

Programs with respect to  
the presence of Refugees. Other  
Evacuation Projects

Evacuation of Refugees from  
Finland

000416

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

CONTROL COPY

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Stockholm  
DATED: August 19, 1944  
NUMBER: 1683  
X

With reference to your cable of August 12, No. 3068, payment is authorized of 40959 kroner against receipted voucher.

With reference to your cable of July 5, No. 2457, the Department assumes that sum mentioned covers cost of evacuating 92 individuals. Therefore, cost of evacuation amounts to about \$106.51 per capita.

Each non-official American adult (so far as Americans are concerned) should be required to sign a promissory note for a sum equivalent to existing cost of transportation to Stockholm from Helsinki on route taken by Birger Jarl and half fare should be paid by children under the age of ten. The Government should absorb the difference and the accounts should carry notation to this effect.

Transportation Foreign Service, 1945 should be charged with cost of transportation of foreign service personnel.

Information as to the cost involved in evacuating the individuals in whom they are interested should be given appropriate missions in Stockholm, who should also be advised to ask their Governments to make reimbursement for their full part of the expenses to the United States Government in dollars. Upon receipt of their names and confirmation

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

that estimated

By R. H. Parks Date ~~SEP 2 1972~~  
SEP 19 1972

000417

No. 1683 - #2

that estimated cost per capita is correct, WRB will be asked to reimburse Department for monies advanced in behalf of refugees.

A list of the persons transported, separated into various classifications of nationals, showing individual and total cost, should accompany voucher submitted with accounts. The Embassy should forward to Department by separate despatch, rather than taking up in regular accounts, any reimbursements received by them.

HULL

DCR:CPW

8-24-44

000418

*2 wa's Rf. St. Pila*  
PARL PHASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMERICAN LEGATION, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: August 12, 1944  
NUMBER: 3068  
*File*

CONTROL COPY

With reference to Department's cable 1301, dated June 30, 1944, an invoice has been presented by Steamship Company for Swedish kronor 40,000 for evacuation ship and kronor 959 for nurses and doctors fees, meals for evacuees and incidental necessities totaling kronor 40,959 which is equal to \$9,799 in American dollars.

It is requested that you send instructions concerning whether the Legation is authorized to make complete payment from evacuation funds now on hand with the Department, charging to and collecting from several categories of persons concerned. Should further details or documents support the voucher covering payment, or is the data contained in Legation's cable 2457, dated July 5, 1944 enough for purposes of accounting?

JOHNSON

DCR:MED

8/16/44

*Libert - this*  
DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date *DEC 6 1972*  
SEP 19 1972

000419

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

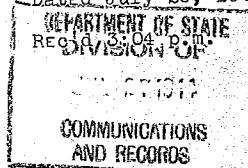
INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

BJR - 825  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (w)

Stockholm

Dated July 26, 1944



Secretary of State,  
Washington.

2784, July 26, 2 p.m.

Following telegram has been sent to Lisbon.

13, July 26, 2 p.m.

Substance of following message is for JDC repre-  
sentative in Lisbon from Mosaiska for Sam Lingen in  
Stockholm.

(WRB please inform JDC New York that substance  
of this message is being sent to Lisbon for JDC in  
Lisbon pursuant to WRB telegram 57 which was received  
as Department's 1442 July 9, 9 p.m. This is repeated  
to Department as our 2784, July 26, 2 p.m. and No.  
60 for WRB).

Following information supplied you in accordance  
with request of Iver Olsen of <sup>the American Legation</sup> ~~AMLEG~~. Of first group  
of 115 expatriated Jews which arrived from Finland  
approximately \$20,000 are required for ~~their~~ support,  
of which \$5,000 <sup>has</sup> ~~have~~ been received. Our expenses to  
date for this

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date ~~DEC 6 1972~~

SEP 19 1972

000420

-2- #2784, July 26, 2 p.m., from Stockholm.

date for this for this group have been about \$15,000.

Second group of about 60 expatriated Jews from Finland were given Swedish visas on assurances and guarantees that they would not be burden on Swedish state. About \$8500 is required to support this group for next three months, part of which we have advanced and await reimbursement.

Swedish Government is prepared to grant visas for third group of about 500 expatriated and Finnish Jews if financial guarantees can be given that they will be no burden to Swedish state. Estimated expenses for this group for three months can be set at not less than \$75,000. We are anxious to arrange this evacuation without delay so please send money as soon as possible, since evacuation entirely dependent upon necessary funds to support refugees while in Sweden. ~~For Warsaw~~

~~Sam Lingen~~ cannot undertake additional expenses for refugee work but is prepared to handle all administrative functions.

We wish to reserve right to request additional funds if we encounter unavoidable expenses for maintaining orphanages or old peoples home.

We are sending similar message through WRB for JDC in New York. 10

JOHNSON

BB:RR

000421

JUL 29 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

We have been advised by our representative in Stockholm that the Mossiska Foersamlingen has sent the following message to your representative in Lisbon:

"Following information is supplied you in accordance with request of Iver Olsen of the American Legation. Of first group of 115 expatriated Jews which arrived from Finland approximately \$20,000 are required for support, of which \$5,000 has been received. Our expenses to date for this group have been about \$15,000.

"Second group of about 60 expatriated Jews from Finland were given Swedish visas on assurances and guarantees that they would not be burden on Swedish state. About \$8500 is required to support this group for next three months, part of which we have advanced and await reimbursement.

"Swedish Government is prepared to grant visas for third group of about 500 expatriated and Finnish Jews if financial guarantees can be given that they will be no burden to Swedish state. Estimated expenses for this group for three months can be set at not less than \$75,000. We are anxious to arrange this evacuation without delay so please send money as soon as possible, since evacuation entirely dependent upon necessary funds to support refugees while in Sweden. Mossiska Foersamlingen cannot undertake additional expenses for refugee work but is prepared to handle all administrative functions.

"We wish to reserve right to request additional funds if we encounter unavoidable expenses for maintaining orphanages or old peoples home.

000422

- 2 -

"We are sending similar message through WRB for JDC in New York."

Very truly yours,

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

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

FH:lab 7/29/44

000423



JUL 21 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

In connection with recent conversations concerning the refugee situation in Sweden, you will be interested to know that we have recently received information on this subject from our representative in Stockholm.

It is reported that the local Mosaic community has no financial means of assuming support for additional Jewish refugees. It is presently supporting approximately 80 Jewish children and women of Finnish nationality and about 110 stateless Jews, partly with the assistance of financial support supplied by Joint. While it is willing to assume administrative responsibility for any additional Jews arriving from Finland, it is stressed that American funds will be required to under-write the maintenance costs.

Mosaic estimates the cost of maintaining children at 150 kronor monthly and adults at 200 monthly. While the over-all estimates supplied by Mosaic are somewhat confused, it would appear that three months support for the 500 refugees proposed recently would approximate \$75,000, assuming that most of them are unemployables and arrive without any resources. No transportation costs apparently are involved since these refugees are arranging their own transportation.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Mr. Moses A. Leavitt,  
Secretary,  
American Jewish Joint  
Distribution Committee,  
370 Madison Avenue,  
New York, 16, New York.

EBTowler: 7/21/44

000424

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

July 16, 1944

*run Ref. Bd. Pchh*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

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

8 p.m.

TO BE SENT IN [REDACTED] "W"

CONTROL COPY

*Copy only*

AMLEGATION.

STOCKHOLM.

1442

The message below for Olsen is WRB 87.

Reference your 2570 of July 11 (WRB 80). Suggest

that Mosalska Forsamlingen immediately advise JDC Liebon  
of estimated expenditures necessary to maintain Jewish  
refugees from Finland in all categories, and of amounts  
needed. Board considers maintenance of persons described  
in items three, four and five to be covered by assurances  
given in Department's 749 of April 25, WRB's 4.

MULL  
(TEL.)

WRB:MMV:KG  
7/18/44

S/OR

NOE

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000425

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AT STOCKHOLM AND COPEN

Reference your 2570 of July 11, your 50 for WRB. Suggest that Mossiska Forsamlingen immediately advise JDC Lisbon of estimated expenditures necessary to maintain Jewish refugees from Finland in all categories, and of amounts needed. Board considers maintenance of persons described in items three, four and five to be covered by assurances given in Department's 749 of April 25, WRB's 4.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 57.

11:30 a.m.  
July 18, 1944

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

LSLesser:tmh 7-17-44

7.5.2. JH

000426

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*Ref. Ch. Little*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

IES-666  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. ( )

Dated: July 18, 1944

Received

CONTROL COPY

Secretary of State,

Washington.

2670, July 18, 11 p.m.

Local Mosaic community reports that it has no  
financial means of assuming support for additional  
Jewish refugees. This is our 56 in response to  
WRB 50 (Department's 1368 of July 11, 2 p.m.)

It is presently supporting approximately 80 Jewish  
children and women of Finnish nationality and about  
110 stateless Jews, partly with the assistance of  
financial support supplied by Joint. While it is  
willing to assume administrative responsibility for  
any additional Jews arriving from Finland, it is  
stressed that American funds will be required to  
under-write the maintenance costs. Mosaic estimates  
the cost of maintaining children at 150 kronor  
monthly and adults at 200 monthly. While the over-  
all estimates supplied by Mosaic are somewhat confused,  
it would appear that three months support for the  
500 refugees proposed <sup>monthly</sup> in our no. 50 for WRB (Legat-  
ion's 2570, July 11, 9 p.m.) would approximate  
\$75,000, assuming that most of them are unemployables  
and arrive <sup>here</sup> without any resources. No trans-  
portation costs

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

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000427

-2- #2670, July 18, 11:00 p.m.; from Stockholm.

portation costs apparently are involved since these  
refugees are arranging their own transportation.

JOHNSON

BB RR

000428

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

5- *Wash By St. P. H.*  
INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

**CONTROL COPY**

JMB-140

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

Stockholm

Dated July 13, 1944

Rec'd 3:30 a.m.

ag Secretary of State,  
Washington.

2602, July 13, 5 p.m.

(Department's 1368 of July 11, 2 p.m.)

