Staff yesterday who also indicated that I would get more cooperation from the Army if my directives specifically referred to Italy. I believe, however, that the best solution would be that a representative be appointed for Italy and that while I should be given certain powers with respect thereto, I should remain in North Africa. It would be very difficult because of questions of transportation and communications for me to handle both places adequately should I be the sole representative.

I have not yet seen Stalin of the Intergovernmental Committee, but expect to have discussions with him when he returns from Cairo on or about March 30th.

I have been making an effort to collect as much information as possible about the movement of refugees from France into Spain. I have approached both G-2 and OSS but have not been too successful in getting a great deal of information. They both state that they have little information on refugees or they both are reluctant to furnish information concerning escape routes since they feel that it may prejudice the
movement of their own men across the border and because of their program of using these routes to rescue airmen. I will continue along these lines, however, and get as much information as I can. I am also attempting to interview recently-arrived refugees and enclose a summary of a statement made to me by one of them. As is stated on the bottom thereof, some of the information in this statement may not be too accurate. In any event, it appears that the movement across the border is extremely difficult.

The cable about Jim Denson arrived on Sunday. I have discussed the matter with him and have made available to him all information in my possession. After he has finished reading my files we intend to have further discussions. I also enclose a translation of a speech made by Frenay, French Commissioner for Prisoners, Deportees and Refugees, before the Consultative Assembly on March 6, 1944. I believe you will find it of interest.

I would appreciate any further information that you may be able to send me from time to time about the work of the Board. As I stated in an earlier letter, I received a good deal of information in my talks with Harold Glasser and further elucidation from Davis' letter to Mike. Further information along these lines and your suggestions will be extremely helpful. Will you also let me know whether you wish me to continue to report in detail as I have done in this and previous letters.

Sincerely,

L. S. Ackermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board

Mr. John Feible,
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board,
288½ Main Treasury Building,
Washington, D.C.

L-A:gw
Dear Leonard,

For your information I enclose a copy of a letter which I am sending to M. Bayonne regarding a few refugee cases which had been left off the approved list and whom I would regard as eligible for admission. Since I do not know where to reach M. Bayonne I have sent the original to Major Duncannon with the request that he pass it on to M. Bayonne.

Very truly yours,

M. W. Beckerman
Assistant Chief
of Mission

Mr. Leonard Ackermann
Civil Affairs
APO 534
U. S. Army

Enclosure: as stated
Dear M. Bayonne:

This will acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of 27 March 1944 enclosing the list of 358 names approved for inclusion in the refugee convoy from among the list of 485 applications submitted. I am sorry that we did not have an opportunity to get together before your departure for Algiers, but I shall be looking forward to seeing you on your return here.

I have gone over the list which you left for me and find it correct with respect to the names which it contains. I note, however, that through inadvertence there have been omitted a few names of people who would appear to be eligible and I am writing to call these to your attention. The following are the cases:

Application #52, BERGER, Villeneuve Louis. Mr. Berger has been approved. His application also contains the names of his sister, Lucie Berger, and his mother, Selma Berger, who will accompany him. The last two names do not appear on your approved list.

Application #62, BORZECKI, Sofia Mach. On her application the date of entry into Spain is given as 13 January 1931. I know from my conversation with her and from the records of the refugee relief organization in Barcelona that the actual date of entry was 18 January 1937. I suspect that the mistake is my own fault because I assisted her in filling out the application and wrote the date in myself. Probably because I wrote 1937 without crossing the 7 in European style the typist transcribed it as 1931.

Applications #141 and 142, FILEK, Albert Eduard and his wife, Mercedes Domenech Espinosa. According to Mr. Filek's application he entered Spain 19 February 1931 but he is at present in the Camp of Mancineras de la Oca. On this basis he and his wife would seem to me to be eligible for admission.

Application #47, FREIRE DENISE, Fernando. According to his application he entered Spain the first time in September 1939 and again in January 1943. Insomuch as he has not been rejected for security reasons he would seem to me to be eligible for admission as a refugee.

Application ....
Application 457, URSULA BARAZUTTI, Ludovico

According to his application he entered Spain on 20 September 1942. Inasmuch as he has not been rejected for security reasons, it would seem to me that his name should be included in this list.

Application 479, ZABALA IMAZ, Jose Martin.

According to his application he entered Spain in 1935 and is now in the Camp of Nanclares de la Oca. Inasmuch as he has not been rejected for security reasons, I would assume that he is eligible.

The foregoing are cases which seem to me to have been omitted from your list inadvertently. I should appreciate your confirmation of their inclusion on the list of 458 so that I may forward their names to Mr. Blickenstaff.

There are a few other cases to which I should like to call your attention and which we can discuss upon your return to town.

Applications 448, 449 and 450 TOTH, Juan, Dolores Sanchez, his wife, and Dolores his daughter. Although Mr. Toth reports on his application that he entered Spain in November 1930 and is at present at liberty, you will note that he was a prisoner from 1937 to 1939, that he fought in the International Brigade and that he strongly underscores his desire to leave Spain. I would assume that his present situation is extremely precarious and that we would be rendering him a real service within the meaning of our agreement if he and his family were permitted to come here.

Applications #103 - 110, inclusive, CRISTO, Alejandro and family.

You will note that the last entry on the application of this family states that the family has received an expulsion order from the Spanish Government. I regard it as quite likely that, if they remain in Spain after the departure of the refugee convoy, they would be interned. I should therefore like to urge that favorable consideration be given to this family. You will note further that the Greek Consul General in Madrid confirms a provisional recognition of their Greek nationality.

Applications #111 - 120, inclusive, CRISTO IVANOFF, Teodoro and his family.

It seems probable that this family is related to the preceding one. They are likewise provisionally recognized as Greek citizens by the Greek Consulate in Madrid.

I ...
I would propose that the application of this family be reconsidered in connection with the preceding case.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you upon your return here.

Sincerely,

M. W. Beckelman
Assistant Chief
of Mission

Monsieur E. Bayonne
c/o Major the Viscount Duncannon
Civil Affairs
APO 514, U. S. Army
Hermann Zwillenberg
Elise Zwillenberg, wife
Lutz Zwillenberg, son, 17
Helga Zwillenberg, daughter, 13

Mr. Zwillenberg is of Dutch origin. Formerly Honorary Nicaraguan Consul Rotterdam. Bearer of Nicaraguan passport No. 2/1943 which includes wife and two children, issued by B. Lifschitz Nicaraguan Consul Switzerland on April 13, 1943 for travel "to all countries of the World". Wife and two children have separate passports issued by same consul, passports dated August 6, 1943.

Otto William Strauss
Regina Strauss

German origin. Mr. Strauss is in possession of a document which states he was naturalized as a Nicaraguan citizen in 1921. Lived in Nicaragua from 1912 to 1921. Has not been there since. Wife was born at Frankfort September 12, 1892.

Jeanne Faure
Fernande Faure
Andree Faure

Claim they are Haitian nationals. Haitian Government states their travel to Haiti not approved. They are according to information furnished by Haitian Government French nationals. Mrs. Faure's husband a French national resides in Haiti. [Department has requested that WarRefugee]
March 15, 1944

Meeting at Bryce Premtinent of British, French and American Representatives to consider admissions
in North African refugee center - Friday, March 17th, 1944

Present: for the British - Major Concannon

So. the Americans - Messrs. Norton, Ackerman and Capt. Aurburg

for the French - M. Guiramand and Beyonce

for WE - Mr. Beekelman

M. Guiramand presided.

M. Guiramand reported that 484 applications had thus far been received for admission to the North African refugee center. Mr. Beyonce and Major Concannon indicated that a first security check of this list of applications had indicated about 30 rejections and that the complete list would be verified within a few days. It was agreed to accept the rejections recorded by the security service and to strike from the list any names to which they objected. It was further agreed that in communicating the rejections to the British and American embassies in Madrid no indication could be given of the cause of the rejection but that theAmbassadors would simply be asked to advise the persons involved that their applications for admission to the refugee center had not been accepted.

M. Guiramand raised a question concerning the eligibility for admission of approximately 116 people who had arrived in Spain at varying times prior to January 1, 1933. He asked whether these people might be considered as refugees within the intent of the project under discussion. Mr. Beekelman pointed out that this group of 116 might be divided into two categories: the first category would consist of people of established nationality whose desire to leave Spain and come to the refugee center was occasioned primarily by the fact that they were unable to earn a living in Spain; the second group consisted of people who though they had been resident in Spain for substantial periods of time, had no recognized nationality because they had come to Spain after the last war from countries (e.g., Greece and Turkey) where their nationality status had been lost as a result of territorial
and governmental changes during the war and after the armistice. Mr. Eisenbraun suggested that the first of these two categories be regarded as not eligible but urged that the second group be considered as refugees and eligible for admission because they were without nationality status. He indicated that such a procedure might help to achieve one of the purposes of the project—namely, that if the Spanish Government were convinced that the United Nations would relieve it of the burden of stateless persons, the Spanish government might adopt a more liberal policy towards the admission of further stateless refugees coming from the countries of origin. After considerable discussion it was agreed to leave this question for further review at a subsequent meeting.

Mr. Ackerman reported that the American Embassy in Madrid has been asked to forward to Algiers the 436 applications collected there following the departure of M. Bognass and Mr. Beckelman from Spain. It was agreed that the same procedure as had been followed with the first batch of 461 applications would be followed with respect to the second. Major Ackerman reported that he had advised the British naval authorities that March 20th was no longer the tentative departure date from Spain and indicated that it would take up with the British naval authorities the alternative procedures of transporting the refugees from Spain to Morocco in two groups or of waiting until the second group had been screened and bringing the entire party at one time. In the latter case he estimated tentatively that April 15th might be a feasible departure date.

Mr. Beckelman referred to various pending questions concerning customs duties, financial regulations and eligibility of certain categories for exemption from required residence in the camp. The Chairman stated that these questions were the competence of the Moroccan authorities and suggested that Mr. Beckelman join him when he would be in Casablanca next week in order to take these matters up with the appropriate officials. Mr. Beckelman said that insofar as his schedule permitted, he would join Mr. Guiraud in Casablanca.

E. S. Beckelman
UNRRA Representative
TO: Madrid

DATE: March 13, 1944, 4pm

NO. 63

Reference Madrid cable to Algiers of March 10, No. 108

Answers to questions in your No. 108 of March follow.

From Beekelman:

1. Bayoone not expected in Algiers until today.

Hope to clear first group in a few days.

2. Send additional applications to American Representative, Algiers, by fastest means possible.

3. After discussions with French we hope to trouble will be experience in admitting Sephardic Jews. However, we will know better as soon as discussions are under way for final clearance of group whose applications are already here. Sent to Madrid as No. 63. Repeated to Dept. as No. 820.
PARAPHRASE FOR AOKERMANN

From: Madrid No. 108 March 10, 1944

For Beckelman and Fryer. Repeated to the Department.

No. 1. Kindly advise when we may expect final action on 484 Fedhala applications taken by Bayonne to Algiers?

No. 2. Please let us know what disposition should be made of approximately 415 additional applications which have been received since Bayonne's departure, 365 of which are from Sephardic Jews?

No. 3. To the applications of these Sephardic Jews who have left German occupied territory with permission of the German authorities what will be the probable reaction of the French?

HAYES

COPY
7 March, 1944

Dear John:

There are two principal matters which I wish to call to your attention. They involve the present status of discussions with the French and some information which I learned about the Italian situation. There are also some other matters which may be of interest which are referred to later.

When I took up the matter of approaching Massigli, Seldon Chapin asked me to prepare a memorandum which he could leave with him. After some discussion Chapin finally agreed that I should be included in the conversations. After this had been agreed to, all of the files and the proposed memorandum were turned over to Lawton, the First Secretary of the Embassy in order to get the latter's opinion on the form of the memorandum. Lawton discussed the matter with me and finally reached the opinion that it would be better merely to talk to Massigli and not present a memorandum. I agreed to this since I had not contemplated a memorandum in the first instance and only wanted to get to see Massigli in order to urge his cooperation in the new program. Chapin agreed to this and arranged an appointment with Massigli for 8 o'clock Monday night.

We met Massigli at the appointed time. Chapin introduced me as the War Refugee Board representative and outlined some of the features of the Board's work which had not been covered in previous meetings. He also asked whether we could be referred to other persons in the Foreign Affairs Ministry who would be more directly connected with the admission into North Africa of applicants for Fedralia. He stated that it was our hope that no red tape would cause delay of this program since progress along these lines would assist the program of bringing additional refugees into Spain. Massigli was extremely cordial. He referred, however, to the fact that the French facilities were limited and that they had tremendous problems of their own. We pointed out that post war considerations should not interfere with a program of saving lives now, and that to some extent a United Nations victory would remove part of the refugee problem since many refugees would want to return to their own lands.
Masaigli asked us the number of people intended to be brought to Fedhala. When we told him that the present group numbered only 750, he said that he felt there should be little trouble. Very fortunately, at this time Meyrier, a Directeur des Affaires Politiques, and the man whom Masaigli said would be more directly concerned with Fedhala came into the room. We were introduced and talked along the same lines for a few minutes. Meyrier also said that a group of 750 persons should cause no great problem.

