

Programs with Respect to Relief
and Rescue of Refugees: Food Packages
for Unassimilated Persons

Food Packages for Unassimilated
Persons, Vol 1

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FOOD PACKAGES FOR UNASSIMILATED PERSONS

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000569

WAR PROBLEMS

August 31, 1944

Mr. Pate called at the office today and said that the Red Cross was desirous of responding, if possible, to the Intercross appeal transmitted in Geneva's 299, August 26, 1944, for relief for the women and children concentrated by the Germans outside of Warsaw.

Together we drafted the following message:

"Your 598. Unable authorize distribution SFP for this purpose. However, Amcross authorizes shipment from cargo ex-Christina as a gift 250 tons of canned goods from Switzerland provided (one) Intercross delegate is able exercise supervision of distribution in camp, (two) or if this is not possible distribution in camp to be effected under joint supervision of German Red Cross and Polish Red Cross societies, and (three) that in either case complete reports supporting distribution food so sent be forwarded to Intercross."

The message is based on the proposition that it would not be feasible to attempt to arrange for the direct importation of supplies for these people since it would be necessary to clear the matter with the blockade authorities. The time involved in effecting such a clearance would be so long as, in all probability, to nullify any efforts we might make.

The salvaged Christina cargo, however, under arrangements with the blockade authorities, is being distributed under the responsibility of the International Red Cross to persons in concentration camps. The present situation seems to be substantially similar to those in which relief is being made available under this special authorization. There is, therefore, the advantage of authorizing an immediate shipment of relief foodstuffs without the necessity of a special clearance with the blockade authorities.

Mr. Gordon, Chief of the Blockade Division, FEA, has approved this message.

SWP:EDKuppinger:EHJ

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000571

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 1744

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

August 31, 1944

In reply refer
to No. 230

Hon. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

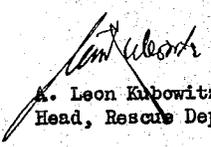
Dear Mr. Pehle:

I beg to refer to my letter of August 9th to which I attached a list of unassimilated camps, in which there are a number of Jewish inmates and which I asked to be included in the camps which would benefit from the new food scheme approved by the blockade authorities.

May I be permitted to add to this list the following centers, in which Jewish inmates are still reported to be living:

Barneveld, Jodenkamp, Holland
Berg A. Laim, Heimanlage fuer Juden
Eichwald, Judenlager
Posen, Judenlager
Prague, Juedisches Altersheim, Kamsikova, Protectorate
Tomersdorf, Juedische Wohngemeinschaft
Treblinka
Trier, Judengefaengnis
Vucht, Concentratie Kamp, Holland.

Sincerely yours,


A. Leon Kubowitzki
Head, Rescue Department

AIK:bg

62

000573

*85/11/26/44
Squire*

*1-11-44
Squire
(Mrs. Lebie)*

INCOMING TELEGRAM

HIS-385

PLAIN
Geneva

Dated August 26, 1944

Rec'd 4:14 a.m., 27th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

CONTROL COPY

299, Twenty-sixth
FOR AMCROSS FROM JAMES

"598. Intercross has received urgent appeal from Polish Cross concerning dire need food for hundred thousand women children aged persons evacuated Warsaw region now in camp at Pruszkow and inquires as to possibility distributing certain quantity SFP ex-shipments 74 75 to these persons. Intercross believes could have distribution supervised by delegate."

SQUIRE

RR

000574

000575

I was Ref Bd - Pella

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: August 26, 1944
NUMBER: 5578

CONTROL COPY
H. H.

McClelland sends the following for the attention of War Refugee Board.

It is the desire of ICRC to express to WRB and other authorities concerned in Washington its sincere thanks for the dispatch with which permission to U. S. part of CRISTINA cargo was granted and for the sympathetic support given to the committee's proposals.