Will discuss tomorrow with local Mosaic organization  
questions regarding Finnish refugees raised in WRB 50.  
Board should be informed however that Legation's 2466  
of July 5, 4 p.m., was with reference to American and  
other evacuees and not stateless refugees, which are  
being maintained through separate arrangement with  
Mosaic community pursuant to guarantees provided by  
WRB. This is our No. 51 for WRB:

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

WSB  
BB

JOHNSON

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000429

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

*Wash. Post - P.M.*  
INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

**CONTROL COPY**

KEH-759  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. **[REDACTED]**

Stockholm

Dated July 11, 1944

Rec'd 1:30 p.m., 12th.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

A.  
DIVISION OF

COMMUNICATIONS

2570, July 11, 9 p.m.

THIS IS OUR NO. 30 FOR WRB

**[REDACTED]**  
For security reasons the  
text of this message must  
be classified "Secret".

Some rather strong discussions have been held  
with representatives of Swedish and Finnish Mosaic  
communities regarding failure to follow through on  
BIRGER JARL evacuation opportunity. The following  
results and possibilities have developed:

One. Evacuation of stateless Jews is proceeding  
by regular sailings and in a week or so approximately  
50 will probably have arrived in Sweden.

Two. In addition to this number there are about  
30 other stateless Jews regarding whom evacuation efforts  
are being pushed. This will be last of stateless refugees  
in Finland.

Three. There are approximately 30 Jewish children  
of Finnish nationality whose parents, unable to get  
Finnish permission to come to Sweden themselves, are  
anxious to send their children here for safekeeping.

All these

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72 SEP 19 1972  
By R. H. Parks Date **DEC 6 1972**

000430

24 2570, July 11, 9 p.m., from Stockholm.

All these children are under ten years.

Four. There are approximately 20 young Jewish children of Finnish nationality who can get permission to come here with their mothers.

Five. There are approximately 300 aged or ill Finnish Jews who probably could get permission to come to Sweden on the basis of an invitation by the Swedish Mosaic community which would include offer to provide them homes and full medical care. It is believed this unofficial approach on friendly and humanitarian grounds would be the only successful basis of securing Finnish permission, since any official approaches would be presented as carrying an implication that Finnish Jews are in jeopardy.

It appears quite impossible to take any steps to evacuate to Sweden any of the remaining 1500 Jews at this time.

If the WRB approves in principle of items 3, 4 and (\*), question is raised whether it will be in a position to supply guarantees of maintenance and support along lines already provided with respect to groups one and two. Early instructions would be appreciated so that necessary approaches could be made to get program under way as quickly as possible.

(\*) Apparent omission  
HTM.

JOHNSON

000431



DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

Distribution of true  
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arrangement to [redacted]

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS  
July 11, 1944

2 pages

*Was by Ed-Pike*

ALLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM.  
1368

The following WRB cable no. 50 is for Olsen.

Reference Legation's No. 2458 July 5.

For security reasons the  
text of this message must  
be classified as secret.

Please contact Mosaiska Foersamlingen immediately and  
advise them that JDC hopes they will assume responsibility for  
expenses in connection with evacuation and maintenance of  
Jewish refugees from Finland. JDC would appreciate report  
from Mosaiska Foersamlingen as to number of such refugees,  
cost of transportation from Finland to Sweden and estimate of  
amount needed for maintenance in Sweden for next three months.  
Please ask Mosaiska Foersamlingen to send such report promptly  
to JDC New York and to the JDC Lisbon office.

The object of the foregoing is to bring these refugees  
under the ~~max~~ care of Mosaiska Foersamlingen which is supported  
in part by the JDC. From Board standpoint it is desirable  
that as many as possible of these refugees be maintained by  
private sources. Please report to Board whether Mosaiska  
Foersamlingen will adequately take care of situation.

WRB:MMV:KG  
7/10/44

NOE

HULL  
(GHW)

SWP

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000432

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

Reference Legation's No. 2466 July 5.

Please contact Mossiska Foersamlingen immediately and advise them that JDC hopes they will assume responsibility for expenses in connection with evacuation and maintenance of Jewish refugees from Finland. JDC would appreciate report from Mossiska Foersamlingen as to number of such refugees, cost of transportation from Finland to Sweden and estimate of amount needed for maintenance in Sweden for next three months. Please ask Mossiska Foersamlingen to send such report promptly to JDC New York and to the JDC Lisbon office.

The object of the foregoing is to bring these refugees under the care of Mossiska Foersamlingen which is supported in part by the JDC. From Board standpoint it is desirable that as many as possible of these refugees be maintained by private sources. Please report to Board whether Mossiska Foersamlingen will adequately take care of situation.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO STOCKHOLM NO. 50

9:50 a.m.  
July 10, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman,  
Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files  
PH:db 7/8/44

000433

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

*Handwritten: 7-11-34*  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

**CONTROL COPY**

*Handwritten: 4B*  
KD-305  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (██████-W)

Stockholm

Dated July 6, 1944

Rec'd 9:45 a.m., 7th

Secretary of State

Washington

2499, July 6, 10 p.m. (SECTION ONE)

THIS IS FOR WRB FROM GULLION.

The fact that out of 92 persons arriving in evacuation ship BIRGER JARL from Helsinki only one member of Finnish Jewish community was present requires explanation. It is my belief that Jewish community failed (a) to take proper steps quickly enough to inform probable passengers or (b) that it failed to make it clear that refugees of community could avail themselves of Stockholm maintenance subsidy offered by Board or (c) that intercommunity or intracommunity dissensions imposed last minute obstacle.

Legation at Helsinki for some months acted in interests of community and tried to facilitate in every way possible Jewish travel to Stockholm. 106 Jewish refugees were enabled to leave in May and June and Jewish community expressed its appreciation formally to Legation. Some days before BIRGER JARL sailing

was definitely  
DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000434

-2- #2499, July 6, 10 p.m., from Stockholm

was definitely arranged Mr Wainstein, head of Jewish community, was notified that it was hoped that members of this group could take advantage of any facilities for evacuation which might become available. A few days later I told him that it was hoped that a substantial number from a list of 57 Jewish refugees would be able to sail. Largely through the efforts of the Legations at Stockholm and Helsinki Finnish exit visas and Swedish visas had been arranged for this list in advance. Mr. Wainstein was instructed when notifying his people to observe the restrictions on publicity which Department had laid down in its telegram 1274, June 28, 7 p.m. to Stockholm in view of delicate negotiations involved in arranging evacuation with Finnish authorities. Mr. Wainstein was also told that he should be prepared to give names of some passengers and any additional names by Sunday July 2.

Thus the community had notification of the sailing as early as any other national group and, indeed, in view of its more precarious position Legation had been particularly active in arranging for Jewish travel. On July 2 Mr. Wainstein presented to me a list of some 60 additional names which had not yet been visited by

Finnish or

000435

-3- #2499, July 6, 10 p.m., from Stockholm

Finns or Swedes, but unfortunately he was unable to tell me then or on Monday, July 3 what persons in his community would make voyage, although Americans and other protected nationals were able to give me names sufficiently early in advance of sailing. Mr. Wainstein assured me only that 25 persons in all from both lists would be prepared to travel.

Swedish Legation at Helsinki did not wish to visa the passenger lists until they had all been passed by state police. Despite prodding the police did not complete their check until late Monday afternoon, July 3, and the Swedes did not consider there was time enough left them to visa Mr. Wainstein's second list. Nevertheless, I obtained from Swedish Legation assurance that if new individuals from second list should appear I might take risk of embarking them and arguing their case with Swedish immigration authorities in Stockholm. This I was prepared to do and I hoped the passenger list would finally include some 35 members of community.

JOHNSON

JT

WTD

000436

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

BJR - 122  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. ( )

Stockholm

Dated July 6, 1944

Rec'd 9:30 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
JUL 8 1944  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

2499, July 6, 10 p.m. (SECTION TWO)

Nevertheless when special train left Helsinki  
Station at 10 o'clock July 4 only one member of  
community had appeared although a representative of  
that community was on hand. Mr. Wainstein who has  
previously been very effective in promoting community's  
welfare considered even the number of 35 very dis-  
appointing and could not explain the slow response  
of his colleagues. It is true that the whole evacuation  
was a last minute effort and that it was difficult  
for individuals to make final plans but the community  
has as much notification as other colonies who seem  
to have been more alert. One good which has been  
accomplished is that Finns have given verbal assurance  
that any member of community is free to leave Finland  
and I understand that subsequent to our representations  
substantial numbers of community are now leaving in  
very near

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date ~~DEC 6 1972~~  
SEP 19 1972

000437

-2- #2499, July 6, 10 p.m.(SECTION TWO) from Stockholm.

very near future in regular sailings of Swedish vessels as long as this route is open. Forty are due to arrive within a week.

Olson wishes to add that in his experience the Jewish community of Stockholm has been strangely apathetic about initiating appropriate steps to bring to Stockholm any further Jewish refugees especially stateless ones beyond the 106 who arrived in May. They have only approached Foreign Office after strong prodding on his part. This attitude on part of local community may have discouraged Helsinki group.

(END MESSAGE)

JOHNSON

WSB:RR

000438

2 - *unrec'd*  
*m. Pihle*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

RECEIVED  
AUG 5 1944  
**CONTROL COPY**

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: July 5, 1944  
NUMBER: 2466

*203*  
We urgently request sum of \$20,000 for expenses covered by message of June 30, midnight, Number 1301, from the Department.

One. We also request instructions concerning maximum monthly payments to evacuees while in Sweden, as it is apparent the provisions of Foreign Service serial 109 do not cover Sweden.

JOHNSON

*Cable to Stockholm  
revised 7/8/44  
F.H. 126*

DO NOT REPLY  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **DEC 6 1972**

SEP 19 1972

000439



*Evac. 3 refugees from Finland*

*2 run ref. rec.  
m. pelle  
File*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMBASSY, STOCKHOLM  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: July 5, 1944  
NUMBER: 2475

**CONTROL COPY**

Reference is made herewith to the Legation's telegrams of July 5, 1944, nos. 2457 and 2456.