Monday morning Mike and I saw Mendes-France. We explained to him that this matter was already under discussion with Masaigli but in view of our past relations we felt we could talk to him on an informal basis. The general purpose of the new program was outlined to him and he expressed complete agreement therewith. He stated that he understood that this was an emergency program which required immediate action and agreed that no postwar problems should be permitted to delay action at this time. We talked briefly about the Fedhala situation and our fears that lower-rank functionaries of the French Securite might in their usual fashion interpose a lot of restrictions and red tape which might delay the program until it was too late. He again agreed with our position and volunteered to talk to Masaigli about it. Both Mike and I came away from the meeting feeling quite pleased with the attitude which Mendes-France had taken. It appears that he may be very helpful in future problems and that he might even propose the formation of a French committee. A French group might work through two channels: first, in assisting refugees in crossing the border into Spain, and second, in bringing refugees out of Northern Italy into Corsica. The use of the second channel is an idea which only occurred to me as Mike and I discussed the program on the way back from the meeting with Mendes-France. I have no idea as to its possibilities or probabilities, but it is something that I think is worth exploring. What is your opinion thereon?

On Saturday afternoon I had a meeting with a British officer who is working on the refugee program for MGS. He told me of the present movement of refugees from Yugoslavia to Allied occupied Italy. Refugees reach the Italian peninsula by almost any sort of boat and certain selected groups are brought over in Allied war craft. Other refugees have reached Allied territory by coming through the German lines. Insofar as non-Italian refugees are concerned a large number have already been evacuated to the Middle East. I will not go into this portion of the program in any detail as you no doubt are well acquainted with it. The most interesting statement that was made to me in the course of this conference relates to a recent order issued by the Allied Forces restricting the
movement of refugees into Italy. The British Major who

gave me this information stated that if the Partisans were

in control of the whole Yugoslav coast, it would be possible
to restrict refugee movements completely, but since the coast
was partly German-controlled and partly uncontrollable, it had
been impossible to prevent the movement from that area. One
of the expressed reasons for this order was the fact that
the Allied authorities in Italy are finding it difficult to
cope with the refugee problem. There also may be other good
reasons for this order. It may well be that once refugees
reach territory controlled by the Partisans they will be in
a position of safety. It may also be that the Yugoslavs want
to keep most of these people in Yugoslavia in order to aid
in partisan activities. In any event, it is a matter which
will require further investigation. I saw Harold just before
he left for Italy and he will look into it from that angle.
I expect to follow it up as much as possible in this
area, and if you are able to learn any information in the States,
I should like to learn about it.

As I understand it, the Medhala project will aid our
present problem since it will remove refugees from Spain
and thereby possibly make the Spanish more receptive to
further groups. The same reasoning might be applied to
the North African area; that is, if we are successful in
removing refugees from North Africa, the French will in turn
be more willing to permit the entrance of other refugee groups.
In this connection your attention is called to the Spanish
refugee group. The representative of the American Friends
Service Committee has advised me that there are approximately
8,000 Spanish refugees who came to North Africa at the close
of the Spanish Civil War. At one time most of these people
were interned but they have since been liberated. Many of
these have found jobs with the American or British armies,
while others have found French employment. However, the
incorporation of these people into the French economy is a
slow and difficult one and they may again become a serious
problem when the Allied armies leave. In the spring of 1943
a program was inaugurated under the auspices of the Joint
Commission for Political Prisoners and Refugees in North
Africa to remove part of this group to Mexico. Approximately
1500 Spanish refugees indicated their interest in such a
movement. Since that time, however, no perceptible progress
has been made. The two principal problems appear to be the
granting of Mexican visas and transportation. The acquisition
of visas seems impossible at the moment since, as I understand
it, there is no Mexican representative in North Africa. If
you consider it advisable, someone might investigate this
matter to see what can be done.
Gabby Kerekes has also made one of his typical suggestions which might be looked into. It sounds a little bizarre but so have many of Gabby's earlier suggestions which eventually turned out to be worthwhile. He advised that under the treaties of peace entered into in 1920 and 1921 certain agreements were made as to the Danube. An International Danube Commission was created to control various phases of the Danube problem, one of which established certain islands in the Danube as international territory under the jurisdiction of all the countries touched by the Danube and possibly England and France. Gabby believes that England and France may have withdrawn from the commission after the commencement of the war but understands that Russia asked to be included in its membership. Certainly Turkey is a member and possibly Switzerland. We do not know the present status of these islands. If Turkey has a strong position in this commission and the commission is still functioning, some of these islands may be places of refuge or may lend themselves to underground use. Gabby only remembers the name of one of these islands - Ada Asaleh, which is on the Danube above Brzaova and on the border between Yugoslavia and Romania. He believes it is the northeastmost island of the group. Some of the islands further south may prove more useful.

I am enclosing a copy of cable no. 2 which I sent to you and also copies of State Department telegrams with reference to Peshawa which should give you a little more background in the event you haven't seen them before.

Sincerely,

L. H. Ackermann
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board.
4 March, 1944

Dear John:

Herewith is a report on our refugee board activities since I last wrote you on 29 February. You will note that I have started to number my letters and will consider the prior communication as No.1. Will you please have your copy marked accordingly.

News has taken place since Monday afternoon when I received a copy of the cable announcing my appointment as special representative. I must admit, however, that neither Mike nor I realized the full significance or direction of the program until we had a full discussion about it with Arnold Glasser. The information and advice which he gave to us should prove invaluable and will be of great assistance in the future operations of the board in this area.

I think it would be best, in order to bring you up to date on the North African situation, to review briefly the entire situation from the time of the receipt by Mike of State Department cable No. 120, dated 29 January. This cable, which requested Mike to cooperate with Ambassador Wilcox in the program, was the first knowledge that anyone of the Treasury group had concerning the new program. Immediately after its receipt Mike asked for a copy of the circular airgram of the State Department dated 26 January which, however, did not arrive for several days. Shortly after its receipt Mike sent a memorandum to Golden Chapin, who is temporarily in charge of the Embassy, in which he called attention to the instructions he had received and offered the assistance of the Treasury representatives in connection with the program. He also suggested that Chapin discuss the matter with him more fully. At the same time he despatched a State Department cable dated 9 February for the Secretary of the Treasury acknowledging the earlier cable and stating what he had done. Chapin asked Paul Warburg to keep in touch with Mike on the matter. For several weeks thereafter nothing much took place insofar as the Treasury representatives were concerned. The State Department people did not advise us of any further developments nor were we consulted in connection with the preparation of an answer to the Circular Airgram of 25 January. Mike discussed the matter with several people but as far as the State Department was concerned we were not actively in the picture until the receipt of State Department cable No. 612 dated February 26.
A copy of this cable did not reach me until the afternoon of 28 February. Shortly prior thereto I received a message that Capt. Paul Warburg had a cable announcing my appointment as Special Representative of the Board and desired to see me. I saw him late in the afternoon of 28 February. At that time he made available to me a copy of the reply to the Circular Circular which consisted of Chapin's dispatch No. 122, dated 22 February, and a memorandum which Warburg had prepared dated 19 February. Warburg remarked that he had feared this matter would be dropped into his lap and was very happy that the Treasury was now taking over. I spent the remaining part of the afternoon in reading what files were available in the State Department on the subject. The principal file related to the Camp Marshall Lytton project at Fedala.

On Tuesday 29 February, I had a long discussion with Seekelmann, a WLMN representative who will be in charge of the Fedala Camp, and who had just returned from Spain. I also saw Faiz, the representative of the J.M.C. later in the afternoon. I was advised that there would be a meeting in Chapin's office on Wednesday morning to hear Seekelmann's report on his trip to Spain. I attended this meeting and from the information learned there and other reports, which Seekelmann made available to me, I got enough of the picture to realize that we might have a difficult time with the French in getting final clearance for the admission of the refugees from Spain. As I have already advised you by cable dated 2 March (State Department No. 680, VGB No. 2), it appears that the French, while originally agreeing to a more preliminary security screening in Spain, have now taken the attitude that in addition all applicants must be checked at Algiers and that they may use such further screening as a pretext for eliminating part of the group. This, of course, would cause an extremely unfortunate result since part of the group that might be eliminated, the Sephardic Jewish group, is probably the most important segment thereof. I will discuss this phase of the matter in a later portion of the letter.

The meeting at Chapin's office, which was attended by Chapin and Lorton of the State Department, Seekelmann and Fryer of WLMN, Capt. Paul Warburg of the U.S. Army, Lord Dunraven representing the British Foreign Office, and me, discussed the various problems that might arise when the French representative returns to Algiers from Spain. He is not expected to arrive here until some time during the week beginning 6 March. Seekelmann stated that the questions raised by the French may fall into two categories, (1) the future movement of the refugees out of North Africa, and (2) whether certain of the persons who had applied for admission to the camp could be considered as refugees, since some of
them, although not born in Spain, had had Spanish passports or had been considered as Spanish proteges. It was decided by the meeting that every effort would be made to avoid such questions if possible and to convince the French to adhere to their original agreement of merely screening the refugees for security reasons.

As the meeting broke up Chapin called me over. This was the first time at which I had an opportunity to discuss the matter with him since the arrival of the cable announcing my appointment. The discussion was quite brief. He said that he had not had a chance to talk to me since my appointment and then said "God pity you." He suggested that I work closely with Capt. Warburg. Later I spoke to Warburg about the matter and I tried to explore with him the work that the committee would do. He related to me the rumor that he had heard to the effect that this was a purely political move on the part of the President for purposes of getting votes.

Later in the day Harold Glasser arrived and for the first time Mike and I received a first-hand picture of what has been taking place in Washington. We did not have a full discussion because of limitations on Harold's time, but arranged to meet the next evening. The next afternoon I also spent some time with the representative of the American Friends Service Committee and learned something about their refugee activities. In the evening Mike and I talked for about three hours with Harold, Beckman and another UNHRA representative. Harold in his usual fashion has sold us completely on the necessity of prompt action and we intend to take various steps which we believe may be of assistance.

The first of these steps has been my effort to sell Chapin on the program. I spent an hour with him this morning and pointed out to him that the answer of the French to the President's message did not indicate any great degree of cooperation on their part and that we should make an effort to change their position from one of acquiescence (or possible opposition) to one of active cooperation. I told him that the fear of the French that these people would become a postwar burden for them would be groundless since a successful culmination of the war in favor of the United Nations would, except for repatriation and temporary relief, remove for the most part all refugee problems. I also tried to impress on him that this was a program of saving lives which had to proceed quickly. I then discussed with him the Fedhala project and went over with him the various objections which might be raised by the French security officials next week when they propose to give their final agreement to the admission of the 750 persons from Spain. I told him that not only should we attempt to
take steps to forestall these objections which, according to Lockeman, do not involve security questions, but rather the more fundamental question of admission of certain groups. I suggested that Frenay, Commissioner of Prisoners and Deported, might be the man to contact. He said that he had no authority to meet with any French official except the diplomatic group and suggested that a note be sent to Massigli requesting that he be permitted to see Frenay. My reply was that an answer to such a note might be delayed indefinitely. He then said that a note should be sent to Massigli requesting a reply from the Comite which I demurred to for the same reasons. I urged upon him an immediate talk with Massigli since he felt that he could not approach any other official. He agreed to do this provided that I would prepare a memorandum for him which he could leave with Massigli. I will prepare this memorandum and submit it to him as soon as possible. I have no great hopes that Chapin will succeed in aiding the program very much, while he orally agrees to adopt some of my suggestions, I do not think that he feels strongly enough on the subject to take any action except the most routine. I have hopes that when Ambassador Wilson returns the greater prestige of the Ambassador's title and his interest will be of more assistance.

I have gone into the various matters that have taken place in some detail because I would like you to get the feel of the local situation as accurately as possible. Before closing, however, I have a few more items of information and one suggestion which should be of interest.

The J.D.C. and the Quaker representatives are doing a good job here caring for refugees once they arrive in this area. They do not take any steps, however, to assist in their admission. When the main part of the job of getting the refugees out of Axis territory is well under way, the War Refugee Board may be of some assistance to these groups in a number of minor matters, but I do not think that they will be of great assistance to us at the present time.

Our program for future work at the moment will include assistance in working out the Jedhalo problem, the effort to change the French attitude and an attempt to gain assistance from French underground. In connection with the French attitude, Mike and I intend to visit Mendeo-France "informally". We believe that he should be much more sympathetic to our problems than some of the other French officials have been.