For your information ICRC has begun immediately making up fifty tons into 2½ kilo parcels and [and?] it plans to forward within a fortnight the first shipment of approximately eleven thousand parcels to similar number of political prisoners in camps of: Hamburg, Natzweiler, Ravensbrueck, Dachau, Sachsenhausen, Buchenwald, and the Mauthausen penitentiary. The first lot will be sent to Poles, Czechs, Dutch, Greeks, Norwegians, Belgians, and French.

A strict account will be kept by ICRC of the number of parcels shipped and delivered, location and nationalities of beneficiaries and at as regular intervals as possible it will

submit

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 21 1972**

000576

submit a report to us. With reference to the shipment from the United States of 300,000 parcels, ICRC will instruct its delegation at Gothenburg or possibly at German port to which relief parcels will have to be shipped from Gothenburg to supervise their forwarding directly to concentration camps when labeling and addressing have been completed. Technical developments in the working ^{out} use of this procedure will be reported by ICRC.

The foregoing is in reference to August 23 cable No. 2397 from the Department.

HARRISON

DCR:EBM:EFR 8/28/44

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000578

August 25, 1944

Miss Edsel

Mr. McCormack

Subject: Three-kilo food parcels for unassimilated persons.

During the past week a meeting between representatives of the American National Red Cross and the War Refugee Board resulted in an agreement that the former would arrange all the details in connection with the packing and shipping of three-kilo parcels to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe under the International Committee of the Red Cross' supervision. The War Refugee Board made the necessary arrangements with the Executive Office and the Bureau of the Budget for the allocation of funds to cover the costs involved.

Taking advantage of shipping space made available by the American National Red Cross, the War Refugee Board, in the interest of despatching parcels immediately to these beneficiaries, arranged for the packing of 15,000 three-kilo parcels commercially. These parcels have gone forward on the S.S. Gripsholm for Gothenburg, Sweden, from which point they will be distributed by delegates of the International Committee.

Likewise, the War Refugee Board has consummated arrangements with the American National Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross for the purchase of 56 tons of salvaged supplies from the S.S. Christina. These consumable goods will be packaged by the International Committee in Geneva into three-kilo parcels and will go forward from that point to unassimilated persons in camps.

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August 25, 1944

Mr. Richard F. Allen
Vice Chairman
Insular and Foreign Operations
American National Red Cross
Washington 13, D. C.

Dear Mr. Allen:

Following the understanding reached at our recent meeting with respect to the 285,000 food parcels for consignment to the International Committee for distribution by them to unassimilated persons in camps, the War Refugee Board has formally requested of the President the necessary allocation of funds to the Department of Agriculture and Treasury Procurement to cover the costs involved in procurement, packaging, and shipping these parcels. A copy of my letter to the President is attached. Also attached are significant incoming and outgoing cables relating to this general program which I am sure you will find informative. It will be appreciated if the American National Red Cross will arrange at this point to undertake the necessary negotiations with the Office of Distribution of the Department of Agriculture for the procurement of these supplies and with appropriate officials at Treasury Procurement so that the packaging and ultimate shipment for consignment to the International Committee can be achieved at the earliest possible moment.

May I take the opportunity afforded by this letter of expressing my appreciation to the American National Red Cross for their splendid cooperation in this matter. Only with the kind of cooperation you have given could the Board have expected to make this program a reality.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

PJM
PJM:McCormack:ar 8/24/44

000581

August 25, 1944

Mr. Richard F. Allen
Vice Chairman
Inland and Foreign Operations
American National Red Cross
Washington 15, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Henry W. Dunning

Dear Sir:

This is to confirm an agreement reached between Mr. Dunning and members of his staff and representatives of the War Refugee Board with respect to the contents of the individual 285,000 three-kilo parcels that will be packed and shipped by the American National Red Cross in conformity with our agreement of August 24, 1944.

It is recommended that the package contain the following items, all of which the Office of Food Distribution of the Department of Agriculture has indicated are immediately available.