On the 4th of July the American nationals listed below were evacuated from Finland and this morning they arrived in Stockholm: William Eiksonson, Herbert Robert Jensen, Daeva Margaretha Lindroos, Klara Helena Mellin, Marc-Eller, Kaj Emil Jensen, Karen Marie Mellin, Charles Robert Jensen, John Hestor Lane, Lea Eloni Lane, Anna Lydia Lane, Karl Johan Berg, Saga Margareta Berg, Bengt Magnus Berg, Matthews Gottlund, Oddo Holm Krevz Hansen, Synove Hedvig Frisk, Arne Antaio Adlivankin, Alli Anttila (Nickelson) Adlivankin, Birgitta Adlivankin, Gertrud Marion Wilkman, John Scott, Tyynena Rasmari, Aileen Marie Erickson, Allan William Kurki, Alfred Hendrickson, Sirkkaameli Tirinen, Eimililja Matilda Saarida Shtirinen, Lilja Tirinen, Irene Erickson, Charles Stenbacka, Emil Yankurki, Raymond Alfred Hendrickson, Johannes Werner Stolpe, Monica Gulliksen, Charles Runar Stenbacka, Otto Henry, Gustav Schmidt, Eino Johannes Panttilla. We understand that there is no question as to the American citizenship status of these persons but a careful check is being made of the records

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000440

-2- n

to determine whether the Legation is to pay all of them under the authority of the Department's telegram of June 27, 1944, no. 1264, or whether some are to be included among the group of refugees for whom maintenance has been guaranteed by War Refugee Board (see Department's telegram of June 30, 1944, no. 1301, paragraph three). We are forwarding by despatch such identifying data regarding these persons as the Legation has obtained thus far.

Pending receipt of the Department's instructions as to allowances to be granted, the Legation is making small advances to a number of evacuees who are entirely without funds other than Finnish marks which cannot be exchanged here.

JMK:BNH

000441

CONTROL COPY

LSL

RECEIVED  
FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: July 5, 1944  
NUMBER: 2457

Reference is made herewith to Legation's July 2  
Telegram No. 2444.

This is to inform you that this morning at 9:37  
the BIRGO docked safely bringing 8 Jewish refugees,  
4 Italians, 35 Britickers, 4 Belgians and 38 Americans,  
in addition to Gullior, Eric Lindahl and John von der Lisch.  
Telegram which follows will furnish names of Americans.

JOHN F. BAKER

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter  
By R. B. [illegible]  
DEC 6  
SEP 19 1972

000442

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMLEGATION, STOCKHOLM  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: July 3, 1944  
NUMBER: 2444

File  
CONTROL COPY

98  
Reference is made herein to the Department's 1323,  
July 3, and the Legation's 2437, July 3.

Gullion reports that up to 9:30 p.m. tonight Finnish  
exit visas and Swedish entry visa had been obtained for 28  
British, 49 Americans, 4 Belgians, 7 Canadians, 57 Jewish  
refugees, 2 Polish, 1 Dutch, 5 Italians, 1 Estonian and 4  
stateless.

On board the BIRGERJARL there will be five of the Lega-  
tion personnel including one Finn and one Dane.

Entry visas were refused by the Swedes for 62 Jewish  
refugees on separate list from group of 57. If any of this  
62 group appear at Abo they will, however, be taken along in  
anticipation of receiving permission to enter Sweden when  
support there is guaranteed by the WRB. Not more than 25  
Jews will actually appear in time to join the evacuation  
party is the belief of the head of the Jewish Community at  
Helsinki.

JOHNSON

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Esq. DEC-8 1972

000443

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED  
FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: July 2, 1944  
NUMBER: 2437

*2-Quar Ref. Bd.  
Kehle*

*File  
Farside*

CONTROL COPY

Reference is made herein to the Legation's July 1 cable No. 2404.

According to estimate of Gullion that evacuation party, including Central European Jewish refugees, will not total more than approximately one hundred thirty persons. Although these Central European Jewish refugees have had longer notice than others, at 4:30 p.m. on July 3 they still did not know which of their number would be aboard the special train which leaves tomorrow morning for Abo from Helsinki. As a result of this lack of cooperation on the part of Jewish refugees Gullion has found it impossible to obtain exit visas for evacuation group in Helsinki, and it has been necessary to postpone passport formalities to arrival at Abo of the party. This afternoon Gullion was informed by the Head of Jewish Community at Helsinki that seventy Jews had told him they would leave but he expected that only about twenty-five would actually appear, and who these twenty-five would be he did not know.

It is Gullion's plan to drive to Abo from Helsinki and to have another car follow him to pick him up should a breakdown occur. Furthermore he expects to travel to Stockholm

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date 8/20/00

SEP 13 1972

000444

Stockholm from be with Eric Lindahl and John Vanderlieth  
aboard the BIRGER JARL. Former Legation staff's other  
three American members will proceed to Stockholm via air.

The steamship line, anticipating the possibility that  
there might be an overflow of persons desiring to be  
included in evacuation party at the last minute, has agreed  
to take all passenger overflow on the regular run of a  
vessel which leaves for about the same time as departure of  
BIRGER JARL is scheduled.

Two meals will be served to evacuees on vessel and  
doctor and nurse will be on board.

In connection with currency problem, as result of  
Finland's exchange position evacuees are having difficulty  
in securing kronor drafts in Finland. However, Swedish  
Riksbank has stated that without further consideration it  
cannot guarantee purchase of Finnmarks from evacuees.

Evacuees who do not succeed in securing kronor drafts will  
accordingly have to take their chances upon arrival as  
regards purchase of Swedish crowns with Finnmarks.

JOHNSON

000445

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMEMBASSY, STOCKHOLM

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

DATE: July 1, 1944

NUMBER: 2404

File

CONTROL COPY

Reference is made herein to the Department's telegram of June 30, no. 1301 and also to the Department's no. 1295, dated June 30.

On Monday afternoon, July 3, at approximately 5 p.m. the ship BIRGEMAN, which is owned by Stockholm's Soderaktiebolag Svea, will leave Stockholm for Abo, Finland. On Tuesday at 8 a.m. the train connection will leave Helsinki, reaching shipside at Abo about 1 p.m. the same day and the ship is expected to sail from Abo on Tuesday about 5 p.m. and to arrive Stockholm Wednesday, July 5 at approximately 8 a.m.

A desire to be included in the evacuation had, up to noon today, been expressed <sup>by</sup> to only 45 United States Nationals of the 312 total of native-born and naturalized United States nationals in Finland. By Tuesday July 4, Gullion estimated at the same time that possibly no more than a total of 100 persons would be ready to depart. A large proportion of the central European refugees, as mentioned in Helsinki's 513, June 27, for whom the War Refugee Board has guaranteed maintenance and the Foreign Office has authorized issuance of visas, would be included in this total.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 8 1972  
SEP 19 1977

With

000446

With respect to the possibility of effecting evacuation Gullion has approached the Finnish Government and he understands that they will interpose no difficulties. Gullion and the other members of the former Legation staff at Helsinki will be permitted to leave Finland aboard the evacuation vessel, according to his understanding. Since it will enable Gullion to complete the necessary documentation it is hoped that this will prove feasible. Rather than rely upon the Swiss representative to do so Gullion will sign the letters of identification himself.

Both the Swiss and the Swedes have been requested to assist in making known the availability of the evacuation vessel and the scheduled date of departure, also Gullion has circularized as many as possible of the nationals involved. (The request of the Belgian Government to protect its interests in Finland has been accepted by the Swedish Government).

In order to facilitate the entrances of their respective nationals by the Swedish authorities, the representatives of the British, Belgian, Italian and American Legations will meet the BIRGERJÄRL upon its arrival in Stockholm and the other nationals will be received by Olsen. For account of WRB. Arrangements for appropriate living quarters are being made by Olsen through the Swedish Red Cross and local Jewish organizations. Gullion stated, in a telephone conversation at 5:30 this afternoon that the Swiss representative at Helsinki is being somewhat difficult about taking over our interests and

those

000447



-3-

those of the countries we formerly protected in Finland since no direct authorization from his Government at Bern has been received as yet by the Swiss representative. Although he might be delayed if the Swiss Minister has not in the meantime received satisfactory instructions, Gullion added that he still hoped to leave with the evacuees on Tuesday.

JOHNSON

000448

PARA CASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Stockholm  
DATED: June 30, 1944  
NUMBER: 1301

*Lesser*  
*Are we*  
*is going to*  
*be reimbursed*  
*for our*  
*activity?*

Reference is made herewith to your telegram of June 29, 1944, No. 2371.

1. Approval is given to your proposed course of action and it is requested that you proceed expeditiously.

2. Information has been received by the Department that Canadian, Belgian, British, and Italian Governments have accepted the repatriation of their nationals and have instructed the appropriate missions at Stockholm to communicate with the Government of Sweden. You are requested to correlate your action with them and urge them to take any necessary action to the extent that they have not done so already.

3. The expenses in connection with the evacuation of any refugees included in the movement and in connection with their maintenance while in Sweden are guaranteed by the War Refugee Board. The War Refugee Board also guarantees to arrange, when circumstances permit, for their onward transportation from Sweden (Department's telegram of April 29, 1944, No. 749).

4. It is hoped that arrangements can be made by the Government of Sweden to transport Swedish or other nationals on the return voyage of the vessel and to diminish proportionately any charges against this Government for the operation of the vessel if it is impossible actually to evacuate any Americans and associated nationals from Helsinki owing to force majeure.

*Howeever worked*  
*the out with*  
*Leavitt said*  
*a cable has already*  
*been sent to the*  
*Norai Ka Forsaen*  
*with message from*  
*J.D.C. It would*  
*appear from the*  
*account, however,*  
*that there was only*  
*one refugee*  
*L.S.*

HULL

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

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000449

*see. D  
Refugees from  
Sweden*

*2- War Refugee Rel.  
Mr. Pihl*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Stockholm  
DATED: June 30, 1944  
NUMBER: 1301

**CONTROL COPY**

*files*

Reference is made herewith to your telegram of June 29, 1944, No. 2371.