You are also no doubt aware of the fact that approximately 300 of the group proposed to be removed to Jedhalo are Sephardic Jews, some of whom had Spanish passports or at one time were considered Spanish protégés, but who were not born in Spain and
only reached there after Hitler came to power. While the present Spanish government does not appear to desire to harbor these groups permanently, they have at one time at least made representations to the German government and secured the removal of some of these persons to Spain. If we succeed in moving the present group from Spain to Fedhala, the Spaniards may be induced to make further representations to the German authorities and secure the release of other national groups also holding Spanish passports. Our Spanish representative can no doubt furnish more information on this matter.

Beekelman also advises that there is a well organized smuggling traffic in Spain which will practically guarantee the smuggling of refugees over the Spanish border and their safe delivery to the Spanish police. The charge for these services is somewhat in the neighborhood of 10,000 pesetas per person. He said that Mr. Samuel Seguerra, representative of the J.N.C. in Barcelona and Forby, of the American Consul in that city (who used these sources in order to get American flyers out of France) are acquainted with the persons carrying on this trade.

I am enclosing a copy of three letters written by Beekelman to various persons in connection with the Fedhala project which should furnish you with more information on the problems involved therein. As soon as typing facilities are available, I will also forward to you copies of cables that I have written as far as copies of cables on Fedhala. I would also suggest that you examine dispatch 1967 from Madrid to the State Department dated 31 January, 1944, which refers to the evacuation of refugees from Spain during 1943.

I will appreciate your keeping me advised as to all new developments and ideas and for any assistance that you may be able to give me in strengthening my position vis-a-vis the State Department representatives and the Comite. If Ambassador Wilson has not left for Africa at the time this arrives, I would suggest that the matter be discussed with him.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Leonard E. Aukermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board

Mr. John W. Fehle
Acting Director
War Refugee Board
Room 2804, Main Treasury Bldg.,
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.
March 1, 1944

War Refugee Board Meeting at Mr. Chapin’s office
1 March 1944 at 10 a.m.

Subject: Camp Marshal Lyautey, Fedhala.


The meeting was called for the purpose of hearing a report from Mr. Beckelman on the status of the Fedhala project. He said that he had just returned from a 4½ week trip to Spain where preliminary screening of the applicants had been accomplished. Under the original agreement only a preliminary screening should have taken place. However, a few days before leaving Spain, the French representative stated that Algiers wanted 6 copies of each application together with thumbprints and photographs. Lord Duncannon advised that these requirements had since been relaxed and the French now only wanted 2 copies and would not require photographs unless they were already available. They still will require thumbprints but have promised to screen all applications within 4 days after their arrival.

Mr. Beckelman stated that there were various problems which still might arise. The project was originally proposed as a refugee center for approximately 2,000 stateless refugees. However, since large numbers of these had previously emigrated to Palestine and elsewhere, only 750 applications had been received. Therefore it was decided to include in the group proposed to be removed all individuals whose national status is in doubt even though they are not clearly stateless, and Spanish wives and children of stateless refugees. The question as to the definition of a refugee may arise under these circumstances. Approximately 30% of the applicants arrived in Spain prior to Hitler’s advent to power in Germany. These include White Russians, who are sometimes referred to as “Nansen Refugees”, and a group of Sephardic Jews who found themselves in a difficult situation at the time of the Greek-Turkish exchange of populations. These Jews who had left Spain in 1492 had always maintained certain Spanish characteristics. When the exchange took place, it proceeded principally on a basis of religion, the Greeks agreeing to accept members of the Greek Orthodox Church and the Turks, Moslems. This group of Sephardic Jews, numbering about 75 people, fell into neither of the two categories and found themselves unwanted in either country. However, because of their knowledge of the Spanish language, they gravitated back to Spain. The number of applicants of this group is 75.
There is another group of Sephardic Jews who fall into a class known as "Spanish proteges". They had also been expelled from Spain in 1492 and had settled in various parts of Eastern Europe. Despite their expulsion, however, the Spaniards, sometime after 1492, adopted a practice of calling them "proteges" of the Spanish Government, and in Turkey at least, after pressure by the Turkish Government, were either forced to adopt Turkish nationality or be issued Spanish passports. A number of these persons accepted the Spanish passports and as time went on, moved about various parts of Europe on such passports. As Hitler occupied country after country, they finally reached Spain, where in the first instance, they were well treated but at a later date, they were oppressed by the Franco Government.

The curious method of the handling of these persons by the Spanish Government is illustrated by the following incident. A short time ago a French ship sailed from Spain carrying French refugees. Before the Spaniards would issue all of the necessary exit formalities they forced the French to take on board approximately 50 of these former Spanish proteges. When they arrived in North Africa, however, the Spanish Consul insisted that they be treated as Spanish citizens and not placed in internment camps and these persons are now residing in North Africa under the protection of Spanish diplomatic officials. There are approximately 250 of such persons in the group of applicants.

The French may raise a question as to whether or not the people in this group shall be classed as refugees. They may also question some other groups, some of whom arrived in Spain as early as 1919. They will certainly raise a question as to the further movement of these refugees. While they will probably have no objection to skilled artisans or physically fit men of military age, they will especially press this question with respect to older men or women with no obvious place of immigration. The applicants also include some former members of the International Brigades.

The applicants themselves have raised various questions:

1. Will veterans of the French Army or relatives of persons now in the French Army be considered a favored group and therefore be permitted to live elsewhere than in the camp after final screening has been concluded?

2. Will persons who can establish nationality of a country of the United Nations after their arrival in North Africa be permitted to leave the camp under arrangements with their own diplomatic officials?
3 - Will there be any favorable treatment for old or sick people to whom living in the camp would be a hardship?

4 - Will the camp be guarded by French guards?

On this latter question it was thought that we would not press the French too hard at the moment but both the British and American State Department representatives agreed that they would insist strongly that there be no guards after final screening had been completed. As noted before, the big problem will of course be the assurances that can be given to the French as to future movement of the refugees. This clearly appears to be the responsibility of the Inter-Governmental Committee. This Committee, however, has developed no plans of any definite nature at the moment.

Mr. Beckelman stated that if no further undue difficulties arose, the voyage for the camp might set sail at some time near the end of March.

Due to present unsettled conditions in Naples, the vessel May be less certain in setting out at present.

LEA: gw
To: Madrid  
No. 46  
February 23, 1944, 7 pm

After having discussed with the Direction de la Sécurité Militaire the contents of your No. 61 of February, they are today cabling their representative in Spain, Mr. Bayonne, as follows:

1. Unless now in your possession, photos are not required.
2. For Algiers two copies of the forms will be required and for Rabat two copies will also be required.
3. Thumbprints must be obtained.
4. If form agreed upon is used, no supplementary information will be necessary.
5. Within four days, the names of the individuals forwarded to Algiers will be cleared.

UNRRA representative and British representative have been consulted, and they concur that in regard to our original understanding with the French, the above requirements are in accord.

CHAPIN
From Madrid to Dept.
To Algiers.

Feb. 22, 1944
No. 77

The following telegram has been sent to the Dept. 607,
February 22, 9 pm. From Seckelmann for Lehmen. No. 6 paragraph
with further reference to number 4 in view of absence of reply
from North Africa to Embassy's query regarding security procedures
for Jedhafe applicants believe it preferable that I return there
along with French representative. Therefore proceeding Casablanca
February 23 and upon a final decision of French representative there
from Lisbon will go to Algiers. It is opinion of French
representative that if no undue delay is encountered in deciding
questions of admissibility to be taken up in Algiers and in
screening of individual applications there then refugees may
sail from Spain by last week of March. I estimate the average
cost of moving refugees from present locations in Spain to port
of embarkation at $25.00 per head for ship-side.

Repealed to Algiers for Fryer.

HAYES
The following telegram has been sent to the Department.

No. 566, February 17, 10 pm

For Lehman from Weckelman, number four

Applications for admission to Camp Lyautey thus far received from approximately four hundred persons of whom one hundred in camps and prisons so that their departure is contingent on release by Spanish authorities. Following is summary statistical analysis of applications on hand: up to twenty years of age 15%; twentyone to forty 45%; fortyone to sixty 30%; over sixty 10%. Males 65%; females 35%; unattached persons 55%; seventy-four family units 45%. Arrived in Spain after beginning of present war 55%; between advent of Hitler and beginning of war 15%; between end of last war and 1933 15%; before 1919 2%; Spanish wives and children of refugees 15%; religious affiliations - Jewish 60%; Catholic and Greek Orthodox 40%; Protestant 10%. Nationality status claimed by applicants comprises stateless and former enemy nationality 60%; United Nations nationalities 15%; European neutrals including so-called sephardic Spaniards 15%; Central and South America 10%. Individual applications continuing to come in and expect possibly additional one hundred before sailing list is prepared.

This week arrived in Spain about 350 so-called sephardic Spaniards who are Jews of Levantine origin holding Spanish passports whose release from German internment and transportation to Spain was arranged by Spanish authorities in expectation that these persons would leave Spain at earliest opportunity. This group contains one hundred family units, fifteen unattached men and ten unattached women with an approximately equal distribution among the four age groups above specified. Applications are now being collected from this group. I expect that majority will apply.

French representative now here expects return Morocco early next week via Lisbon and at my suggestion will see American legation about possibility of including stateless refugees now in Portugal in Camp Lyautey project. Sailing date of refugees from here depends on time involved in advance security check in North Africa about which Embassy has queried Algiers. As soon as reply is received will fix tentative date with British Embassy for ship to arrive at Spanish port and I shall then return North Africa.

Repeated to Algiers (by pouch) for Fryer.

HAYES
From: Madrid  
No. 61  February 16, 1944, 8 p.m

Paraphrase

The French representative now in Madrid to participate in the screening of refugees states that his superiors have instructed him to submit to Algiers for prior approval by the American, French and British intelligence services six copies of all identifications including photographs and fingerprints and asking for certain information not requested in the application forms and which neither we or the British considered necessary for the type of preliminary check envisaged. These instructions were issued despite the fact that an understanding had been reached between the British and ourselves that security screening of refugees applying for admission to the Fedhala Refugees Center would be kept to an absolute minimum prior to their departure from Spain. (End One) Repeated to Dept. and London.

It appears to us this procedure would be particularly unfeasible and most cumbersome at best with respect to the refugees still held in prisons and camps in Spain and who would benefit most from the project.

This is contrary to our previous understanding and recommendations as well as to information given by G-2 in Algiers to Beckelman before his departure for Spain, the implication being that all cases will be subjected to detailed scrutiny in North Africa before the refugees are allowed to depart from Spain. It would appear to be essential that Allied and French authorities agree to forego all except the preliminary security screening until after the arrival of the refugees in North Africa, unless actual evacuation of these persons to Fedhala is to be delayed indefinitely.

HAYES
Copy of telegram.

From: Madrid, February 16, 1944 759,

The following telegram has been sent to the Department:

726 - February 16, 5 p.m.

From BECILIAN for FHYTR

No. 3. Repeated to Algiers from FHYTR.

With further reference to No. 2. For your information, wish to report that my conversations with French representative here suggest that upon receipt of list of applicants for admission to Camp Iyettey, French authorities in Algiers are likely to devise other considerations than security in accepting or rejecting applications. French are apparently concerned lest refugees remain in Morocco after war's end and my impression is that in cases where age, sex, or physical condition render individual applicant unlikely prospect for employment or military service, or emigration, they wish to assure that such individuals are not likely to remain in Morocco before approving entry. They are also likely to question admissibility of Sephardic Group, about which British and American Embassies here keeping themselves informed. Within a few days, I will cable summary of age, sex, family, distribution of applicants, also indicating date of my return to North Africa and probable departure date of convoy.

EAVES
Cypher OTP

From British Representative, To: Mr. Ackerman,

[Handwritten text not legible]
Copy of telegram

From Madrid - February 3, 10 a.m., 1944

The following telegram has been sent to the Dept. 359.

From Beekman for Lehman, Number 2 -

For your information following decisions taken at meeting of British French American representatives held January 31 regarding security screening of applicants for North African refugee reception center:

1. British and Americans will check lists of applicants against their files here.

2. French will transmit lists to Algiers for similar checking there, after which Spanish exit visas will be requested.

3. French representatives will be asked to issue travel documents for journey to Casablanca to refugees accepted for admission there.

Repeated to Algiers for FRYBR.

HAYES
Beidelman’s letters to UNRRA
Progress on Span on flesh hole project

Next to Pebble works
Letter no. 4 March 44
January 23, 1944

Mr. E. Rosenman Fryer
Chief of Mission - U.S.S.R.
Vice Consular Office - Dept. of Public Welfare and Relief
Ambassador Blumenthal,
Algiers, Algeria.