Biscuits, E-2 (or equivalent)	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	ounces
Cheese	8	"
Whole powdered milk	16	"
Oleomargarine	16	"
Salmon (or tuna)	8	"
Sugar	8	"
Chocolate bars (or equivalent)	4	"
Dehydrated soup (3 servings)	2 $\frac{1}{2}$	"
Meat	12	"
Total	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	ounces net

This net weight per package plus the anticipated weight of the individual carton will satisfy the limitation placed by the German Government on the International Committee of the Red Cross for packages of three kilos in weight.

Mr. Thomas M. Gachet, Office of Food Distribution, Department of Agriculture, with whom informal discussions were held with respect to the availability of these items, has assured us that all of the above-mentioned

000582

RECEIVED FOR
AMERICAN NATIONAL RED
CROSS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
OFFICE OF THE
DIRECTOR

Mr. Richard F. Allen

- 2 -

August 25, 1944

items can be procured and delivered to a designated American National Red Cross packing center, upon receipt of instructions, by September 15, 1944. Since time is of the essence in making these packages available to the intended beneficiaries whose needs, you will agree, are great, it will be appreciated if you will arrange to process the necessary Government requisition for these supplies at the earliest possible moment.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

P.J.M.
PJM McCormack:af 8/25/44

000583

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000584

August 24, 1944

My dear Mr. President:

From the unallocated balance of the \$85,000,000 made available by the Congress through the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1941 and the Third Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Act of 1942, it is recommended that the sum of \$783,780 be made available to the Office of Distribution of the Department of Agriculture for the American National Red Cross. Also it is recommended that the sum of \$285,000 be made available to Treasury Procurement. These allocations will cover the costs involved in the procurement and shipping of 285,000 food parcels of three kilos each for ultimate distribution by the International Committee of the Red Cross to un-assimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe.

We have discussed with officials of the American National Red Cross this specific use of these funds and that organization has agreed to arrange for the packaging and shipment of these parcels and has further indicated that it interposes no objection to this request for the use of these funds by the War Refugee Board.

Faithfully yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

PJM
PJMccormack:ar 8/24/44

000585

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000586

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR RELIEF BOARD

- To:
- (1) *Mr. Kessel* 100 (Room) (Bldg.)
 - (2) *Mr. Hattermark* *Hattermark* (Room) (Bldg.)
 - (3) *Filee* 4405A (Room) (Bldg.)

This winds up our activity with OPA.

For your signature, please.

FJM

From: *Mr. McGowan* 8/23/44 (Date)
2414 (Room) (Bldg.)

000587

AUG 23 1944

Mr. Charles Quick, Chief Counsel
Legal Food Rationing Division
Office of Price Administration
2136 Federal Office Bldg. I
2nd and D Streets, S. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Quick:

This is to supplement our letter of August 16, 1944. On August 17, our representative obtained from your New York office a certificate for the equivalent of 10,000 red points (Certificate AE-285937) for the Prince Company, 568 Broadway, New York City. For the Wallace, Burton & Davis Co., 490-506 Greenwich Street, New York City, there was obtained a certificate for the equivalent of 38,750 red points (AE-285936). Also for Wallace, Burton & Davis Co. there were obtained certificates AE-285938 and AE-285939 which covered the procurement of 2,000 and 8,000 pounds of sugar, respectively.

Unfortunately, in the computation of the necessary red points to cover this transaction the figure of eight points per pound was employed. Inasmuch as our order was placed with the vendors on August 14, twelve points per pound should have been utilized. Accordingly, it is necessary that the War Refugee Board supply the Prince Company with an additional 8,000 red points to cover their delivery of a total of 1,250 pounds of cheese; an additional 19,375 red points will be required by the Wallace, Burton & Davis Co. to cover their delivery of a total of 4,243.75 pounds of cheese.

It will be appreciated if you will arrange to advise your New York office of this additional requirement so that a representative of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee may call at your New York office to secure these additional certificates for delivery to the vendor.