1. Approval is given to your proposed course of action and it is requested that you proceed expeditiously.

2. Information has been received by the Department that Canadian, Belgian, British, and Italian Governments have accepted the repatriation of their nationals and have instructed the appropriate missions at Stockholm to communicate with the Government of Sweden. You are requested to correlate your action with them and urge them to take any necessary action to the extent that they have not done so already.

3. The expenses in connection with the evacuation of any refugees included in the movement and in connection with their maintenance while in Sweden are guaranteed by the War Refugee Board. The War Refugee Board also guarantees to arrange, when circumstances permit, for their onward transportation from Sweden (Department's telegram of April 29, 1944, No. 749).

4. It is hoped that arrangements can be made by the Government of Sweden to transport Swedish or other nationals on the

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000450

-2-

on the return voyage of the vessel and to diminish proportionately any charges against this Government for the operation of the vessel if it is impossible actually to evacuate any Americans and associated nationals from Helsinki owing to force majeure.

HULL

RECEIVED  
JAN 10 1945

000451

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

GAR-383  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement (W)

Stockholm

Dated June 30, 1944

Rec'd 4:38 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

US, URGENT

2388, June 30, 5 p.m.

**CONTROL COPY**

Swedish Foreign Office has agreed to issue visas to approximate 60 remaining Central European Jews in Finland, provided American assurances can be supplied as to maintenance of this group in Sweden. This is our No. 44 for War Refugee Board and supplements our No. 24 (Legation's No. 2100 of June 12, 1 p.m.). If these assurances can be provided, it is of the greatest urgency that we be advised immediately since it is possible that this group can be brought to Sweden on same vessel which will shortly evacuate American and Allied groups from Finland. (Legation's 2371, June 29, 5 p.m.). If group is not evacuated at this time possibility of their getting out later will become extremely problematical. Consequently, we wish again to emphasize urgency of immediate decision as well as the high considerations of secrecy involved in the entire operation.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date DEC 8 1972

SEP 19 1972 RB EJH

JOHNSON

*Johnson per Said Affirmations  
repl. content 6/30/44 L.S.L.*

000452

PAF PHASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED  
FROM: AMLEGATION, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: June 29, 1944  
NUMBER: 2371

*I - was Refugee 1944  
Mr. Peple*

CONTROL COPY

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972

I have given notice to the Swedish Foreign Office,  
with Gullion's agreement, that we wish to utilize the BIRGER JARL  
to evacuate such American nationals as may desire to depart and also  
protected nationals. Permission has been given by the Swedish Foreign  
Office to allow us to have this ship until July 5, Wednesday. It is  
stated by them that they are unable to allow us to have it for a  
longer time as they are afraid that panic conditions will materialize  
in Finland and that public demand will necessitate making available  
all possible Swedish ships for the evacuation of Swedish peoples.  
In view of these circumstances at the latest date the ship must  
depart Monday morning from Sweden and Tuesday night from Finland.

On this 6 day basis about 50,000 crowns will be the  
total for incidental expenses for this ship. Evacuees will be able  
to sit down but sleeping accommodations for calculated total of  
evacuees are not available on this ship.

It is the hope of the Swedish Foreign Office that  
tomorrow the question of visas will have been cleared, but for the  
time being it is of the belief that in lieu of visas and passports  
the assurance that we will care for individuals involved and (\*)  
list of names and nationalities will serve.

*6/30/44  
After clearance with Mr. Pable.  
Mr. Leases advised Bureau of  
State that Board was prepared  
to make necessary assurances.  
In fact, he pointed out that we had*

*previously made the  
assurances to Sweden.  
Heart of JTC was addressed  
and indicates JTC's  
unwillingness to participate in  
unassured + transport  
costs.*

000453

This has been repeated to Helsinki as my message No. 56, 5 p.m., dated the twenty-ninth of June.

It is proposed by me to certify to the Government of Sweden that the Government of the United States guarantees the payment of all incidental expenses connected with the repatriation of American nationals subsequent to the war as well as the support and evacuation of evacuees in Sweden. We assume that the Ministers of Belgium, Italy and Britain will undertake to repatriate their nationals in notes addressed to the Swedish Foreign Office.

Concerning Helsinki's 513, June 27, 5 p.m. in which it was reported that there are approximately 60 Jewish refugees waiting for visas and that there could be included among the evacuees a number of these persons, the Swedish Foreign Office asks for data as to nationalities, names, and assurances that the War Refugee Board will bear the expense burden and help the Government of Sweden in repatriating these Jewish refugees or in transporting them after the war to some other country.

It is anticipated that the question of secrecy will be very difficult. Frank skepticism is entertained by the Swedish Foreign Office as to the possibility of keeping the evacuation secret although everything possible will be done to keep it from becoming known.

We shall be grateful if you will send instructions by wire immediately.

JOHNSON

(\*) Apparent Omission

DGR:EMS

7-1-44

000454

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

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

Dated June 12, 1944

Rec'd 12:23 p.m.

**CONTROL COPY**

*File*

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

RECEIVED BY STATE

JUN 13 1944

2100, June 12, 1 p.m.

No. 28. FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

In reply to WRB No. 24 (Department's No. 1149 of  
June 8) and Department's No. 112 to Helsinki.

Last of initial groups of 100 Jews in Finland arrived  
during past week. Preliminary arrangements have been con-  
cluded with respect to additional group of approximately  
50 Jews in Finland of German, Polish, Lithuanian, Russian  
and Rumanian origin who have been in Finland for many years,  
but are now pressing to come to Sweden. List of these per-  
sons has been obtained, permission of Finnish authorities  
for their departure has been granted, and only final de-  
tails regarding their evacuation to Sweden and subsequent  
maintenance now remain. This group comprises people of ad-  
vanced age, mostly unemployables, and, therefore, involves  
maintenance problems.

Gullien has seen this reply and is collaborating in  
program.

JT  
WTD

JOHNSON

SEP 19 1972

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972

000455



DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

113

For information only  
arrangement. ( )

June 8, 1944

CONTROL COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JUL 10 1944

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

AMLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM.

440-1149x

Have central European refugees actually arrived  
Sweden from Finland? This is WNB cable no. 24 and  
refers to Legation's 1370 of April 21.

STETTINIUS  
ACTING  
(GIN)

ERS:MMV:KG  
6/7/44

NOE S/CR

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000456

PROPOSED CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, STOCKHOLM, FOR OLSEN

Please ascertain if the central European refugees referred to in Legation's 1379, April 21, have actually arrived Sweden from Finland.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO STOCKHOLM NO. 24

1941, a 40th, 45th, and Stewart, Central Files, 44-38861-10000

L. S. L

MEtandish:lon 6-5-44

000457

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

MJB-588

PLAIN

Lisbon

Dated June 8, 1944

Rec'd 9:27 p.m.

CONTROL COPY

6/13/44  
Wesley  
sent to  
Lisbon  
JCL

Secretary of State,

Washington,

1760, Eighth.

WRB 62 FOR LEAVITT FROM PILPELL JDC Twelve your  
May 16.

Arnheim cabled behalf Mosaiska Foersamlingen who  
estimates \$20,000 maximum required twelve months  
for one hundred fifteen for (repeat 115) refugees from  
Finland. Asking monthly installments because ex-  
penditures will depend employment opportunities this  
group. View other obligations Foersamlingen states  
inability finance. Please advise.

NORWEB

HTM

000458

JUN 1 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following confidential message for you from Filpell was received under date of June 8, 1944, through the American Legation in Lisbon:

"Arnheim cabled behalf Mosaiska Foersamlingen who estimates \$20,000 maximum required twelve months for one hundred fifteen for (repeat 115) refugees from Finland. Asking monthly installments because expenditures will depend employment opportunities this group. View other obligations Foersamlingen states inability finance. Please advise."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Mr. Moses A. Leavitt,  
Secretary,  
American Jewish Joint  
Distribution Committee,  
270 Madison Avenue,  
New York 16, New York.

EBT

EBTowler:agr 6-13-44

781

000459

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT  
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Helsinki  
DATED: June 8, 1944  
NUMBER: 112

Please report if central European refugees have  
received visas and departed for Sweden.

Foregoing has reference to the first paragraph of  
your cable of May 18, No. 399.

STETTINIUS  
(Acting)

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Sh 61

SEP 19 1977

000460

PROPOSED CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, HELSINKI

Please report if central European refugees referred to  
first paragraph your 399, May 16, have received visas and  
departed for Sweden.

\*\*\*\*\*  
June 7, 1944  
10:15 A.M.

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamsen, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser,  
Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files.

*S.L.S.P.*  
MStendish:lon 6-3-44

000461

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

BE-363  
Distribution by true  
reading only by special  
arrangement ( )

Lisbon

Dated May 25, 1944

Rec'd 11:17 a.m.  
Text of this telegram must  
be closely

Secretary of State  
Washington

X  
1557, May 23, Noon

WAR BOARD

X  
MRB 47/ JDC 6.

**CONTROL COPY**

Reference Leavitt's telegram May 16 from Schwartz

for Leavitt.

Schwartz left May 22 for Algiers. Arranging  
meet Robert Murphy and go with him to Italy. Hence  
impossible await coming Patrick Malin. Regarding  
request for \$25,000 for 150 stateless evacuees  
from Finland now in Sweden have asked Mosniska  
Foerschlingen to give information.