Dear Sir,

Please report from Spain. The process of actually getting under way here has been delayed because I arrived in the midst of the final stages of preparation of a transport for Palestine which is leaving from Odessa for Haifa early next week. It is a two-stage boat and we will be carrying about 250 refugees from Portugal bound for Palestine and will pick up about 250 more at Cilicia. The 500 come from Madrid, Barcelona and a number of camps and prisons scattered throughout the country from which refugees prisoners were released for the purpose of going to Palestine. (They are in fact accompanied by police from camp to part of Israel.)

The reduction of this 500 leaves a still indeterminate number of stateless refugees in Spain. Unfortunately, who or how many, represents the Spanish and the U.S. in Madrid, says it cannot possibly exceed two thousand, indicating a scattered form, but still to living, an amount of their own. One could in addition include an estimated (very roughly) four to five hundred Jews, Greek, Cypriots, Belgians, Dutch, etc. who though not stateless are in a more or less exposed position here depending on the extent to which the Spanish government secures the representatives of these governments limited diplomatic recognition. My present intention is to have the announcements of the North African project sent to these people also and I believe the American Embassy concern in the position that we ought to accept for the only way of the right way to go.

Until the Palestine movement was completely put out of the way I made no effort to get any panel announcement of the North African project into the hands of the refugees here. However, as going to Palestine involved both the right of permanent stay and the right to work I regarded it as advisable to introduce my official way the qualification of the North African scheme which, objectively less desirable, might nevertheless seem more attractive because of its closer proximity to Europe. (I did in fact have a couple of violations, nevertheless, who wanted to advise on whether they should go to North Africa or Palestine.) Consequently I employed the ten days or so following my arrival for such informal interviewing as was possible, in order to let word about the North African project get organized and to have an opportunity to see what kinds of people were involved, what the reactions were, and what questions were most on people's minds.

Thus far I have had about sixty-five interviews involving some hundred odd people. This is roughly a 30% sample though it is not necessarily representative, first because they are all from Madrid and Barcelona, as well as refugees as in everything else, be a story for itself. Also my first interviews were with people who had previously solicited information about the North African project and may there are be viewed as having a more than average interest in it, either positive or negative. Nevertheless "for such interest as any possible" I give you here my observations of the group I have seen.
There are a number of French cases involving soldiers of Spanish, Mexican, Venetian, etc., passport. These people are at loose ends in Spain because they cannot get work permits and their consular representatives have no funds with which to repatriate them. They are prepared to come to North Africa because it is a step nearer home and on the same ground. People of the same nationalities as the refugees will not treat them as refugees. In a sample of 16 people, these cases total eleven, though I don't expect this percentage to be maintained for the refugee group as a whole. Then there is another group of people who are not likewise not refugees in the sense that their present situation arises from linguistic and cultural differences; they have not lived abroad or in other operations of the consular service. They are as follows in Spain where difficulties are aggravated by the fact that there is a war going on. They are of three categories essentially: 1) adventurers who happened to be in Spain rather than elsewhere; 2) foreigners who have been in Spain for many years and have settled in business or professions but because they were located in areas where the civil war can't get business licenses renewed; 3) foreigners who actively assisted the legitimate government during the civil war. In sample 16 cases 14 such persons. I think this is a higher percentage than will be true for the total number. (Accidentally I think the adventurers among this group, if they come to North Africa, are hardly likely to remain long in the camp. My guess is they will also take their own way out as shown and seek to remain for themselves.)

Of the rest (12) cases I advise an active interest at going to North Africa, either they have relatives there with whom they have to be able to live, obtaining their consent from the camp on this ground, or because they are fed up with Spain and feel that any change would be a change for the better, or because they have established some contact with the British and Americans. Another 12 are not at all indifferent or uncertain as to where they would stay here (or stay to) or go to North Africa. They want the advice of my advice and when I had explained why this was not a subject on which I could properly advise them, their attitude was that they would do whatever the majority of refugees would do. My own guess is that this group will go. Party one expressed active opposition to the idea of going to North Africa for the opposition varying from the statement that they would prefer not to go if they had any choice to the assertion that they would rather return to Morocco than go to a camp on French territory. Opposition seems to rest on the following bases: 1) Other migration opportunities. There are apparently a number of valid American visas in existence. I have seen three this far. The holders have Colombian transit visas also and tell me that they have never been asked if the necessary Venetian transit will be forthcoming in time for them to sail by Spanish ports in March. Some have negotiated in process for Venetian visas. A number are requesting regular to applications for American and British visas and hesitate to transfer their applications to another consulate for fear that this may involve them in long delays. 2) Belief that a move or less legalized residence in Spain can be "arranged." 3) Fear of losing contact with the French government in a situation in which the French camps remain of experience in French camps or an absence having served in the French army during the war and having nevertheless been refused recognition or assistance by French representatives on arrival here. Category 3 has 16 persons of the 26 above mentioned.

The other question put to me deals mostly with the right to work and the amount of freedom which residents of the camp might expect to have. About these two items, unfortunately, my present feeling is much less optimistic than it was when I left North Africa. My first conversations with Moroccan French authorities in Rabat had led me to believe that they were prepared to interpret the terms of the French-Moroccan agreement fairly liberally. Yesterday there arrived in Rabat the two representatives of the French Moroccan authorities who are to participate with the British and the Americans in the security screening of applicants here. (One of them was a chap I had previously talked with in Rabat.) I showed them the draft of the announcement and application form of which it
was proposed to circulate to the refugees in Spain (Inclosure A). They objected strenuously to the second paragraph of the grounds that it seemed more than it would be possible to grant. They implied that employment would only be possible in exceptional cases and that the right of temporary absence from the camp would be severely restricted.

I pointed out that this was at variance with the intent of the French-American agreement and their reply was that the French Committee of National Liberation in Algiers was not familiar with conditions in Morocco. I said that that was not a proper concern of the American government and did not see relevant to the question. I reminded one of the two representatives that it was he himself who had indicated to me in effect the fairly liberal position which the French authorities in Morocco were prepared to take in applying the terms of the French-American agreement. He acknowledged this but said that conditions in Morocco had changed since the conclusion of the negotiations between the American and British governments and the French Committee of National Liberation. The French authorities, he said, were very much disturbed over current native unrest in Morocco and were fearful that apparent concessions to refugees might aggravate that unrest.

Both representatives assured me that as soon as the current difficulties had subsided they were confident that it would be possible to give the refugees a larger measure of liberty and employment possibility but reiterated that it was almost impossible in our preliminary announcement to the refugees that it would be possible to give them upon their arrival in North Africa. I pressed my agreement with this point of view but contended that any announcement to the refugees ought to assure them of the fact that the French authorities and the British and American governments were in agreement that they should have. I suggested that if conditions in Morocco had changed since the conclusion of that agreement it might be well to advise the State Department of that fact and proposed taking the question up with the American Embassy. The French representatives then suggested that they might prepare a text of an announcement to the refugees and we would then compare the two to see whether we could agree on some joint statement. To this I agreed.

The draft which they prepared (Inclosure B) was a step forward from the position which they had expressed to me orally but I still felt it to be unsatisfactory on the two points of employment possibility and local liberty of movement. I told them that I would like to submit their draft to the American Embassy, which I did, discussing it with Allen Hood, Embassy Secretary who has been acting for the Embassy on refugee matters. He and I agreed that under the circumstances, probably the best course was to suggest the substitution, for the paragraph in dispute, of the relevant portions of the text of Kindag's final note to us, denying on the subject, this note constituting in effect the substance of our agreement with the French. This proposal the French representatives, after some discussion to the effect that their proposed text was less restrictive than the text of the official note, accepted. Consequently Inclosure C is the text of the announcement which will be circulated to a few days to all refugees in Madrid and Morocco, and, if the consent of the Spanish authorities can be obtained, to those in camps and prisons. (Estimated to number about 50). It will appear in English, French, Spanish and German.

I have omitted in detail this discussion with the French representatives because the tone of it seems to me more important than the text we finally agreed upon. The tone seemed to me to be definitely bad. If the French representatives who have come here from Morocco accurately reflect the feeling of the Moroccan French authorities and if that feeling continues unchanged, I think we are in for a very serious situation if on every request we shall have to make of the French authorities since the camp gates going and for imposing restrictions on every effort to give the residents of the camp any sense of being comfortable than in an internment camp. If you think it advisable it might be as well to put the State Department in Washington and our representatives in Algiers on notice.
...to the refugees in Spain and the likelihood of their going to North Africa, my present belief is that about half will indicate an initial willingness to go to that a substantial portion of the remainder will then follow suit. (There has not yet been any indication of any reaction on the part of the Spanish authorities which might influence this estimate.)

I imagine we may have up to 300 people, including those who may want to go from among the non-students but not fully protected national groups I have mentioned above.

On my way here, I stopped in Lisbon for a few days. In the course of my conversation there at the American Embassy, the question came up as to whether students refugees in Portugal could be included in the North African project. I have taken every possible care to keep up with the situation here and I have seen that there should no objection in principle though the coordination of transportation and such difficult to work out. However, unless I hear from you to the contrary, I shall continue to keep this possibility in mind and if the opportunity for more concrete consideration presents itself I shall go into it. Though no official indication has come from the Spanish Foreign Office there has been some reports which the Spanish authorities will request further reexamination by a compass fixes from a Portuguese rather than a Spanish part. If this should materialize, the question of taking these refugees now in Portugal was next week since he North Africa could perhaps be resolved simultaneously with the current undertaking.

In any case it now appears clear that the North African project, when its final materialization, will be a much smaller venture than has therefore been anticipated. I think every possible effort should be made to liquidate it at the earliest possible date both because of the inherently unsatisfactory situation which it seems unavoidable that the many will be represented and because the large capital investment and large per capita outlay necessary for the kind of center we have been contemplating cannot be justified for such a relatively small number. Since liquidation will require a collective rather than an individual action because the group now is seen to us to have been fairly well worked through by this time from the standpoint of persons with highly specialized skills, with professional contacts or with relatives in other countries. By present impression is that the bulk of the persons who will be going...
In connection with the text, there is a certainty of talking with Kuhlmann of the intergovernmental committee for refugees when he passed through London recently. He told us that Kuhlmann is now working on a survey of the refugee problem in the Mediterranean area and will pass through Algiers on his way home to England. At Kuhlmann's suggestion, I have telegraphed Algiers to get the date of Olsen's probable arrival there to see whether we can arrange to meet, there are a number of his fellow permit holders proposing to meet with Olsen very much like to work out with Olsen in the very near future, and with a member of the commission designated to represent and maintain contact with the intergovernmental committee in London so as to keep as closely in touch with immigration possibilities as possible.

Finally, there is now in the wind a project to offer some refugees "duration visas" to Canada and the arrival in a week of a Canadian representative is expected next week. A letter from I could tell you that the prior permission I had with him to drive a person a hundred miles away to be able to go to Canada from here, were the Canadian government is interested only in family units.

That is the picture to date. To save that I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter and an envelope directly to Bellingham. If you think it advisable, I will post it there. Don't know what to say that I haven't found it as easy to keep you informed as before. I hope you are well and managing it all as you've gone on to advise. It would, however, be good to see you again. I hope you will get to Bellingham. The food is better here than at the last but I miss the company.

Sincerely,

[Signatory]
DRAFT OF PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENT TO REFUGEES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Draft of proposed announcement to refugees as prepared by R.C. Buehrlen and approved by C. B. Durrans.

SUBJECT

In agreement with the governments of the United Kingdom and the United States, the Inter-American Committee of Refugees has arranged to receive in Morocco refugees now living in Spain who are at present without nationality status and whose interests cannot consequently be represented by any of the United Nations governments. Such persons upon their arrival in Morocco will be housed in a reception center about ten miles from Casablanca. The center is in a modern army barracks, built in 1913 and still recently occupied by American troops. The center will be administered by representatives of the American and British governments who will use every effort within the limits imposed by the physical conditions to facilitate normal communal life on the part of the residents of the center. The administration will provide food, necessary medical care and necessary clothing as far as the latter is available. All able-bodied residents of the center will be expected to contribute toward the cost of their maintenance by performing work assigned with the operation of the center as may be fitted to the abilities.

Residents of the center will be permitted to seek regular employment in cases where such employment is regarded as favorable to Morrocan economy, appropriate work permits will be issued by the local authorities including residence permits in the districts of employment. Those persons who do not obtain work permits will take their residence in the center. Permission will be available for temporary visits to Casablanca or other cities for varying periods of time, subject to such restrictions as security requirements and limitation of transportation facilities may necessitate.

The reception center in North Africa is intended to provide a safe and friendly center for refugees from which others may be continued toward further migration or, when circumstances permit, toward return to the country of permanent residence. In cooperation with the Inter-American Committee for Refugees, the Administration of the center will do everything possible to assist with such migration or return. Nonetheless, however, these depend essentially upon factors which are beyond the control of the administration of the center—such as the progress of military operations, the availability of transportation, and the insignation lines of various countries—so it is impossible to give any indication of the length of time during which residents will remain at the center.