I wish to take the opportunity afforded by this letter of expressing the appreciation of the War Refugee Board for the assistance rendered by the Office of Price Administration in expediting the shipment of this food.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

JPM
FJMcGormack:ar 8/23/44

JPM

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*I was by Ed
Mr. Pille*

RECEIVED
ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: 1?
2?
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: August 23, 1944
NUMBER: 2897*

CONTROL COPY

CABLE FOR MINISTER HARRISON AND McCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND,
FROM DEPARTMENT AND WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Re Department's 2769 of August 11. War Refugee Board is prepared to ship within next 72 hours total of 15,000 parcels (three-kilo) for for distribution by Intercross to unassimilated persons in camps. Amcross shipping for War Refugee Board via Gothenburg. In addition to food contents each parcel contains receipt card modeled after Amcross POW receipt card with the exception that the name Intercross is substituted for Amcross and reference to the term "prisoner of war" has been eliminated.

Suggestion is made that Intercross prepare at once 15,000 labels to be affixed to said parcels at Gothenburg. Parcels then to go forward to Northern German ports via same facilities as Amcross POW packages, to be thence despatched via post to detained persons. Please secure at once from Intercross confirmation this proposed plan for handling three-kilo parcels or their substitute method of handling from Gothenburg onward so that matter can be cleared with London for approval.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 139

DECLASSIFIED
HULL State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 197

000590

CABLE FOR MINISTER HARRISON AND MCOLLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND, FROM
DEPARTMENT AND WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Re Department's 2769 of August 11. War Refugee Board is prepared to ship within next 72 hours total of 15,000 parcels (three-kilo) for distribution by Intercross to unassimilated persons in camps. Amcross shipping for War Refugee Board via Gothenburg. In addition to food contents each parcel contains receipt card modeled after Amcross POW receipt card with the exception that the name Intercross is substituted for Amcross and reference to the term "prisoner of war" has been eliminated.

Suggestion is made that Intercross prepare at once 15,000 labels to be affixed to said parcels at Gothenburg. Parcels then to go forward to northern German ports via same facilities as Amcross POW packages, to be thence despatched via post to detained persons. Please secure at once from Intercross confirmation this proposed plan for handling three-kilo parcels or their substitute method of handling from Gothenburg onward so that matter can be cleared with Lenden for approval.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 139

5:25 p.m.
August 22, 1944

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

RM *JA*
RM McCormack:ar 8/22/44

000591

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000592

August 23, 1944

Mr. George C. Smith
General Supply Officer
American National Red Cross
3155 Champlain Street
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Smith:

As per your request there appears below a description of the 15,000 three-kilo food parcels which the American National Red Cross is shipping for the War Refugee Board to be consigned to the International Committee of the Red Cross for distribution under their supervision to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe.

For your information, your Mr. Moeller in New York was handed personally the export licenses covering this shipment. (Photostatic copy of the face page of each license is attached to this letter.) Mr. Moeller also prepared, upon receipt of the necessary information from our Mr. McCormack, the necessary export declaration covering this shipment.

Description

The 15,000 three-kilo food parcels were delivered in two lots:

(1) Five thousand three-kilo parcels were delivered by the Prince Company, 568 Broadway, New York City. This lot was represented by a total of 625 cartons, each carton containing eight individual parcels. The gross weight of the 625 cartons was 36,625 pounds, and the cubic measurements thereof was 1193.75 feet. The individual parcels contained the following items:

1-12 oz. can of meat	5-2½ oz. packages dehydrated soups
1- 3 oz. can of meat spread	1-2 lb. jar of marmalade
2 pkgs. cookies	1-4 oz. package of tea
2 fruit cakes	1-4 oz. package of processed cheese

(2) Ten thousand three-kilo parcels were delivered by Wallace, Barton & Davis Co., 490-505 Greenwich Street, New York City. This lot was represented by 1,667 cartons, each of which contained six individual parcels. (The 1,667th carton contained only four individual parcels.) The gross weight of this lot was 75,848½ pounds, and the cubic measurements thereof was 4280.85 feet. The