NORWEB

REP RR

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date ~~DEC 6 1972~~  
SEP 19 1972

000462

3.41  
D.C.  
ORD

MAY 27 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you was received from  
Libborn under date of May 23, 1944:

"Schwartz left May 22 for Algiers.  
Arranging meet Robert Murphy and go  
with him to Italy. Hence impossible  
await coming Patric Malin. Regarding  
request for \$25,000 for 150 stateless  
evacuees from Finland now in Sweden  
have asked Mosaiska Foersamlingen to  
give information."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

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

Jeff ✓

PH:lab 5/26/44


000463



*War Refugee Bd*  
*and Pille*  
*11/7/72*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Lisbon  
DATED: May 16, 1944  
NUMBER: 1379 X

  
From War Refugee Board to Norweb

Please deliver the following message to Dr. Joseph Schwartz, 242 Rua  
Aurea, Lisbon, from Moses A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution  
Committee:

"Arnhem Stockholm advises 150 stateless refugees formerly  
Finland now Sweden request \$20,000 their care for one year. Please  
inquire Mosaiska Foersamlingen and advise. Patrick Malin now planning  
arrive Casablanca about June first. Suggest you meet him there."  
THIS IS WRB LISBON CABLE NO. 22.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972

SEP 19 1972

000464

CABLE TO LISBON

From War Refugee Board to Norweb

Please deliver the following message to Dr. Joseph Schwartz, 242 Rua Aurea, Lisbon, from Moses A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"Arnheim Stockholm advises 150 stateless refugees formerly Finland now Sweden request \$20,000 their care for one year Stop Please inquire Mosaiska Forssamlingen and advise Stop Patrick Malin now planning arrive Casablanca about June first Stop Suggest you meet him there"

THIS IS WRB LISBON CABLE NO. 22.

\*\*\*\*\*  
May 12, 1944  
3:30 p.m.

*Message dictated  
over telephone by Mr.  
Leavitt.*

*24 ✓*

PH:lab 5/12/44

000465

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

SFG-469

PLAIN

Helsinki

Dated May 16, 1944

Rec'd. 8:45 p.m.

RECEIVED

MAY 17 1944

COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Secretary of State

Washington

399. 16th

FOR-WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Newspaper UUSI SUOMI reports from Stockholm that after negotiations between American, Swedish and Finnish Foreign Offices agreement reached that 106 Jewish refugees arriving in Finland from Central Europe who had remained there on Nansen passports will receive visas for Sweden. The greater part of them has already arrived there. This is in consequence of the extensive American plan to find and exile for Jewish refugees in neutral countries till they can be sent to USA. A committee in Helsinki attends to their transfer to Sweden.

Repeated to Stockholm as my 103.

On May 15th HUFVUDBLADET, principal Swedish language paper, reports that stiller prominent Helsingfors Jewish figure has stated in an interview to DAGENS NYHETER that group of 110 Jewish refugees which in 1938 came to Finland from Germany is now going to Sweden.

000466

-2-#309, 16th, from Helsinki

Sweden. According to Mr. Stiller all these refugees intend after war to go to USA or other transocean countries.

Irrespective other motives naturally more practical these refugees await travelling facilities in neutral Sweden than belligerent Finland Director Stiller says. Treatment of the Jews in Finland in itself gives no cause for worry. After the Russian time the Jews have always been treated as fully equal citizens both under the laws and in attitude of people. Director Stiller finally also says that Finland is only one of the countries fighting with Germany against Russia which has introduced no anti-Jewish laws.

Minister of Interior Ehrnrooth has stated that no obstacle has been put in way of refugee's permanent stay in country. Finnish authorities been completely passive in matter. As refugees were received so we have been prepared facilitate their departure.

Great number of above already arrived Stockholm

GULLION

MRM  
MEV

000467

*War Refugee Board*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Helsinki  
DATED: May 4, 1944  
NUMBER: 104

*copy only*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

War Refugee Board sends the following.

Refer your 341 of April 20. While granting the desirability of an official Finnish statement on victims of Nazi oppression and persecution War Refugee Board feels, and the Department agrees, that the political factors as reported by you may be considered to outweigh any advantages that might accrue through the issuance at this time of such a statement by the Finnish Government.

The Board would appreciate, however, your employing delaying tactics with the Foreign Office in the event that the statement might be considered opportune and of value at some later date.

With reference to movement from Finland to Sweden of various refugee groups and Finnish Jewish community listed your 303, April 3, Minister Johnson has just reported that Swedish Government does not believe that minority groups in Finland are in serious danger from the Germans but that refuge would probably be extended if Finnish Government requested Swedish Government to allow entry of these persons on ground that they may be in jeopardy in Finland.

Should circumstances so warrant, you are in your discretion authorized to approach appropriate officials of the Finnish Government in this connection. Please keep abreast of developments which may make desirable the movement from Finland of potential victims of the Gestapo in the event the Germans take action in Finland paralleling that taken by them in Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria, and keep the Department advised.

foregoing repeated as Department's no. 829 to Stockholm.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

RECEIVED  
MAY 11 1944  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

MAY 11 1944

000468

May 2, 1944.

TO: Mr. Warren

FROM: J. W. Pehle

There is attached for appropriate clearance and prompt despatch a cable to the American Legation, Helsinki, Finland, which should be repeated for its information to the American Legation at Stockholm, Sweden.

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

*J. W. Pehle*  
Handwritten: J. W. Pehle  
Standardized  
4-29-44

000469

PROPOSED TELEGRAM TO AMERICAN LEGATION, HELSINKI

Refer your 341 of April 20. While granting the desirability of an official Finnish statement on victims of Nazi oppression and persecution War Refugee Board feels, and the Department agrees, that the political factors as reported by you may be considered to outweigh any advantages that might accrue through the issuance at this time of such a statement by the Finnish Government.

The Board would appreciate, however, your employing delaying tactics with the Foreign Office in the event that the statement might be considered opportune and of value at some later date.

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Should circumstances so warrant, you are in your discretion authorized to approach appropriate officials of the Finnish Government in this connection. Please keep abreast of developments which may make desirable the movement from Finland of potential victims of the Gestapo in the event the Germans take action in Finland paralleling that taken by them in Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria, and keep the Department advised.

Repeat information to Stockholm, Sweden.

\*\*\*\*\*

May 2, 1944  
10:05 A.M.

Standish:LSL:ser:lcw 4-29-44

000470

REPLY OF A TELEGRAM TO THE AMERICAN LEGATION, HELSINKI

Refer your 341 of April 20. While granting the desirability of an official Finnish statement on victims of Nazi oppression and persecution our Refugee Board feels, and the Department agrees, that the political factors as reported by you may be considered to outweigh any advantages that might accrue through the issuance at this time of such a statement by the Finnish Government.

The Board would appreciate, however, your employing delaying tactics with the Foreign Office in the event that the statement might be considered opportune and of value at some later date. Please continue to keep abreast of developments and possibilities in the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ movement from Finland of potential victims of the Gestapo should the Germans take action in Finland paralleling that taken by them in Hungary, Roumania and Bulgaria, and keep the Department advised.

\*\*\*\*\*  
April 28, 1944  
9:35 A.M.

*J. L.S.L.*  
MStandish:jfh 4-25-44

000471



*as w Refugee Bd.  
Mr. Rille  
copy only*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Stockholm  
DATED: April 25, 1944  
NUMBER: 749

**CONTROL COPY**

WAR REFUGEE BOARD SENDS THE FOLLOWING FOR JOHNSON  
AND OLSEN.

Reference is made to your telegram of April 11, 1944,  
no. 1235.

The importance of Hellsted's statement concerning  
extent of danger from Gestapo in Finland to many Germans,  
Swedes and others is appreciated by the War Refugee Board.  
The Board is charged with rescuing "the victims of enemy  
oppression who are in imminent danger of death" regardless  
of religion, nationality or stateless status. Accordingly,  
the Board would warmly welcome Swedish action to afford  
rescue to all groups in Finland which would be especially  
endangered as the result of increased German influence.

Concerning Hellsted's remark that permission to  
refugees and others to enter Sweden would amount to dis-  
crediting Finnish Government, the Board suggests that you  
refer him to Boheman's statement reported in your cable  
no. 908 to the effect that the Finnish Government itself  
has applied for admission of Jewish refugees.

With respect

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000472

-2-

With respect to the questions reported in your cable no. 1235, the Board holds that all persons referred to in our 724 of April 21 are in danger. It is prepared to make arrangements for the evacuation from Sweden, as soon as practicable, of all persons, other than Swedes, who may be accorded refuge in Sweden, and for the maintenance in Sweden of such refugees who cannot claim the support of their governments.

The Board appreciates the action taken by Sweden (reported in your telegram of April 21, 1944, no. 1379) in authorizing one-hundred visas to Central European refugees now in Finland as a starter. The Board is deeply concerned about the danger threatening 113 Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria and about 2600 others referred to in our cable of April, no. 1724. The Board fully supports your representations reported in your telegram of April 8, 1944, no. 1209.

In light of your cable no. 1379 referred to above, it is assumed by the Board that the Hellsted statement does not modify in any way the confidential assurances given by Boheman and reported in your cable no. 908. Please obtain confirmation of said assurances and, should you consider that danger is imminent, please press for immediate action.

Reference

000473

-3-

Reference is made to Olsen's no. 3. The Board is gratified by favorable Swedish reaction to his appointment and the statements made to the press are approved by the Board.

The foregoing is WRB's cable no. 4.

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CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN, STOCKHOLM

Reference is made to your 1235 of April 11. War Refugee Board appreciates importance of Hellsted statement regarding extent of danger from Gestapo to many Germans, Swedes and others. Board is charged with rescuing QUOTE the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death UNQUOTE regardless of religion, nationality or stateless status. Accordingly, Board would warmly welcome Swedish action to afford rescue to all groups in Finland which would especially be endangered as a result of increased German influence.

The above, however, does not detract from Board's deep concern about equal or greater danger threatening 113 Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria and about 2600 others referred to in our No.      of     . Board's attitude on this score is fully explained in aforementioned cable, and Board fully associates itself with your representations reported in your 1209 of April 8.

Accordingly, the Board trusts that the Hellsted statement is not (repeat not) intended to modify the confidential assurance given by Boheman and reported in your 908 of March 16. Please obtain confirmation of said assurance and, should you consider that danger is imminent, please press for immediate action.

Concerning Hellsted's remark that permission to refugees and others to enter Sweden would amount to discrediting Finnish government, Board suggests that you refer him and other Swedish officials to Boheman statement reported in your 908 to the effect that the Finnish government has itself applied for the admission of Jewish refugees.

With respect to the questions reported in your 1235, the Board holds that all persons referred to in our      of      are in danger. It is prepared to make arrangements for the evacuation from Sweden, as soon as practicable, of all persons, other than Swedes, who may be accorded refuge in Sweden, and for the maintenance in Sweden of such refugees who cannot claim the support of their own governments.