Persons interested in being considered for admission to the reception center should fill out the application on the reverse side and bring it to the office of the Representation in Spain of American Relief Organizations, Calle Emilio Paez 20, Madrid.

APPLICATION

I, the undersigned, having read the preceding announcement, hereby make application for transportation to and admission into the Refugee Reception Center in Morocco. I accept the conditions stated in that announcement. I further certify that the information given below is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

(There follows identifying data and personal history and information.) See attachment.
Le comité national de la libération marocaine, d'accord avec les gouvernements britannique et américain, a donné son accord pour que des réfugiés vivant actuellement au Maroc ou à Olympic, dans un pays voisin, aient l'occasion de rester en Europe au service de ce pays ou de leur pays d'origine.

Les personnes qui le souhaitent pourront être logées dans un centre d'accueil qui se trouve à environ 15 km de Casablanca. Il s'agit de baracks militaires modernes, construits en 1943 et occupés récemment encore par des troupes américaines. Ce centre sera administré par des représentants officiels britanniques et américains qui feront leur possible, dans les limites permises par les circonstances, pour faciliter aux réfugiés une vie normale et agréable.

Les autorités américaines et anglaises pourront à la nourriture et ils s'occuperont des soldes médicaux nécessaires comme le montre le tableau suivant, autant qu'il sera possible.

Les réfugiés en bonne santé devront contribuer aux frais de leur propre entretien et se charger de certains travaux en rapport avec leurs aptitudes pour aider au bon fonctionnement du centre.

Les réfugiés pourront également être employés à l'escompte marocain, les autorités locales leur attribueront des permis de travail. Ils pourront également obtenir des permis de séjour pour les villes où ils auront trouvé une occupation.

Les personnes qui n'auront pas trouvé de travail seront logées dans le camp. Ils pourront demander obtenir, pour les actes d'aménité établis, les autorisations pour sortir du camp. Les autorisations seront d'un durée variant selon les circonstances établies par les autorités et les moyens de transport disponibles.

Le centre soudain voudrait offrir aux réfugiés un endroit sûr et accueillant, d'où ils pourront continuer leurs démarches pour une autre emmarchure ou pour un retour au pays de leur ancienne résidence, pourvu que les circonstances le permettent.

En collaboration avec le "Comité International pour les Réfugiés" sera possible pour aider cette emmarchure ou retour. Autant que ces plans dépendent de conditions hors de l'influence de l'administration—comme par exemple le développement des opérations militaires, les moyens de transport disponibles et les différentes lois d'emigration des différents pays—il est impossible d'évaluer pour combien de temps certains réfugiés seront obligés de rester au centre.

Les personnes qui voudraient être admises à ce Centre doivent compléter la demande d'admission et la présenter au Bureau de la "Représentation en Common of American Relief Organizations", Calle Eduardo Nunez 31, Madrid.
ANNOUNCEMENT

In agreement with the governments of the United Kingdom and the United States, the French Committee of National Liberation has given its consent that refugees at present living in Spain who are without diplomatic representation be received in Morocco until such time as their further migration can be arranged. Such persons will be housed in a reception center about 15 km. from Casablanca. The center is a modern army barracks built in 1943 and until recently occupied by American troops. The center will be administered by representatives of the American and British governments who will use every effort, within the limits imposed by the physical conditions, to facilitate normal communal life on the part of the residents of the center. The American and British authorities will provide food, necessary medical care and essential clothing, as far as the latter is available. All able-bodied residents of the center will be expected to contribute towards the cost of their maintenance by performing the duties connected with the operation of the center as may be suited to their abilities.

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 occupation without disadvantage to the economy of the protectorate. 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 reservation of conforming to such controls as 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 'schola camp, the French administration, if the occasion arises, will grant them facilities to remain temporarily from the housing center, on the condition that they maintain their regular residence at the camp and observe scrupulously its laws and regulations of the country, in particular those regarding immigration. Such facilities will also be subject to restrictions imposed by the necessity of maintaining order and security in the territory of the
protect from and by limitation of available transportation.

The reception center in North Africa is intended to provide a safe and friendly center for refugees from which efforts may be continued toward further evacuation or, when circumstances permit, toward return to the country of permanent residence. In cooperation with the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees, the administration of the center will do everything possible to assist with such evacuation or return. Nonetheless, however, no assurance essentially upon factors which are beyond the control of the administration of the center—such as the progress of military operations, the availability of transportation, and the immigration laws of the various countries involved—it is impossible to give any indication of the length of time during which residents will remain at the center.

Persons interested in being considered for admission to the reception center should fill out the enclosed application and bring it to the office of the representation in Spain of American Relief Organizations, Calle de Mayo 25, Madrid.
APPLICATION

I, the undersigned, having read the preceding announcement, hereby file this application for transportation to and expulsion into the so-called occupied area in Morocco. I undertake to observe all the conditions set forth in that text. I further certify that the information given herein is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE

Je soussigné, déclare avoir lu en conséquence des explications précédentes; je demande à être déplacé dans un convoi pour l'Afrique du Nord et à être transféré au centre d'Internement pour espions. Je m'engage à respecter toutes les conditions contenues dans ce texte.

Je certifie en outre que les indications données ci-dessous sont vraies, sincères et données de bonne foi.
A. Identité - Identification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nom véritable</th>
<th>Prénom(s)</th>
<th>Personalisation</th>
<th>Nom d'époux</th>
<th>Prénom(s)</th>
<th>Personalisation</th>
<th>Adresse actuelle</th>
<th>Nationalité actuelle</th>
<th>Nationalité ancienne</th>
<th>Date et lieu de naissance</th>
<th>Religion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Nom de mari (femme): nom et groupe des enfants qui n'accompagnent pas d'homme (femme); names and ages of children accompanying;

Nom de mari (femme): nationalité actuelle; former nationality;

(Place and date of birth)

Situation militaire

B. Enseignements particulières - specific information

Pays où l'intéressé a résidé à compter du 1er septembre 1939;
Pays in which applicant has resided since September 1, 1939;

Activité exercées;

Occupation

Pays où l'intéressé a résidé à compter du 1er septembre 1939;
Pays in which applicant has resided since September 1, 1939;

Activité exercées;

Occupation

Date d'arrivée en Espagne;

Date of arrival in Spain

Pays où l'intéressé a résidé à titre définitif;
Pays in which applicant has resided permanently;
Observations spéciales que l'intéressé doit être en mesure de porter a la connaissance des autorités chargées de son enrôlement ou instruction.

Additional comments which the applicant believed it useful to bring to the attention of the authorities concerned with his recruitment or instruction.
Mr. W. Beekman  
Amériens Consulate  
Barcelona, Spain  

February 12, 1944  

Mr. Dewey Anderson  
UNRA  
Washington, D.C.  

Dear Dewey:  

It was good to get your letter of January 21 and to know that you are continuing with the UNRRA. Congratulations (or condolences, depending on how you feel about it) on your heading up the Bureau of Areas -- for myself I'm glad to hear it and to learn that I shall probably be reporting to you. So here goes my first. I have some various and sundry communications which I've sent through to Tom Burland thus far, on the assumption that he can still handle up field operations, so I shall begin in that regard.  

I've been in Barcelona about a week (interrupted by a two day trip to the French frontier to witness the arrival of some 400 "Spanish" refugees -- this is a separate chapter which I shall come back to later) and I expect to return to Madrid tomorrow. I shall be taking with me the applications of about 170 people for admission to the North African Refugee Reception Center which have thus far been turned in here; it seems probable that the final number of applications from Barcelona will be somewhat over 200, or between 1/4 and 1/3 of the estimated number of refugees here. Resistance to the idea of going to North Africa under the conditions indicated in our announcement of the Refugee Reception Center (which you have undoubtedly received by now) has been even greater here than in Madrid. The reasons for this depend in part on the differentiated character of the refugee group here from that in Madrid, and in part on a number of problems which have arisen here in the course of the interviewing which the French representative and I have been conducting here in order to obtain an impression of the nature and composition of the refugee group.  

Barcelona apparently has a larger number of refugees than Madrid who have family and property in France with which they still maintain contact. The possibility of doing so is one of the reasons why they remain in Barcelona in preference to going to Madrid, which is one of the reasons why there are more refugees here than in the capital. Exchange of news with their families, negotiations to get them across the frontier into Spain, the ability to despatch occasional food packages from here to relatives in France, hope that within another two or three months the latter will be able to join them, these are all considerations which have acted to reduce the number of applicants for admission to North Africa. Most important of course has been the fear that admission to the Reception Center, under the conditions stated, amounts to internment. On this point my feeling remains that given in my January 23 letter to Fryer of which I sent a copy directly to Burland.  

Here as in Madrid the two questions most frequently put to us were: "Can I get a job?" and "How can I arrange to live outside the camp?" Nevertheless, the French delegate from Morocco, who had worked with me in Madrid, having returned to Rabat, I was accompanied here by Bayonne, who was sent from Spain from Algiers to represent the French in the security screening process. I referred those questions to him both because I wanted him to see the urgency with which those points were regarded by the
refugee group and to have the applicants feel that they answer they were getting on these points were authoritative. Haywood stuck very faithfully to the text of our announcement in answering these questions but it was clear that according to his view, the provisions regarding work possibilities would be interpreted restrictively, and that failing employment, camp residents would not be able to leave the camp grounds without good cause, for any period whatever. It was also indicated that the French will mount guard on the camp and control exit from it.

With respect to men of military age, it came out during our interviews, that employment would be out of the question on the logical ground that the local population would resent paying foreigners of the same age as the mobilized members of their families free to work and earn civilian wages. Consequently, unless such men had a previous military record in the French army which would entitle them to join the French Forces in Africa, the alternative to permanent residence in the camp was enlistment in the Foreign Legion. Against this there is apparently strong feeling which I have encountered uniformly in all my talks with refugees both in Spain and in North Africa.

This morning I had an interesting visit from a representative of the French Red Cross in Barcelona (which is, I believe, the official title of the French Mission here). He came, he said, in a private capacity as one who was familiar with the refugee situation here to put to me the proposition that the refugee reception center should no longer serve any useful purpose. Six or eight months ago, he said, the proposal would have been jumped at by practically all the refugees in Spain. Now that almost all of them are at liberty in Madrid and Barcelona, the proposal that they should voluntarily apply to enter an internment camp does not make much sense to them. Nor, added the Red Cross delegate, did it seem logical to him, since it was his belief, based on his experience, that the number of people who might expect to receive work permits would be "I will not say zero, but not much more". Hence the proposal to go to North Africa represented a choice between idleness in a metropolitan city like Madrid or Barcelona and idleness within the limits of a military encampment. He wondered, he said, whether it was impossible to avoid going through with the proposal.

I told him that I saw no point in our discussing the matter from that standpoint since the decision of policy did not rest with either of us. I said that while I recognized and had of course known from the outset the force of many of the objections he had raised, his presentation seemed to me to omit two important factors. The first was that the present fairly satisfactory position of the refugees in Spain was not one which the British, French or American authorities were in a position to ensure for the future and that if it should change for the worse, there was not much that these governments could do in the matter. Secondly, I pointed out that the official assumption of responsibility for the maintenance of these people on the part of the British and American governments for their reception in North Africa on the part of the French implied that they would presumably not be abandoned without further ado, once hostilities had terminated. While no one was in a position to give guarantees at the present time, it was logical to assume that the governments involved would feel a greater measure of responsibility for the repatriation or permanent settlement in some country of immigration of those people whom it would be maintaining in North Africa at the end of the war than for those who might voluntarily elect to remain in Spain.
Those two considerations are the ones which I have informally been

calling to the attention of refugees in my interviews with them. Never-
theless, the fear of the camp concept on the part of those who have previously

experienced camp residence, seems to be overpowering. They point out that

no matter what amenities are provided, the inability to walk off the grounds

when one chooses creates a sense of confinement which, in the light of

their previous experience, they regard as completely deterrent. They con-

cede that the authorities here may at any moment return them to camp or

prison. But, they say, if the Spanish authorities do so, neither the

authorities nor the refugees regard the measure as a favor bestowed upon

the refugees. As a reply for admission to North Africa under the restrictions

indicated, is in effect to ask for the favor of being interned and to feel

obligated to the authority which provides the internment. As compared with

their present situation, they prefer not to do so.

So much for the objections voiced by the refugees who have not applied.