000593

Mr. George C. Smith

- 2 -

August 23, 1944

Individual parcels contained the following items:

7 3/4 oz. - cheese
1 lb. - Kraft whole milk powder
1 lb. - granulated sugar
16 oz. - package raisins
14 oz. - jar praline butter
9-2 oz. pkgs. or 6-2 1/2 oz. pkgs. dehydrated soup mix

The entire 15,000 individual parcels were packaged in plain cardboard cartons unmarked and devoid of any inscription. The International Committee of the Red Cross proposes to label these parcels appropriately upon their receipt. The outer carton in which the smaller parcels were packed were likewise plain except for the notation:

To: The International Committee of the Red Cross
Gross Weight: Cubic Feet:

In the case of the Prince Company the gross weight of the outer carton was 58.5 pounds and the cubic measurement thereof 1.91 feet. In the case of the Wallace Company the gross weight of the outer carton was 45.4 pounds and the cubic measurements thereof 2.55 feet.

May I take the opportunity afforded by this letter of expressing the appreciation of the War Refugee Board to the members of your staff who made possible this shipment.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Enclosures

FJMcCormack:ar 8/23/44

ZW ✓ *JPM*

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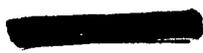
*2 was Ref Rd
m/alle*

CORRECTION ON

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: August 21, 1944
NUMBER: 2872

CONTROL COPY



The telegram No. 2872 was erroneously distributed to you as "No. 135". It should have been No. 2872.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

000596

*I was by Ed
Mrs. Lehle*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: August 21, 1944
NUMBER: 135 2872

CONTROL COPY

FOR McCLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Reference your number 5228 of August 11, 1944.

Ancross has authorized use of 50 tons salvaged Christina foodstuffs for Inter-cross package program for concentration camps. You are hereby authorized to pay Inter-cross from WRB funds for the aforementioned 50 tons. Please advise Board exact amount you pay Inter-cross and report on the developments of this feeding program.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 135.

HULL

IN VHC 53 EN 22

WASHINGTON D.C.
AMERICAN LEGATION
RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 21 1972**

000597

CABLE TO HARRISON, BERN, FOR MCGLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Reference your number 5228 of August 11, 1944.

Amcross has authorized use of 50 tons salvaged Christina foodstuffs for Intereross package program for concentration camps. You are hereby authorized to pay Intereross from WRB funds for the aforementioned 50 tons. Please advise Board exact amount you pay Intereross and report on the developments of this feeding program.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. _____.

FHodel:jth 8/17/44

*7/1 - Cleared with
Mr. Peble*

000598

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE August 21, 1944

TO Mr. Pehle
FROM Mr. McCormack

Subject: Three-kilo food parcels for unassimilated persons.

In connection with your proposed discussion with Mr. O'Conner, Chairman of the American National Red Cross, it has been suggested that he be approached along the following lines:

War Refugee Board, since its establishment in January 1944, has been concerned with the desperate plight of those persons who have been interned for reasons of race, creed, and politics, and who have not been accorded the protection of the Treaty of Geneva. This lack of assimilation has prevented the receipt of relief for many reasons, not the least of which was Blockade. After a series of discussions with State, FEA, and Blockade, formal authorization was received from the latter for the despatch from this country of 300,000 three-kilo packages for distribution to these persons. Fifteen thousand of these packages were procured commercially and will go forward with the next sailing of the Gripsholm. There remains to be packed and shipped a total of 285,000 parcels. Discussions were held with Mr. Allen and members of his staff prior to formal Blockade authorization with a view to persuading American National Red Cross to undertake this project. The results of these discussions were confirmed in an exchange of letters in which Mr. Allen agreed to pack and ship commensurate with the American National Red Cross' ability to perform and further that Red Cross interposed no objection to the use of a part of the Emergency Relief Appropriation for this purpose.