For your information, Board has requested Gullion to report on possibility using Finland as escape-route to Sweden from German-held Baltic areas, particularly Lithuania. Board

000475

would appreciate your view and comments as to feasibility of such escape.

Reference made Olsen's No. 3. Board gratified by favorable Swedish reaction to his appointment and approves statements made to press.

This is WRB Cable No. 4.

\*\*\*\*\*  
April 21, 1944  
11:25 a/m.

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

ka D. L.S.L.

MAKzin:MStandish/jp 4/20/44

000476

*War Refugee Bd  
Mr. R. H. Parks*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: April 24, 1944  
NUMBER: 1433

CONTROL COPY

Following is no. 5 for the WRB.

It would appear, on basis of our experience with the Swedish Foreign Office, that there would be better prospects of success if our Legation in Helsinki would initiate the action contemplated in Department's message of April 21, no. 724, War Refugee Board no. 3, by making approach to Finnish Foreign Office that would result in the Finnish Government requesting Government of Sweden to allow entry of these refugees on the ground that in Finland, their lives are in jeopardy. Then this Legation would press Swedish Foreign Office for sympathetic consideration of the Finnish request and offer United States financial assistance in carrying out the evacuation program.

It should be emphasized, in general, that it is not believed by the Swedes that in fact minority groups in Finland are in serious jeopardy. Swedes say that, in event of a German occupation of Finland, minority groups are unlikely to be singled out for persecution because it is an established fact that such groups have participated as actively against Russia in Finnish military operations as any other

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972

class and

SEP 19 1972

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class and have suffered proportionate casualties. The  
Swedes are seriously concerned, on the other hand, with the  
possibility of a larger military operation against Finland  
which would force a Finnish refugee movement into Sweden  
running into hundreds or thousands.

Swedes are reluctant to initiate any action which  
might antagonize the position beforehand because of this  
considerable and have a major proportion.

RECEIVED  
10 11 1944  
30 11 1944  
VS 10 11 1944

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ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT  
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Stockholm  
DATED: April 21, 1944  
NUMBER: 724

*u v/By BK*  
*Edh*  
*copy*  
**CONTROL COPY**

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN,  
AT STOCKHOLM.

War Refugee Board is gratified by the Legation's efforts reported in your 908 and 1209 of March 16 and April 8. Please continue watching over situation in Finland and, as soon as sign of danger appears for Jews and central-European refugees there, urge the Swedish Government to carry out its informal undertaking reported in your 908, in line with its generous performance in the case of Danish Jews. Please also take all appropriate steps to ensure that knowledge of Swedish readiness to admit these people is known in proper quarters in Finland.

While the Finnish situation should be clearer to observers in Sweden than it is here, the Board is extremely perturbed over the possibility of a sudden deterioration which would make rescue action impossible. It fully relies on you, however, to see to it that action be taken before this group of people is placed in jeopardy of their lives.

The Board notes that the informal undertaking reported in your 908 deals only with 113 Jewish refugees. This figure corresponds, on the basis of the Board's information, to the number of Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria only. On

the basis  
DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 8 1972  
SEP 19 1972

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-2-

the basis of past events elsewhere, the Board considers that equal danger undoubtedly threatens many additional persons. According to the Board's information, Finland has 475 Danes, 131 Italians, 192 Norwegians, 144 Poles, 172 refugees from other countries occupied by Germany and a local Jewish community of about 1500, of whom 940 have Nansen passports. Clearly, in the event of increased German influence, local and refugee Jews and many non-Jewish refugees would be equally threatened with Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria. You are requested therefore to ask that Swedish undertaking be extended to cover all of these persons. You will note that the total is less than half the number of the Danish Jews accorded refuge in Sweden.

Please keep the Board informed regarding result of your action.

This is WRB Stockholm Cable No. 3.

x

1944 APR 22 AM 11 08

INFORMATION D'C  
MAY 1944 BOYSD  
RECEIVED

000480

April 15, 1944

4:50 p.m.

TO: Mr. Warren  
FROM: J. W. Pehle

The attached cable is submitted for appropriate clearance and prompt despatch.

The figures given in the second paragraph of the attached cable are taken from the cable of the American Legation in Helsinki to the Department of State, No. 908 of March 16. They include those categories of refugees who presumably would be most threatened in Finland should German pressure in that country increase.

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

Attachment.

L.S.L.  
BAKzin:jp 4/15/44

000481

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN, AT STOCKHOLM

War Refugee Board is gratified by the Legation's efforts reported in your 908 and 1209 of March 16 and April 8. Please continue watching over situation in Finland and, as soon as sign of danger appears for Jews and central-European refugees there, urge the Swedish government to carry out its informal undertaking reported in your 908, in line with its generous performance in the case of Danish Jews. Please also take all appropriate steps to ensure that knowledge of Swedish readiness to admit these people is known in proper quarters in Finland.

While the Finnish situation should be clearer to observers in Sweden than it is here, the Board is extremely perturbed over the possibility of a sudden deterioration which would make rescue action impossible. It fully relies on you, however, to see to it that action be taken before this group of people is placed in jeopardy of their lives.

The Board notes that the informal undertaking reported in your 908 deals only with 113 Jewish refugees. This figure corresponds, on the basis of the Board's information, to the number of Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria only. On the basis of past events elsewhere, the Board considers that equal danger undoubtedly threatens many additional persons. According to the Board's information, Finland has 475 Danes, 131 Italians, 192 Norwegians, 144 Poles, 172 refugees from other countries occupied by Germany and a local Jewish community of about 1500, of whom 940 have Nansen passports. Clearly, in the event of increased German influence, local and refugee Jews and many non-Jewish refugees would be equally threatened with Jewish refugees from Germany and Austria. You are requested therefore to ask that Swedish undertaking be extended to cover all of these persons. You will note that the total is less than half the number of the Danish Jews accorded refuge in Sweden.

Please keep the Board informed regarding result of your action.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 3

BAkzin:jp 4/15/44

000482

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Stockholm ✓  
 TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
 DATE: April 21, 1944  
 NUMBER: 1379  
 X

**CONTROL COPY**

According to Hellstedt Swedish visas have been authorized for one hundred central European refugees now in Albania, as a starter - please refer to number 1236 dated April 11 from the Legation. It was stressed by Hellstedt that visas are being granted for humanitarian reasons since the refugees are panicky and not (repeat not) because the Government of Sweden believes there is any danger.

JOHNSON

DCH:PL  
 4/22/44

DECLASSIFIED  
 State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
 By R. H. Parks Date ~~DEC 6 1972~~  
 SEP 19 1972

000483

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Helsinki  
 TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
 DATE: April 20, 1944  
 NUMBER: 341  
 X

CONTROL COPY

The following message is for the War Refugee Board.

Along the lines of my message number 303 dated April 3 I have had some further informal discussion regarding refugee questions and with reference to the intentions of the Board in respect to Finland, I would appreciate some guidance. It is my belief that the Government of Finland would issue a declaration of its willingness to facilitate the movement of refugees as envisaged in airgram from the Department dated 7:30 p.m., February 29, paragraph 6. The political implications involved will, however, be overlooked by the Department. The Government of Finland may sooner or later link the welfare of its three hundred thousand Karelians who in all probability would leave the area to be ceded under current peace terms to Russia by Finland, or the one hundred and fifty thousand who are already in West Finland, with the general plan for the amelioration of Refugee conditions. With reference to assistance for fifty thousand Ingrians from the USSR in German-land, a question may also be raised. Up to the present time, however, these points have not been made to me.

As the Department

DECLASSIFIED  
 State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
 By R. H. Parks Date ~~DEC 6~~ 1972  
 SEP 19 1972

000484

2- #341 from Helsinki

As the Department knows, the Government of Finland on the other hand, on a basis of international cooperation at this time would be strongly attracted by any opportunity to associate itself with western democracies and would in all probability issue a declaration of the type in question for this reason.

As my number 82 this is being repeated to Stockholm for Olsen.

The Jewish Community has advised me and the report is confirmed by the Swedish Legation, that the Government of Sweden has decided to allow entry of the 106 refugees which paragraph eight of my telegram in reference mentioned, into Sweden. It is indicated by the Assistant Chief of the Political Department of the Foreign Office that it might be opportune to make a statement in connection with the travel of these refugees, if a statement were forthcoming. It was asked by him whether any governments other than ours have made declarations up to the present time and he would like to know their contents if such declarations have been made.

GULLION

DOR:MPL  
4/21/44

000485

*war Refugee Bd  
Mrs. Piller*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: April 11, 1944  
NUMBER: 1235  
X

**CONTROL COPY**

Reference is made herein to the Legation's 1209,  
April 8.

It was today stated by Hellstedt, Foreign Office official in charge of foreign interests, who has been handling the case of 113 central European refugees in Finland from the beginning, that the Swedish Government still feels that the refugees in question are in no danger of deportation from Finland and that if Germans should take control of Finnish Government by means of coup d'etat the 113 refugees, whose case has been exaggerated into a minor political issue, would be in far less danger from the Gestapo than large number of Social Democrat Swedes, Germans and others.

It is the position of the Swedish Government that since the Finnish Government has given assurance that refugees will not be deported or turned over to the Gestapo, it would be in effect, under existing conditions, discrediting the Finnish Government to permit entry of these refugees.

However, the Swedish Government is prepared to re-examine the case if the United States Government believes the refugees

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By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972

SEP 19 1972

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
the refugees are in danger and in such event it would be  
helpful if the United States Government would advise  
whether it is prepared to guarantee: (A) maintenance of  
refugees if they are admitted into Sweden from Finland;  
and (B) their removal from Sweden after the war has  
terminated.

JOHNSON

000487



*W. J. Refugee 136  
(7th July)*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Stockholm  
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: April 8, 1944  
NUMBER: 1209

CONTROL COPY

The question of Swedish visas for one hundred and thirteen Central European refugees in Finland has again been taken up by the Legation on three occasions. In case the Swedes act too late the Foreign Office officials have been impressed with the unfortunate effects of publicity. Our hope is that a statement may be obtained April 11 regarding a decision. The foregoing refers to my number 908 dated March 16, 1944.