I have tried to give a composite picture of the reactions I have encountered

both because it forms part of the situation here and because I think it

useful in planning our approach to future situations. With respect to the

170 applications thus far received in Barcelona, the following summarizes the

age, sex, and family distribution:

Males -- 97; Females -- 74;

1 to 10 yrs. of age -- 15
11 to 20 yrs. of age -- 22
21 to 30 yrs. of age -- 16
31 to 40 yrs. of age -- 31
41 to 50 yrs. of age -- 30
51 to 60 yrs. of age -- 25
61 to 70 yrs. of age -- 18
Over 70 yrs. of age -- 7

In terms of the period of their arrival in Spain (which has bearing

on the question of who shall be considered a refugee) the group divides

itself into the following categories:

1. Arrived after the outbreak of the present war -- 92
2. Between the coming to power of Hitler and Sept. 1, 1939
   (including remnants of the International Brigade and
   other foreigners deprived of status as a result of
   the Spanish civil war) -- 10
3. Between the end of the first World War and
   1933. -- 30
4. Before 1914. -- 4
5. Children and wives of stateless persons,
   born in Spain. -- 16

The refugee status of categories 1 and 2 seems clear. With respect
to 3 and 4, the question is somewhat confused but we have assumed up to

now that in view of the fact that the maximum possible number of applicants

will be well below the agreed upper limit of 2,000, no distinction would

be made between applications on the basis of the date of their arrival in

Spain. (See Summary of Minutes of Meeting of January 31, transmitted to you).

Inasmuch as it now appears that the French may question the procedure, it

seems desirable to indicate the origins of categories 3 and 4.
Category 3 is essentially a remnant of the refugee problem of the last war. It consists of Jews of Greek and Turkish origin who were involved territorially in the 1921 (1) transfer of populations between Greece and Turkey but who were not regarded by either government at the time as being racially Greek or Turkish and who, therefore, did not benefit fully from the assistance which the two governments gave to their expatriated nationals. Inasmuch as this group, whose ancestors were expelled from Spain in 1492, has always retained a kind of Spanish as a mother tongue, many of them gravitated toward Spain, where for the most part they settled in Barcelona rather than Madrid since the former is more important as a center of commerce and industry. Their knowledge of Spanish (their language, Ladino, stands in something the same relationship to Spanish as Czmuk or Cajun French does to French, or Yiddish to German) facilitated their adjustment. Though they were technically stateless, the Spanish governments of Alfonso and the Republic apparently felt some sentimental interest in these descendants of the original 1492 expulsion and permitted them to establish themselves on a permanent basis. (If I am not mistaken, the Republic officially repealed the 1492 expulsion decree and invited the descendants of the Sephardic Jews to return to Spain.) Category 4 is essentially the same except that the persons involved came to Spain before the last war.

Under the present government, all communal organization other than Catholic, is forbidden. The Barcelona Jewish community which until 1936 numbered some 700 has been liquidated and its leaders have either emigrated or been imprisoned as Freemasons or for participation in the Civil War. The persons formerly assisted by that community because of age or poverty are now being assisted by the Joint Distribution Committee office in Barcelona. It is from that group that categories 3 and 4 are drawn. Their status is indefinite and variable. All of them are stateless, though some still claim Turkish or Greek nationality and have expired passports as documentation. Some of them have work permits, others do not. Their principal motive for seeking to leave Spain at the present time is the uncertainty of their position and the fact that they cannot, under present circumstances, earn a living. For most of them, the logical definitive settlement would be Palestine, though of the group, as in fact depart with the Syrassa for Palestine but not many were able to do so because the number of Palestine certificates available for persons over 35 was exceedingly limited.

Somewhat akin to this group is the group called the "Sephardic Spaniards" to which I referred in my first paragraph. The Embassy in Madrid is fully in touch with the problem so I shall summarize it briefly. By royal decree issued sometime in the twenties, Sephardic Jews, living for the most part in the Balkans and the Levant, who, as descendants of the 1492 expulsion had for some decades or perhaps even longer, had an amorphous standing as "Spanish proteges", were entitled, under certain circumstances to become Spanish citizens and obtain Spanish passports. An indeterminate number of them did so. As the Germans occupied various countries, Sephardic Jews who hold Spanish passports were in some cases able to negotiate their entry into Spain as Spanish citizens, where they were received at the outset apparently without much difficulty, though it is not clear whether they obtained work permits or not. More recently the entry of these "Sephardic Spaniards" into Spain has been possible only in groups or convoys arranged between the Spanish and German governments. This entry has been accorded, as I understand it, on the basis of an assurance given the Spanish government by the Joint Distribution Committee that it would maintain these people during their stay in Spain and arrange for their departure from the country at
the earliest possible moment. With respect to the latter question, the American Embassy in Madrid has indicated an interest, and the Ambassador has indicated his belief that it would be desirable to include as many of these Sephardic refugees (at least those of them who entered Spain on the basis of an understanding that they would depart as soon as possible) in the Refugee Reception Center project as possible. I have indicated my general agreement with the proposition and my belief that the persons involved come within the scope of the intent of the project. Up to the arrival of the convoys mentioned at the beginning of this letter, the total number involved seems to have been about 100 people; the train which I went up to Port Bou to see arrive brought 183 and a like number are expected within a day or two. Unlike the first arrivals of Sephardic refugees whose most recent permanent residences had been Paris, the two last convoys mentioned, consist of people resident in Seville who have been in German internment for the past six months approximately, pending completion of the negotiations for their entry into Spain.

In general terms I have suggested to Mr. Bayonne, the French representative, our intention of including in the applicants for the North African project such of these Sephardic refugees as wish to apply, along the lines indicated in our January 31 meeting in Madrid. (See summary of minutes referred to above). Mr. Bayonne who did not attend that meeting tells me that the inclusion of "Spanish nationals" in the Refugee Reception Center is not contemplated in the instructions which he has brought with him from Algiers and that he will have to take that question up on his return there. He also questions the validity of including persons whom I have listed in refugee categories 3 and 4 above.

In general, his procedure suggests that the instructions he has brought with him from Algiers involve a screening from other points of view than that of military or political security exclusively. When I pointed out to him that the intent of the meeting at Algiers, which had decided that I should go to Spain to assist in the preliminary screening and that a French representative should do likewise, had been that the screening in Spain should be of a preliminary character and should be limited to security considerations only, he indicated that in his understanding there was also involved the question of the ultimate disposition of each person accepted for the Refugee Reception Center. He tells me that he will take with him to Algiers a complete list of all applicants for admission and that each case will be scrutinized there. I get the impression that in those cases in which the applicant does not have an employable skill or reasonably good prospects of early immigration, the French Committee intends to seek firm assurance from the British and American governments regarding the ultimate disposition of each individual involved. It may be of course that I misunderstand what Mr. Bayonne has in mind or that his ideas are not in concurrence with those of the French authorities in Algiers, but in any case I believe it useful to pass these observations along to you so that our representatives in Algiers may be on notice, if these matters should come up.

As the result of the joint interviewing which Mr. Lavassour and I did in Madrid and Mr. Bayonne and I have done in Barcelona, a number of questions have arisen which Mr. Bayonne indicates will have to be resolved in Algiers. Of these too I should like you to have advance notice in order that we may be prepared to urge as liberal a solution of them as is possible within the intent of the project. Following are the questions which have thus far arisen in our discussions:
1. Customs clearance for refugees — tools of trade, personal valuables, household effects (in some cases where people have family in North Africa), etc.

2. Financial clearance — transfer of funds from Spain to North Africa; bringing into North Africa on one's person small amounts of various currencies.

3. Special status (i.e., right to live outside of center) for people in such categories as: (a) Men who have served in the French Army, been honorably discharged, and are now too old or incapacitated for further service; (b) Persons who have sons or husbands in the French Army at present (you will recall that in the first French reply to the British American proposal for the Center it was pointed out that people in these categories might expect special consideration); (c) Persons with relatives regularly domiciled in North Africa; (d) Persons of established nationality whose consulates vouch for them and who are able to finance their own maintenance; (e) Persons who are old or chronically ill for whom living in the camp would constitute an undue hardship; (f) After check on political security has been carried out in North Africa, possibility of release for people able to finance their own maintenance.

That is the picture to date. As I have indicated I'm on my way to Madrid tomorrow morning. Mr. Beyonce comes with me and I hope to finish up in Madrid in a few days. Beyonce wants to do some sample interviewing in Madrid similar to that which he has done in Barcelona. From there he goes to Portugal for a few days and then returns to Algiers via Casablanca, there to discuss with the French authorities the list of applicants for admission to North Africa. Applications (such as those of the Sephardic group and those from persons now in camps and prisons) which will come in after our departure from Spain are to be forwarded to Algiers after having been cleared by the British and American passport controls in Madrid. Myself, I hope to be able to leave Madrid by the end of the coming week and return to Casablanca either via Lisbon or Tangier. If all goes well with the business of clearing our application lists in Algiers (which at the moment I'm inclined to doubt) we ought to be able to envisage embarkation the first week in March. I shall, of course, advise you about this as soon as I have more definite information.

My present estimate of the number of applicants for the camp are as follows:

- From Barcelona -- 226
- From Madrid -- 175
- From camps and prisons -- 50
- Sephardic group (tentatively -- 200, I expect a complete list of names, family groups and ages in two or three days); Miscellaneous recognized nationals, Polans, Bochs, etc. -- 50. Tentative total -- 700.

In the light of this background I find it difficult to comment on the information enclosed with your letter of January 21. I am glad to note the official designation of personnel for the camp and to see that Ted Campbell is included as Administrative officer. Si Fryer recommends him very highly and my own recollection of the brief contact I had with him in Washington is a good one. Si Fryer had told me prior to my departure from North Africa that Campbell was not available, but I assume the situation has changed. My brief concern about personnel at present is first what appears to be an excessive British and American staffing for a project of the size which now appears likely for the Center. We have five British personnel now in Casablanca and six American personnel (including myself) now in North Africa tentatively scheduled for assignment to the Center. The nine listed in Roseman's January 8 letter to Noonan brings the total up to twenty — a figure which seems to me excessive. Nevertheless, except
for a reduction in the number of stenographers and the release of some of the American personnel now in North Africa who are tentatively assigned to the project but who have no specific skills. I see no likelihood for an immediate reduction in personnel, at least not till after the project has been in operation for a month or two and we can see our way clear. (In view of the fact that the British have sent two nurses, we might reduce the American personnel in this category to one). In terms of official responsibility the heads of such departments, it seems to me, must be American or British. Consequently, my only suggestion at present is to go ahead with our plans, regarding the project as an experimental opportunity for some of the personnel and intending to release as many as possible as soon as operations opportunity develops in other theaters.

Please give my best regards to all and sundry in the office. I hope to have a chance to write everyone again as soon as I get back to North Africa -- days have been pretty crowded here these past two months. Once again, let me say how much I appreciate your keeping me posted on UMPRA developments and that I hope you will find it possible to repeat the performance from time to time and meanwhile send along any UMPRA announcements or publications which will help me keep up to date.

Sincerely,

M. W. Beekman
February 23, 1944

Mr. Dewey Anderson
Chief, Field Operations
UNHRA o/o State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dewey:

I am about ready to wind up matters here and return to North Africa as soon as I can get plane reservations (probably Feb. 23) to Tangier. I should like to summarize the status of our camp negotiations briefly as I see them at this point.

The center of activity in preparing for the refugee convoy from Spain to North Africa now shifts from Madrid to Algiers. This was not contemplated in the discussions between the British, Americans and French which took place in Algiers before I left there; at that time it was understood that British French and American representatives in Madrid would make the selection of refugees on the basis of a preliminary screening here, that the convoy would then be arranged, and that full security check would then be instituted upon arrival of the convoy in North Africa. (Presumably undesirable were to have been weeded out at Casablanca and dealt with separately from the rest of the convoy.) However, at the meeting held in Madrid to establish screening procedures, the French representatives reported that their instructions were to bring back to North Africa a list of applications, and that the applications would be studied there and decision reached as to which persons were to be admitted. Though I made it clear that I was not in Madrid as a member of the screening committee, I attended the meeting I was referring to and at this point I said that this was not my understanding of the arrangement that had been reached in Algiers. However, the British and American representatives here agreed that the major security responsibility in this venture rested, in the nature of the case, upon the French and that consequently the procedure recommended by them would be approved. (After the meeting I sent you a copy of the minutes which I had taken, the original proposals which I had prepared as a suggestion for the American representative, and Telegram No. 8 to the governor summarizing the security procedures agreed upon.)