Now that blockade authorization has been obtained, we plan to meet again with Mr. Allen with a view to persuading the American National Red Cross to assume responsibility for this project.

The lateness of the hour and the desperate plight of the intended beneficiaries of this project prompts me to request that you indicate your interest, too, in this worthy undertaking, to your Mr. Allen.

Attachments

*Passed to
O'Conner who
will pass to
Allen.*

P.J.M.

000600

Ju. 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Allen:

Reference is made to our meeting of July 20, 1944. You will recall that I advised you that recent discussions between Mr. Dingle M. Foot, Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Warfare, and representatives of State, Foreign Economic Administration, and War Refugee Board, resulted in an agreement to permit the shipment from this country of 100,000 standard food parcels per month for a three-month period. These packages will be consigned to the International Committee of the Red Cross for distribution exclusively to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe. Distribution, of course, is contingent upon German acquiescence to certain specific guarantees. This proposal has been presented by the American and British missions in Switzerland to the International Committee and we are momentarily awaiting their answer.

Anticipating an affirmative reply from the International Committee, we are desirous of making the necessary advance arrangements. Because most of the persons who will be the ultimate beneficiaries of this distribution are in dire distress, having had little or nothing in the way of relief since the outbreak of war, we are hopeful that the parcels can be packed and shipped promptly. As you may know, we are not an operating agency and have neither the facilities to undertake such a project nor the desire to duplicate existing facilities. It is my understanding that the American National Red Cross will be willing to undertake this packaging and shipping for the Board. Further, it is my understanding that the American National Red Cross will not interpose any objection to our approaching the Bureau of the Budget with a view to the allocation of \$1,125,000 from the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act to cover the cost of packing and shipping these 300,000 food parcels. It will be helpful in our approach to the Bureau of the Budget if you will see fit to confirm these understandings at your earliest possible convenience.

I wish to express my appreciation to you and Mr. Pate for meeting with us the other day and for your helpfulness in the solution of this problem.

Very truly yours,

(signed) J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Richard F. Allen, Chairman
Insular and Foreign Operations
American National Red Cross
Washington, D. C.

PJMcCormack:ar 7/24/44

0 0 0 6 0 1

AMERICAN RED CROSS
National Headquarters
Washington 13, D. C.
July 28, 1944

COPY

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

In answer to your letter of July 25, with reference to the possible assistance which the American Red Cross may be in preparing and shipping 100,000 food parcels per month for a three month period for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe after the German authorities acquiesce to certain guarantees, providing approximately the same conditions of distribution and supervision by the International Red Cross Committee and their delegates as is the case for bona fide prisoners of war, I assure you the American Red Cross will render such assistance as is possible and consistent with our facilities and our previous obligations.

There have been times during the past year when the demands upon us for prisoner of war packages were very considerably in excess of the facilities of our packaging centres. There have also been times when available shipping space to Europe was considerably less than required to fulfill commitments which we had made to the United States and Allied authorities for the delivery of prisoner of war packages to Geneva. When the German authorities acquiesce in the plan mentioned above we will immediately survey our previous obligations in relation to the facilities in our packaging centres and our shipping space and will make a vigorous effort to act promptly.

With reference to the availability of \$1,125,000 from the Emergency Relief Appropriation this is a matter for decision by the United States Government who will, of course, pass upon the propriety of such use of these funds. The American Red Cross will interpose no objection to such use of the \$1,125,000 amount although it would be a source of great embarrassment to us if amounts in excess of this sum were diverted from the purposes for which these funds have heretofore been used, since we have a natural desire to carry on to completion the relief programs which are well known to the President and the Appropriations Committee of the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

With best wishes to you for success in the important work which you are carrying on and with assurance of our desire to assist in every proper fashion, I am

Sincerely,

RFA:ps

Richard F. Allen
Vice Chairman

000602



7

000603



INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
Receipt for Package

(Last Name)

(First and Middle Names)

(Number)

(Camp)

(Country)

I have received today one food package through THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS.