JOHNSON

*Fin*

DCR:MPL  
4/10 /44

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000488

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Helsinki

TO: The Secretary of State, Washington

DATE: April 3, 1944

NUMBER: 303 (SECTION ONE)

*War Refugee*  
*BA*  
*W. R. Little*  
*Copy only*

**CONTROL COPY**

The following message is for the War Refugee Board and refers to number 48 from the Department dated March 4, also to Department's airgrams dated January 26 and February 29.

1. My initial approach to the refugee problem has been fact-finding and exploratory with a view to finding out, before formal representations are made, what the situation is and what cooperation may be expected since as far as Finland is concerned the implementation of the policies of the War Refugee Board presents special problems because of the presence of German troops in the country. Based on informal meetings with Foreign Office officials who are in contact with the Ministry of Social Affairs, officials of the Jewish Community and selected members of refugee groups, the following is a preliminary report.

2. The number of refugees is: 119 - German and Austrian; 18 - Polish; 2 - Lithuanian; about 5800 - Estonian; and 2 - Norwegian. The number of these refugees who can be considered as Jews is approximately 130. A separate report will be made with reference to the position of Estonian refugees since their situation is somewhat special. Although only a few are in combatant duties the number of Estonian refugees in the Finnish

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 6 1972 **Army**  
SEP 19 1972

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2- #303 from Helsinki (Section 1)

Army is about 2500 at present.

3. It is informally reported by the Minister of Social Affairs that of those citizens of German occupied countries who have been in Finland for some time, the majority and in many cases all of them would remain as "refugees" in Finland and that they would not be willing to return to their own countries in present circumstances. Excluding the numbers of refugees in Two above, the following are totals of such persons by countries:

Austrian	2
Belgians	15
Czechs	13
Danes	475
Dutch	54
Estonian	1193
French	38
Greek	13
Hungarians	31
Italian	131
Jugoslavian	1
Latvian	34
Lettish	26
Luxembourg	1
Norwegian	192
Rumanian	6
Poles	144

GULLION

DCR:MPL  
4/4/44

000490

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Helsinki  
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: April 3, 1944  
NUMBER: 303 (SECTION TWO)

Approximately 1500 practically all of whom belong to the Jewish Community, is the Jewish population of Finland. Nansen passports are possessed by 940 of these.

4. The treatment of refugees and Jews. At the present time it is not believed that there is any actual official discrimination against refugees or Jews. There is no classification of Jews as such in Finland and therefore no difference is said to be made on this basis among refugees. The sympathetic consideration shown by the present Government and authorities is satisfactory to the President of the Jewish Community.

There were instances of discrimination or abuse during the first enthusiasm of Finnish cooperation with Germany after 1941 and under the regime of a Naziphile Chief of State Police who has now been replaced. There was at one time a segregation of Jewish refugees in camps called concentration camps by some of the Jews but considered by the Government to have been reception centers of a temporary nature. It is now said that the inhabitants have found work and that these have been dispersed. There seems to have been an attempt under the same

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By R. H. Parks, Date DEC 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

Chief of Police

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2- #303 from Helsinki (Number Section 2)

Chief of Police, when the Rangell Government was in power, to deport some Jews to the continent. This attempt which I believe was reported in telegrams from the Legation of that time, failed.

Refugees are eligible for benefits under the general poor law in the same way as other inhabitants of Finland although no special relief is available to these refugees.

5. Regarding entry into the country, it is said that if an alien does not have the usual visas and travel documents but desires to enter the country claiming asylum and offers good reasons or if he would obviously be caused unfair hardships in case his admittance is refused, the question of not admitting him is sent to the Ministry for Social Affairs.

GULLION

DOR:MPL  
4/4/44

000492

*was Refugee Bd  
Jm Reddy*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

*Copy only*

FROM: The American Minister, Helsinki  
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: April 3, 1944  
NUMBER: 303 (continuation of paragraph 5, Section 2)

**CONTROL COPY**

**[REDACTED]**  
Affairs, which has to consult the Foreign Affairs Ministry.  
It is my information that such persons are not turned back at the frontier and that regardless of whether or not a person is Jewish the procedure is the same. However, if a refugee has escaped from a country into Finland he cannot be returned to the country from which he came. Within the meaning of Department's airgram dated January 26 it does not seem that the entry of refugees is actually encouraged or cooperated in by Finland. However I personally know that persons have been permitted to stay in Fi(\*)s of work although these persons arrived as stowaways on vessels from German controlled ports.

Concerning work, a refugee living in Finland is subject to the same provisions as apply to other aliens except that he may enjoy a certain advantage because he can be given a temporary permit which does not confine him to work with a particular employer or to a particular kind (\*) or permit given for a fixed period of time.

7. With reference to exit from the country it is my belief that it would be the policy of Finland to aid the emigration of refugees in frame of some general plan as the War Refugee

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By R. H. Parks Date SEP 6 1972 Board  
SEP 19 1972

000493

2- #303 from Helsinki (Section 3)

Board is contemplating. The departure of refugees is assisted at the present time by Finland to the extent of providing them with certificates of identity for traveling abroad and of aiding them with visas.

8. Regarding possibilities for the Board's useful intervention it is suggested that in Finland the Board might make the best beginning by attacking a concrete and immediate problem in the refugee field, which may perhaps be resolved by the efforts of the Board. The number of Jewish refugees whom the Jewish community of Finland is attempting to send to Stockholm is approximately 106.

GULLION

(\*) Apparent omission

DCR:MPL  
4/5/44

000494

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Helsinki  
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: April 3, 1944  
NUMBER: 303 (Section 4)

Their emigration would be approved by the Government of Finland. The offering of proof to the Government of Sweden that refugees would not become public charges seems to be involved, among other things, with the admission of refugees to Sweden. It is said that such guarantee has been arranged with the Jewish community of Stockholm and if the impressions of my informant are correct the Foreign Office of Sweden had given some indication that travel might be arranged but nothing further has been developed since that time. The Board may desire, subject to Minister Johnson's advice, to consider entering some kind of a tripartite understanding with Sweden and Finland, removal to Sweden and possibly farther on of this initial group of Jewish refugees, extending the plan subsequently insofar as may be practicable to other refugees.

As my number 64 this is repeated to Stockholm.

9. With reference to a declaration by the Government of Finland it is thought that Finland although her position vis a vis Germany would make it difficult for her to issue a statement stigmatizing the Germans to the extent that the President's

executive order

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2- #303 from Helsinki (Section 4)

executive order dated January 22 does, she (Finland) would be ready to make a public declaration of policy regarding refugees and Jews. From conviction and for political reasons the declaration would otherwise be tailored by the Government of Finland very largely to suit the pattern which the United States has set.

In a later cable I shall attempt to indicate the type of declaration which I believe might be issued by the Government of Finland.

END OF MESSAGE

GULLYON

DCR:MPL  
XXXXX  
4/6/44

000496

CONTROL COPY

WRB  
(Mr. Pehle)  
(Gen. FFC)

VHT-409

PLAIN

Stockholm via London

Dated March 16, 1944

Rec'd 7:30 p.m., 17th.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

906, Sixteenth.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAR 22 1944

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

Swedish comment Finland local press quotes Finnish  
communique declaring Diet gave Government unanimous  
vote confidence. TIDNINGEN sixteenth says this means  
Diet as February 20 acceded Government's standpoint  
though with distinction Diet then approved certain poli-  
tical line Government suggested while yesterday gave  
Government free hand continue peace contact. Government  
and Diet reportedly agree some Russian terms unacceptable  
in present form but Finland unvises break indirect ne-  
gotiations and Diet authorizes Government maintain con-  
tact trying obtain certain definitions from Russia.  
Point regarding restoration 1940 boundaries now reportedly  
unmeans Finnish army must withdraw before Moscow nego-  
tiations. Point most troubling Finns concerns intern-  
ment German troops where considerations military honor  
play

000497

-2- 906, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

play role. Diet's unanimous resolution grant Government full powers reportedly result compromise with majority Swedish group minority social democrats and certain others favoring settlement on terms offered. This opposition, if permissible use term - unexpressed itself yesterday's secret plenum peace activists finding Government's firm intention seek maintain negotiation contact so satisfactory they unpreferred break Diet unity. Reliable source says respite given Finland expires Saturday and assumed Finnish circles Government has answer ready today for delivery Soviet Legation Stockholm Friday so will reach Moscow Saturday. Exhaustive Finnish communique expected soon as Moscow has Finnish reply. Increasingly apparent Marshall Mannerheim man Finland must rely upon in hour need. Hitherto remained outside peace discussions but self-evident chief commander and Government bound have same opinion on peace question. Mannerheim consequently regarded as standing behind Government ready intervene with authority if needed. Finnish circles believe Mannerheim will assume Government in event armistice pilot Finland out of peace crisis inevitably resulting from settlement with Russia. Kollonta, yesterday

paid

000498

-3- 908, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

paid one of rare visits Stockholm canceling dinner party since important official matters required presence Soviet Legation.

DACENS sixteenth Finnish Government report to Diet included several remarks against Russian terms and information Swedish Government believed Finland should utilize every possibility inherent in negotiations. Swedish Foreign Office during past weeks has many ways sought promote positive solution and known Finland several times notified of official Swedish opinion. Considered resettlement problem which again topical in event new Karelian mass evacuation from other side 1040 frontier affects Finnish peasant opinion much more than talk about failing German arms comrades. Russians apparently disposed cancel Wango lease presumably against Petsamo compensation. Rumor reportedly false Russians would demand return Ingrians evacuated Finland.

Helsinki correspondents leading Stockholm papers attach considerable significance to declaration Finnish Labor Federation yesterday prominently published Finnish social democratic press stressing significance maintaining good relations United States and Scandinavian countries congratulating Government on exploring possibilities

releasing

000499

-4- 006, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

releasing Finland from war and viewing with alarm activities extremist rightist elements. Correspondents also quote Finnish ALETTA-LEDET condemning dangerous right wing agitation and VASABLADET attacking certain category Finnish journalism suggesting Finland unwanted leave war. SVENSKA PRESSEN emphasizing diplomatics purpose is find practical means preserve nation not arrange people perish heroically. HETUSET SANOMAT stressing each Diet member personally responsible Finland's present future existence but Government apparently ungiven Diet all information. SOSIALI DEMOKRAATTI saying some situations require statesmen save nation by acting in way seemingly dictated by cowardice.