Subsequently, as I wrote you in my letter of February 15 from Barcelona, the French representative indicated to me that he believed that the French authorities in Algiers, in screening the list of applicants, would invoke substantive as well as security considerations in accepting or objecting to individual applicants. Upon our return from Barcelona, the French representative found instructions from his superiors in Algiers, asking for six copies of each application, six photographs and thumbprints of all applicants. This necessitated repeating the whole application process in Barcelona and delayed the process of preparing the applications in Madrid. When I brought this to the attention of the American Embassy here they sent a telegram to Algiers, repeated to Washington, pointing out that their understanding had been that security screening prior to actual embarkation would be kept to a minimum, that the request which the French representative had received implied a long process of screening in Algiers prior to departure of the refugees from Spain and asking for clarification of the situation. Meanwhile we have gone ahead with the collecting of the photographs and thumbprints requested.
Most recently, the French representative has indicated to me that he expects that after the questions of principle put by the applications thus far received have been resolved in Algiers (these questions are indicated in my Telegram No. 3 to the Governor and in my letter of February 19) he, and presumably I, would return to Spain to make the final selection of refugees for North Africa and preparations for the convoy. At that time, he would issue a travel document on behalf of the French authorities to those persons whose applications have been accepted. (This travel document, originally envisaged as issued by the British French and Americans is now, in accordance with the understanding reached at the Madrid meeting of January 31—one minutes which I have sent you—to be issued by the French exclusively.) He would also examine and pass upon those applications received here, after our departure for North Africa next week. He believes that once the applications of principle have been decided in Algiers, it will be possible for the convoy to leave Spain about the last week of March. (This assumption however seems to me inconsistent with the request that there be six copies of each application and unless we arrive at some simplification of the procedure in Algiers, the actual departure of the refugees from Spain may be much longer delayed.)

In any case, the question of when the camp opens, and perhaps even whether it opens, now depends, it seems to me, on the position which our representatives in North Africa will take on the discussions which lie ahead. For my guidance it will be most useful to have your comments on my telegram No. 4 to the Governor giving the composition of the four hundred odd persons from whom we have thus far received applications. These are not a typical refugee group as we commonly employ the term, but I have thus far been proceeding on the assumptions already communicated to you that in view of the small numbers involved we are interpreting the term refugee rather broadly. (I enclose a more detailed analysis than was possible in my telegram No. 4 of the bulk of the applications thus far received.) To some extent the feasibility of proceeding on this basis depends on our ability to foresee ultimate disposition for these people. On this point I hope to get some ideas from a conference with Patrick Molan who is scheduled to return to North Africa March 19. Meanwhile any suggestions you may have on ultimate disposition particularly of older people who may come to the camp will be helpful.

Furthermore, if the French objections to certain categories of applicants (e.g., Sephardic, older persons without immigration prospects, people who were not refugees when they came to Spain, etc.) are sustained we may find the number of eligible applicants reduced to the point where it becomes impracticable to operate on a camp basis. Tentatively, I have been using the minimum figure of 800 for this purpose, but before any action is taken with respect to the inclusion or elimination of certain categories, I believe some minimum figure should be set by UNRRA

Assuming that there are no exclusions of applicants by categories but that all rejections are on an individual basis and for security reasons primarily (with a few exceptions in the cases of invalids or aged persons who might be ruled out on these grounds), the estimate given in my letter of February 19 of 750 as the opening camp population will stand. (Including the Sephardic group,) it may be somewhat exceeded, depending on the turn of political events in Spain. On the other hand, if actual departure is long delayed, military and political developments in Europe generally may set substantially to reduce the size of the actual embarkation group when we are finally ready.
Reserve to D. Anderson—5

Once the camp is operating, if it turns out that we are able to arrange a fair amount of personal freedom for the residents of the camp, we may have additional applicants from the refugee group proper now in Spain who have thus far withheld from applying for the variety of reasons I have indicated in my previous letters, principally from fear of restrictive French control. I have attempted to provide, on principle, for such later applications, if they materialize, by suggesting that they be added to subsequent French convoys, but the possibility of this proposal cannot be determined until the occasion arises.

That is the situation thus far. The French representative will go to Lisbon at the same time as I go to Tangier. He has some business there on behalf of the French Committee and I have suggested to him that he take the opportunity to discuss with Ambassador Moreau, American Minister to Portugal, the possibility of including stateless refugees now in Portugal in the Fedhali project. This he has said he will do. I shall spend a few days in Casablanca meeting the staff people who have arrived, and making such preparatory arrangements and staff assignments as are possible. The French representative should arrive in Casablanca about the end of February and I then expect to go up to Algiers with him to take up there the various questions which, as I have indicated in this and my previous letters and telegrams, will constitute the next order of business.

My next communications should be from Algiers as soon as there is something to report on the further development of arrangements for selection of refugees for the camp.

Sincerely,

D.W. Beckelman
Telegram to Department of State, December 9, 10 p.m. Number 123.
The following from Royce and Reekie for Latimer and Fryer. Reference
your 64 of December 4.

Upon the understanding that the movement of such personnel
begins after advice from here more clearly defining the camps
opening date, AFEQ will authorize transportation of personnel for
refugee center in Morocco and its official designation as such.
Assistance from the Army will be limited to essential emergency
operations. It is recommended by us that a program be set-up
immediately in the US for complete food kitchen, mess, billet
office and medical facilities in addition to the procurement by
you of automotive and truck transportation. Please in the mean-
while advise us of the name as well as the background of the pro-
posed administrative office. We have contemplated filling the
post of port transportation officer from here. When the
camps opening date is known definitely we will advise Hoehler.
We plan to send Beckelman to Spain to help select and process
camp refugees and have requested the validation of his passport
from the Department of State.
No. 11

The Representative of the United States of America in Algiers presents his compliments to His Excellency the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, and referring to the Commissioner's note no. 10832/AS/24, dated November 9, 1943, has the honor to state that his Government accepts with appreciation the offer of the French Committee of National Liberation of the assembly center for refugees at Fedhala, at the same time taking note that it is not the intention of the Committee to subject the refugees to measures which are designed to deprive them of their liberty.

The necessary measures will accordingly be initiated, with the cooperation of the competent French authorities, to select, transport, and receive the refugees at the camp at Fedhala upon their arrival.

December 3, 1943.
Le représentant personnel du président ROOSEVELT en Afrique du Nord a bien voulu par note No.36 du 18 Octobre, faire part au Commissaire aux Affaires Étrangères de l'accord du Gouvernement des États-Unis aux propositions du Comité Français concernant le projet d'installation au Maroc des réfugiés apatrides ou ressortissants de nations ennemies qui sont actuellement retenus en Espagne.

Monseur Murphy a toutefois appelé l'attention du Département des Affaires Étrangères sur l'intérêt que les Gouvernements américain et anglais attachaient à ce que ces réfugiés ne puissent être considérés comme soumis au régime d'internement en camp de concentration.

Le Commissaire aux Affaires Étrangères a l'honneur de faire savoir à Monseur Murphy qu'il n'a jamais été dans les intentions du Comité de frapper les réfugiés étrangers de mesures privatives de liberté. Le Comité Français désire comme les Gouvernements américain et britannique assurer aux réfugiés un asile aussi généreux que possible, mais il lui a paru indispensable de prendre certaines précautions à l'égard de personnes dont les antécédents ne sont pas connus et pour lesquelles un simple examen de dossier ne saurait donner des garanties suffisantes.

Il est bien entendu que les autorités françaises sont disposées, après examen de chaque cas particulier, à accorder aux réfugiés dont l'activité professionnelle peut s'exercer sans inconvénient pour l'économie du protectorat, la permission de travailler au Maroc. Ces réfugiés bénéficieront, à ce titre, sous la seule réserve de se soumettre aux contrôles qui seront jugés nécessaires, d'une autorisation de séjour dans la localité où un emploi aura pu leur être procuré.

Pour ce qui concerne les réfugiés qui n'auront pas été autorisés à travailler et qui de ce fait, devront être maintenus en subsistance au camp de Fedala, il va sans dire que l'administration française leur accordera le cas échéant des facilités pour s'absenter temporairement du centre d'hébergement, à condition qu'ils conservent au camp leur résidence habituelle et observent exactement les lois et règlements du pays, notamment ceux relatifs à l'immigration.

Le Commissaire aux Affaires Étrangères espère que ces dispositions, qui sont prises avec le double souci de traiter humanement des étrangers infortunés et de sauvergar continuer l'ordre et la sécurité dans les territoires relevant de la souveraineté française, rencontreront l'accord des Gouvernements américain et britannique. (Initial illegible)

Son Excellence Monseur MURPHY, Représentant du Gouvernement des États-Unis auprès du Comité Français de la Libération Nationale, ALGER.
The President's Special Representative in North Africa presents his compliments to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, and has the honor to refer to the latter's note no. 8185/A.2., dated October 2, 1943, concerning the proposal to establish a temporary refuge in North Africa for refugees of enemy nationality and stateless now in Spain. The observations of the French Committee of National Liberation were communicated to the Government of the United States which is grateful that the French authorities are prepared to give asylum to these unfortunate people, but regrets to learn that the French authorities desire to impose conditions of internment upon the refugees who have come from Spain. It was the intention both of the British and United States Governments to avoid any implication that the refugees would be placed in a concentration camp. Thus, in the opinion of the two Governments, it is important that these persons should be given some freedom of movement. Instant and violent public and press criticism might well follow were the refugees to be confined in a camp following their evacuation from Spain. In that connection, it may be recalled that until the liberation of political internees was effected in North Africa, there was considerable public discussion and agitation to accelerate the movement there-of. It is observed that the French Committee points out that there are other internees in Morocco of enemy nationality. It would be greatly appreciated if further information on this subject could be furnished the United States Government.

Participation of the French authorities in the security check as regards refugees prior to their departure from Spain could easily be arranged. This checking procedure would, of course, be conducted for the purpose of preventing the entry into North Africa of any and all refugees whose presence would be undesirable for security reasons. Should the French authorities participate in such security measures, it would seem unnecessary to confine the refugees to a camp or to hold them under any other restrictive measures than those which apply generally to the local population. The reasons for placing them in a camp such as Camp Marshal Lyautey would be to afford the most convenient housing and maintenance; the expenditures for which could thus be controlled and regulated by the British and United States Governments. Whereas the United States Government does not insist that the refugees should be permitted to work outside the camp, it would nevertheless seem desirable from a humanitarian as well as from an economic point of view, that, in accordance with their various qualifications, they should be afforded permission to work.

His Excellency, Rene Massigli, Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, French Committee of National Liberation, Lycee Fromontin, Algiers.
The Government of the United States accepts the condition that not more than 2,000 of these refugees be admitted at the same time in Morocco.

In view of the cost and labor of establishing the center for refugees, among other matters, the Government of the United States would desire to leave open for future agreement between the French, British and United States authorities any question of subsequent transfer of the refugees to other localities, should such question arise.

The Government of the United States accepts the proposal that the French administration should exercise ordinary police control wherever the refugees may be accommodated in association with the personnel under which the reception center will be operated.

The important contribution which the French authorities are making in affording temporary asylum to the persecuted and homeless will be fully understood and appreciated throughout the world. It is hoped that under the circumstances the French authorities may be prepared to waive such restrictive measures as might detract from the broad humanitarian conception of the plan and to give their consent to the reception of the refugees in accordance with the foregoing observations.

October 18, 1943
Monsieur le Ministre,

Par une lettre No. 45 du 10 Aout 1943, vous avez bien voulu me faire part de l'intérêt qu'attachaient les Gouvernements des Etats-Unis d'Amérique et de Grande-Bretagne à ce que des réfugiés, apatrides ou ressortissants des nations ennemies, actuellement en Espagne, fussent autorisés à s'installer provisoirement au Maroc.

Le logement, l'entretien et le transport des intéressés pendant leur séjour au Maroc seraient pris en charge par les Gouvernements américain et britannique. Le commandement américain aménagerait à l'intention des émigrants le "Second replacement center of the Atlantic Base Section" à Fedhala, et le mettrait à leur disposition. Enfin, le Comité exécutif du Comité intergouvernemental des réfugiés veillerait au transport ultérieur des intéressés dans des pays où leur établissement pourrait être d'une plus longue durée.

Vous avez bien voulu préciser d'autre part que le séjour au Maroc des réfugiés serait essentiellement temporaire et que le nombre des personnes que seraient admises simultanément dans le Protectorat n'excéderait à aucun moment la capacité d'hébergement du camp de Fedhala, soit 2.000 individus.

J'ai l'honneur de vous faire savoir que le Comité français de la Libération Nationale, appréciant le portée humanitaire des intentions des Gouvernements américain et britannique et désireux d'y contribuer dans toute la mesure des moyens à sa disposition, donne son accord au projet conformément aux conditions énoncées ci-dessus.

Il lui parait toutefois nécessaire d'ajouter certaines précisions aux indications que vous avez bien voulu fournir au Commissariat sur l'organisation et le fonctionnement du futur centre d'hébergement:

1°) Ainsi que vous le savez, les ressortissants des puissances ennemies domiciliées sur le territoire du Protectorat, et en âge d'être mobilisés, sont internés, par mesure générale de sécurité, à moins qu'ils n'aient servi dans la Légion Étrangère, n'ayant un parent mobilisé dans les armées alliées, ou n'aient rendu des services exceptionnels à la France. Dans ces conditions, il parait difficile de traiter plus favorablement les apatrides ou ressortissants des puissances ennemies que nous nous proposons de recevoir. Le Comité estime donc que les réfugiés ne pourront être autorisés à s'installer hors du centre d'hébergement et à accepter du travail, à moins qu'ils ne satisfont aux dites conditions. Les dossiers des intéressés seront communiqués à la Résidence Générale, laquelle accordera les autorisations nécessaires.

2°) La ville de Fedhala se trouvant située sur la côte, et à proximité de Casablanca, il peut ultérieurement être nécessaire,
pour des raisons de sécurité, de transférer les réfugiés dans une autre localité. Dans ce cas, le Comité de la Libération en avisera en temps utile les Gouvernements américain et britannique, aux-quels il serait demandé de bien vouloir assumer la charge d'une nouvelle installation.

3°) Le Gouvernement français ayant la responsabilité de l'ordre et de la sécurité dans le territoire du Protectorat, il entre dans les attributions normales de l'administration française d'exercer la police du futur centre d'accueil. Cette mission sera dévolue aux services de sécurité du Maroc qui se chargeront de la surveillance des réfugiés, en liaison avec le personnel que vous vous proposez de placer à la direction du camp.

Si les dispositions qui précèdent rencontrent l'agrément des gouvernements américain et britannique, je vous serais reconnaissante de bien vouloir m'en aviser afin de me mettre à même de faire parvenir au Resident General de France au Maroc les instructions nécessaires à leur application. /.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Ministre, les assurances de ma haute considération.

(signed) Massigli

A Son Excellence Monsieur MURPHY
Ministre Plénipotentiaire
5, rue du Professeur Curtillet
À L G E R
August 10, 1943.

No. 45

My dear Mr. Massigli:

You will recall that several days ago I spoke to you concerning the American and British proposal to provide temporary reception and care in North Africa of refugees either stateless or of enemy nationality who are at present in Spain. It is estimated that the total number will be approximately 6,000, but it is most unlikely that this entire group would arrive at any one time. The first group would approximate 1,500. The British and American Governments have assumed the responsibility for the care, maintenance and housing of these refugees during their temporary period of sojourn in North Africa, as well as for their transportation. When the matter was first discussed with General Giraud, it was agreed that it would be essential to transfer them after their arrival at their temporary place of residence to a place of permanent settlement for the duration of the war.

The American military authorities have now agreed to make available the Second Replacement Center of the Atlantic Base Section at Fedhala in Morocco with existing facilities which would provide accommodation for approximately 2,000 refugees plus the staff necessary for the maintenance of a camp. To avoid the implication that the Allied Governments are conducting a concentration camp, it is hoped that the refugees would be given some freedom of movement and that those who were qualified to help meet the labor shortage in North Africa might be granted permits to work temporarily while awaiting transfer elsewhere.

It is further understood that the Executive Committee of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees which recently met in London will attend to the subsequent transportation of the refugees to places of more permanent settlement and their continued care.

I should be most grateful if you would be kind enough to inform me whether this problem meets with the concurrence of the appropriate French authorities. Should it be accepted, I should appreciate it if you would designate the French official with whom further conversations may be held, looking to the settlement of the detailed questions arising in this connection.

Sincerely yours,

His Excellency,

Mr. Rene Massigli,
Ambassador of France,
Lycee Fromentin,
Algiers.
TRANSLATION OF NOTE DATED OCTOBER 2, 1943 TO AMBASSADOR MURPHY FROM THE COMMISSIONER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Mr. Minister:

In your letter No. 45 of August 10, 1943 you indicated that the Governments of the United States and of Great Britain would be interested in seeing that stateless refugees or nationals of enemy countries at present in Spain be authorized to settle temporarily in Morocco.

The housing, maintenance and transportation of these individuals during their stay in Morocco will be assumed by the American and British Governments. The American Command would be in condition for the use of these refugees the "Second Rendicent Center, Atlantic Base Section" in Fedhala which would be at their disposal. Finally, the Executive Committee of the Inter-Governmental Committee for Refugees will eventually guarantee the transportation of these refugees in countries where they could settle for a longer time.

You have also specified that these refugees would only remain in Morocco temporarily and that the maximum number admitted at any one time into the Protectorate would never exceed the capacity of the camp at Fedhala, which is 2,000 persons.

I have the honor to inform you that the French Committee of National Liberation fully realizing the humanitarian implications of the intentions of the American and British Governments and wanting to cooperate as fully as possible with these intentions is fully in accord with the project as described above.

It feels however that it should add certain details to the indications which have already been given to the Commissariat regarding the organization and running of this refugee center.

(1) Since the maintenance of security and order within the Protectorate is a responsibility of the French Government, police control of the proposed reception center must be exercised by the French Administration. In this connection and in cooperation with the personnel running the center, the surveillance of refugees will be in the charge of the Security Services in Morocco.

(2) Because of the proximity of Fedhala to Casablanca and its location on the coast, for reasons of security the shifting of the refugees to a different area may be deemed advisable. In such an event, the British and American Governments...
Governments would be given adequate notice by the French Committee and they would be asked to take care of any expenses of another installation.

Since, unless they have a relative in an Allied Army, have been of outstanding service to France or have been a member of the Foreign Legion, nationals of enemy countries of mobilization age and living in Morocco are interned, the French authorities are hardly in a position to grant to other nationals of enemy states or stateless persons just coming into Morocco more favorable treatment.

The Committee is ready to transmit to the Resident General the required instructions should the British and American Governments agree to the above provisions.
The President's Special Representative in North Africa presents his compliments to the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, and has the honor to refer to the latter's note no. 365/AA., dated October 2, 1943, concerning the proposal to establish a temporary refuge in North Africa for refugees of enemy nationality and stateless now in Spain. The observations of the French Committee of National Liberation were communicated to the Government of the United States which is grateful that the French authorities are prepared to give asylum to these unfortunate people, but regrets to learn that the French authorities desire to impose conditions of internment upon the refugees who have come from Spain. It was the intention both of the British and United States Governments to avoid any implication that the refugees would be placed in a concentration camp. Thus, in the opinion of the two Governments, it is important that these persons should be given some freedom of movement. Instant and violent public and press criticism might well follow were the refugees to be confined in a camp following their evacuation from Spain. In that connection, it may be recalled that until the liberation of political internees was effected in North Africa, there was considerable public discussion and agitation to accelerate the movement thereof.

Participation of the French authorities in the security check as regards refugees prior to their departure from Spain could easily be arranged. This checking procedure would, of course, be conducted for the purpose of preventing the entry into North Africa of any and all refugees whose presence would be undesirable for security reasons. Should the French authorities participate in such security measures, it would seem unnecessary to confine the refugees to a camp or to hold them under any other restrictive measures than those which apply generally to the local population. The reasons for placing

His Excellency,
Rene Massigli,
Commissioner for Foreign Affairs,
French Committee of National Liberation,
Lycee Fromentin,
Algiers.
them in a camp such as Camp Marshal Lyautey, would be to afford the most convenient housing and maintenance, the expenditures for which could thus be controlled and regulated by the British and United States Governments. Whereas the United States Government does not insist that the refugees should be permitted to work outside the camp, it would nevertheless seem desirable from a humanitarian as well as from an economic point of view, that, in accordance with their various qualifications, they should be afforded permission to work.

The Government of the United States accepts the condition that not more than 2,000 of these refugees be admitted at the same time into Morocco.

In view of the cost and labor of establishing the center for refugees, among other matters, the Government of the United States would desire to leave open for future agreement between the French, British and United States authorities any question of subsequent transfer of the refugees to other localities, should such questions arise.

The Government of the United States accepts the proposal that the French administration should exercise ordinary police control wherever the refugees may be accommodated in association with the personnel under which the reception center will be operated.

The important contribution which the French authorities are making in affording temporary asylum to the persecuted and homeless will be fully understood and appreciated throughout the world. It is hoped that under the circumstances the French authorities may be prepared to waive such restrictive measures as might detract from the broad humanitarian conception of the plan and to give their consent to the reception of the refugees in accordance with the foregoing observations.

October 18, 1943.
TRANSLATION OF NOTE DATED NOVEMBER 9, 1943, FROM THE
COMMISSARIAT FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE FRENCH COMMITTEE
OF NATIONAL LIBERATION.

The Personal Representative of President Roosevelt in
North Africa, by note No. 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 acce-
sorating 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 of Foreign Affairs to the interest which
the American and 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 inten-
tion of the Committee to subject foreign refugees to measures
designed to deprive them of liberty. The French Committee
wishes, as do the American and British 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 files 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 reservation 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 Fedala 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 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.
No. 11

The Representative of the United States of America in Algiers presents his compliments to His Excellency the Commissioner for Foreign Affairs, and referring to the Commissioner's note no. 10832/AR/24, dated November 9, 1943, has the honor to state that his Government accepts with appreciation the offer of the French Committee of National Liberation of the assembly center for refugees at Fedhala, at the same time taking note that it is not the intention of the Committee to subject the refugees to measures which are designed to deprive them of their liberty.

The necessary measures will accordingly be initiated, with the cooperation of the competent French authorities, to select, transport, and receive the refugees at the camp at Fedhala upon their arrival.

December 3, 1943.
I. Transfer of responsibility for the Fedala Camp from the British and American Governments to UNRRA.

(a) The proposal of the Allied authorities was that UNRRA should be responsible solely for the administration of the camp at Fedala and that the responsibility for the transport of refugees to North Africa and for finding new places for the eventual settlement of the refugees would remain with the British and American Governments.

(b) The French reply was in accord with these suggestions subject to the following stipulations:

1. This transfer must not affect or modify the arrangements previously concluded between the British and American Governments and the French authorities concerning the evacuation of the refugees. The understanding is that foreign nationals temporarily received in French Morocco should be transported to the place of their eventual settlement as soon as possible. This is the responsibility of the British and American Governments, which are to undertake the resettlement of these persons at the earliest possible moment, and is not a program tied to any general plan for the repatriation of war refugees upon the initiative of UNRRA.

2. Generally, the French stipulate that this transfer must make no restriction on or modification of accords previously concluded between the CFLN and the Allied authorities concerning the refugee center at Fedala.

(c) The French made the following stipulations to Beckelman:

1. Repatriation of refugees. The accord between the Allied Governments and the CFLN expressly provides that the refugees will only stay temporarily in Morocco and that the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees will assure their transport to the places of eventual settlement. The activities of the British and American Governments for the resettlement of these people must be realized as soon as possible and must not be tied to any general program for the repatriation of refugees and deportees.

2. Insofar as administration of the Fedala Camp is concerned, the terms of the notes exchanged among the Allied Governments and
the CPIN must be adhered to.

(a) There will be a French agent participating in the direction of the camp.

(b) The French authorities in Morocco will be concerned with questions of public order and security and will take all measures which it deems useful in cooperation with the camp authorities.

3. Insofar as the status of the refugees is concerned, they will be subject, during their stay in Morocco, to the laws and regulations in force in the protectorate. After special examination in each individual case, the French authorities will have the right to grant permission to work in Morocco to those refugees whose professional activity may be exercised without inconveniencing the economy of the protectorate. Subject to their submitting themselves to any controls deemed necessary, such persons will enjoy under this title an authorization to stay in the locality where they are employed. Refugees who have not been authorized to work must stay in the camp. If such be the case, the French authorities may accord them permission to be temporarily absent from the camp on condition that they keep their habitual residence there and observe the laws and regulations of the country. These dispositions were already agreed to by the American authorities in 1943.

II. Status of Sephardic Jews to be attached to the camp.

(a) Beckelman asked that permission be given to receive such persons at the camp under the same condition as other stateless refugees temporarily resident there.

(b) The Commissariat of Foreign Affairs agreed to this request with the following conditions:

1. Receipt of such persons at the camp must be carried out in conformity with the accord concluded between the French and Allied authorities.

2. The Sephardic Jews so received must not be nationals of a country which is not at war, on the territory of which the refugees could find asylum.

(*)

III. Mobilization of refugees in Fedala Camp.

(a) The French authorities stipulate that all foreign refugees capable of bearing is on their arrival in North Africa are to be
mobilized in the French Army or in the ranks of the British Pioneers, or are obligated to participate in some other way in the Allied war effort. The French feel it just to apply such dispositions to stateless refugees.

(b) Therefore the French propose that persons in the Fedala camp who are subject to mobilization should be asked to submit themselves to these conditions. Those who refuse to participate in the common war effort should be maintained only in the camp and would not benefit from the facilities envisaged in the accords passed between the Allied Governments and the French authorities.

(*) An addition —

(a) total number refugees at camp may not exceed 2,000

(b) security regulations same as in France to 1st March without prior agreement or 2nd March, under security agreement by the 1st March

(c) refugees now subject to regulations issued under agreement by 8th March for stay in Morocco