LONTON-LEDET sixteenth considers Finland's prospects much gloomier even though Finnish reply which probably again emphasizes difficulty accepting hard terms surely unshuts door definitely negotiations. Decision again rests Moscow and whatever thought about Russian terms they clearly indicate Moscow actually wishes settlement. Finnish situation hard and tragic and Finnish Government's hesitation comprehensible since Finns feel demands based might not right. Finland must choose lesser two evils and

must

000500

-5- 906, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

must be hoped to last result yesterday's plenum won't be categorical negative. Surprising Russian terms incorrectly reported Finnish press and according SAPOIAT Government ungiven Diet men all facts. This serious intimation in present situation with conceivable political consequences. DAGENS sixteenth considers Mannerheim Finland's last unused reserve and considering great personal authority in present critical situation better qualified by leader Finnish nation than head Finnish delegation

at eventual Finnish Russian negotiations. While reported stiffening Russian attitude decreased chances compromise concerning Diet's division which Finns would try persuade withdraw voluntarily - idea which Russians allegedly rejected - should still be possible discuss matter if Finland should adopt principle attitude making it possible send authoritative delegation Moscow negotiate. Chances for this unfortunately small since opposition too strong public opinion too unprepared and wishful thinking too predominant. Too bad Mannerheim and Paasikivi stood aside during parliamentary stage just concluded. Their judgment doubtless differs considerably from

000501

-6- 906, Sixteenth from Stockholm via London

from prevalent arguments. Paasikivi presumably refused Stockholm mission if new works result to bungled by Government. If contact Moscow now broken - signal in such case will come from Russia - Finland won't be able return position month ago. Even if immediate Russian offensive uncovers shall be threatened with serious isolation. English and American opinion of Russia terms well known and maybe diplomatic relations with America breaks. Swedish Government's opinion should be clear to Finnish Government and Dist. Stockholm Foreign Office worked energetically achieve favorable conditions for settlement but unfortunately Helsinki judged things differently even looking through fan eyes at press propaganda against negotiations allowing it misinterpreted Russian terms saying Russian demand withdrawal Finnish troops 1940 frontier before Moscow negotiations. This and many other observations indicate weakness and fumbling hesitation Government's part and firm resolution by opposition frustrate peace efforts. Finnish public opinion possibly more influenced by public announcement official Swedish standpoint which DAGENS considers justified and certainly effective. All parties should know where Sweden stands.

Sveden

000502

-7- 906, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

Sweden has tried extricate brother nation from war and great disappointment Swedish foreign political leaders suggestions fail make impression though supported by Finland's two foremost foreign political and military experts. Finland's prospects for immediate future seem very dark. TIDHINGEN sixteenth refers misinterpretation Finnish press concerning withdrawal Finnish troops observing Russia wants Finland accept Moscow peace terms in principle as indispensable condition negotiations. Finnish opinion stiffened during two weeks elapsed since terms publication. Comprehensible Finnish opinion reacts now as in 1940 against considered ruthless violation historic frontiers but important question concerns Finland's prospect getting through present war alive. Changes preserving independent Finland even within framework 1940 frontiers lessens longer Finland maintained belligerent status. No longer secret Government advised Finland take chance Russia offers and do best restore peace and neutrality. Finnish opinion considers some terms unacceptable. In order effect change internal situation Government needs time engage systematic information give Finnish people realistic view. Risk exists however no

time

000503



-8- 906, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

time available if true Finland must by weeks end accept reject Russian proposals. Must assumed Finnish Government anxious keep negotiations open and while situation extremely critical still hopeful long as fragile thread holding negotiations door open unsevered. Outcome unonly depends Finland as Soviet and Allies also responsible. Great Allied advantage get Finland out of war at present stage military operations against Germany. This circumstance should be enough cause Russia give Finland time for reorientation without which positive result appears inconceivable. Finnish peace question also psychological. Russia desires and asks above all world have confidence announced aims. Stalin declares Soviet war aim is restoration 1941 Russian frontiers. If Finland to remain free she must live in good neighbourly relations with Russia which demands mutual confidence without which situation hopeless. To leave war Finland must risk trusting Russian word. This perhaps worst problem and one whose solution will decide Finland's way. SVE13A sixteenth thinks Finland has good reasons request definition certain points Russian proposals and apparently such definition made in Soviet reply mentioning Hango's exchange for

Petsamo

000504

-9- 906, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

Petsamo and internment Dietl6 divisions could be some kind isolation. Return Ingrian Esthonian refugees undemanded. Considering these facts and knowing hopes for early peace rapidly gaining ground among Finnish people reason expect positive attitude from Finnish Government and Diet concerning continuation negotiations. No reasonable person Sweden considers Russian terms moderate mild but principal question is whether Finland if present peace contact breaks can reckon on better terms future. Censorship chiefly responsible keeping Finnish public opinion ignorant situations gravity and allowing certain newspapers encourage misconception is embarrassing Government striving effect peaceful settlement. SVENSKA also mentions SANOMATS statement Diet members uninformed saying even these circumstances insufficient explain negative attitude Finnish Government and Diet majority. Apparently only 40 members including ten of eighteen men Swedish group favored continuing negotiations. Such situation can only result from incurable distrust and distrust and deficient political skill. With warm sympathy for Finland and clearly realising own position Swedes refused consider Finland's peace road definitely closed. Finland's

answer

000505

-10- #906, Sixteenth, from Stockholm via London

answer unformulated undelivered and respite unexpires  
before this Saturday. Wednesday March 15, 1944  
must not become Finland's Ides March. Nazi  
DAGSPOSTEN describes Finland marvelous military  
position saying circumstance Finland's military  
strength every respect many times better than  
during winter war should not be underrated in  
judging Finnish situation today. Finland knows  
what she's fighting for. Surrender and treason  
against arms comrades remote from Finnish people  
army and government. Finland is civilized country.

JOHNSON

CSB

000506

*Finland W. - Refugee BH*  
*(Mr. Pehle)*  
*copy only. X*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Legation, Stockholm  
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: March 16, 1944  
NUMBER: 908  
X

**CONTROL COPY**

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

This morning a member of the Legation staff received a visit from a Finnish lady who was interested in the welfare of one hundred and thirteen Jewish refugees who in 1938 and 1939 had come to Finland from central Europe. It was claimed by the informant that permission for these refugees to enter Sweden had been refused by the Swedish Foreign Ministry and in view of the establishment of the War Refugee Board she requested my aid in urging the Government of Sweden to admit these people at once so that they would be saved from what she fears will be domination of Finnish pro-Nazi elements when the Finns make a final decision to continue the war against the U.S.S.R.

This refers to Department's number 131 dated midnight January 26 and to Legation's number 481 dated 6:00 p.m., February 13, 1944.

I mentioned the lady's visit to Boheman this afternoon and also told him what she talked about. Boheman was fully informed about it said that the Government of Finland had made application for the admission of these Jewish refugees.

The Swedish

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73 SEP 19 1972  
By R. H. Parks Date DEC 0 1972

000507

2- #908 from Stockholm March 18, 1944

The Swedish Cabinet has considered this application twice and has made an adverse decision. The Government of Finland was advised that denying admittance to these refugees at present was not because they were Jews or because of any unwillingness on Sweden's part to admit refugees who were in need or in danger but that their being Jews and leaving Finland at this time the Government of Sweden believed would be very bad propaganda for Finland abroad especially since in fact no urgent necessity for their leaving Finland existed. Confidentially Boheman added that Sweden would admit them immediately if this group of refugees should in fact be placed in any danger in Finland due to the situation which my Finnish caller feared.

JOHNSON

DCR:MPL  
3/18/44

000508

*War Refugee Bd*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: AMERICAN LEGATION, HELSINKI  
DATED: March 4, 1944  
NUMBER: 48

WAR REFUGEE BOARD SENDS THE FOLLOWING.

The War Refugee Board desires the latest available figures regarding refugees in Finland. Besides Norwegians and Danes these figures should include Jews of any or no nationality. The Board also desires information regarding treatment accorded to such refugees, including the Jews. Also please inform us whether the Government of Finland has taken or is now taking any discriminating action regarding either foreign or Finnish Jews.

STETTINIUS

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 6 1972  
SEP 19 1972

000509

FEB 24 1944

TO: Mr. Stettinius<sup>v</sup>

FROM: Mr. Pehle

Attention: Mr. Warren<sup>v</sup>

It will be appreciated if you will have the attached  
cable to Helsinki dispatched immediately.

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

Attachment.

(Sent via Special Messenger)

CC - Mr. Pehle, Mr. Luxford, Mr. DuBois, Mr. Lesser, Mr. Friedman,  
Miss Hodel, Mr. Požlak

✓  
FModelphd 2/24/44

000510

CABLE TO THE AMERICAN LEGATION AT HELSINKI FROM THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD

The War Refugee Board would be interested in receiving as soon as possible the latest available figures on refugees in Finland, including Danes, Norwegians and Jews of any or no nationality. The Board would also like to know the treatment accorded such refugees, including the Jews, and whether the Finnish Government is now taking or has in the past taken any discriminatory action with respect to either foreign or Finnish Jews.

L.S.L. *glo*  
LSLesser:als 2/21/44 *JMA*

000511



TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

February 21, 1942

TO Mr. Lesser

FROM J. W. Pehle

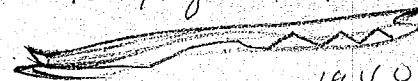
Do we know whether there are any number  
of Jews in Finland and how they have been treated?  
This may be of interest in connection with the peace  
negotiations which are reported in the press.

JWF



Before the war -

1,755 in 1937  
.0590 % total pop.



~~Noted~~ May 10, 1940  
opened doors  
to refugees from  
Germany. *W. C. ...*

000512