(Signed)

Nationality

Date

000604



-v

000605

August 18, 1944

: Mr. Orvis A. Schmidt

: Mr. J. W. Pehle

The War Refugee Board has prepared a program for the shipment of food packages to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sweden for distribution to persons detained in concentration camps in enemy and enemy-occupied territory in Europe. The program has been approved by the British Ministry of Economic Warfare, the Department of State and the Blockade Division of the Foreign Economic Administration.

The Board itself is arranging for the shipment of the first 15,000 food packages to Sweden under this program on a ship expected to sail sometime next week from the Port of New York. Accordingly I would appreciate your issuing to the War Refugee Board a license, referring to General Ruling No. 11, authorizing the shipment and all transactions incident thereto, including the movement of the goods through Customs, of the 15,000 food packages valued at \$41,600 to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sweden.

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MSargoy: dh 8/18/44 JED ←

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000607

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

TO : Miss Hodel

August 17, 1944

FROM : R. B. Parke

Subject: License No. W-2270

In accordance with your request made by telephone this afternoon, there is transmitted herewith, in duplicate, license No. W-2270, relative to the shipment of 15,000 food parcels to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sweden.


R. B. Parke

000608

FORM TFEL-1 (Special)
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
Foreign Funds Control

License No. W-2270

Date: AUG 17 1944

L I C E N S E
GRANTED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 8389
OF APRIL 10, 1940, AS AMENDED, AND THE RULES AND
REGULATIONS ISSUED THEREUNDER AND SECTIONS 3(a)
AND 5(b), OF THE TRADING WITH THE
ENEMY ACT, AS AMENDED

To : The War Refugee Board
(Name of Licensee)

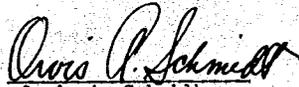
Treasury Building, Washington 25, D.C.
(Address of Licensee)

Sirs:

1. You, or any agency or agent designated by you, are hereby authorized, notwithstanding the provisions of General Ruling No. 11, to engage in any and all transactions incident to, and necessary for, the shipment and transportation, including the movement through Customs, of 15,000 food parcels, valued at \$41,600, consigned to the International Committee of the Red Cross in Sweden, for distribution by the International Committee of the Red Cross to persons detained in concentration camps in enemy or enemy-occupied territory.

2. This license is granted upon the statements and representations filed with or otherwise made to the Treasury Department, and is subject to the condition, among others, that you will comply in all respects with Executive Order No. 8389, as amended, and the regulations issued thereunder and under sections 3(a) and 5(b) of the Trading with the Enemy Act, and the terms of this license.

3. This license is not transferable, is subject to the provisions of Executive Order No. 8389, as amended, and the regulations issued thereunder and under section 3(a) and 5(b) of the Trading with the Enemy Act, and may be revoked, modified, or declared void at any time at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury acting directly or through the agency through which the license was issued, or any other agency designated by the Secretary of the Treasury.

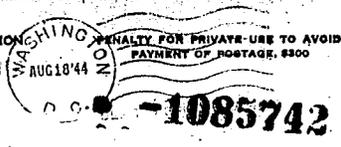

Orvis A. Schmidt
Acting Director

000609

49

000610

FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF SUPPLIES
REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY BRANCH
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



Applicant's reference No.
Import recommendation No.
Sweden Country of destination

War Refugee Board (Applicant's name)
(Street address)
Washington 25, D. C. (City and State)

FEA CASE No. _____

FEA 116
(Revised 5-44)

FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF SUPPLIES
REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY BRANCH

GENTLEMEN:

The application for export license bearing your reference number(s) as listed on the other side of this card has been assigned the case number shown. Any future correspondence concerning this application must give the applicant's name and the case number assigned.

REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY BRANCH,

BUREAU OF SUPPLIES.

GPO 16-20737-6

United States of America
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION—WAR PRODUCTION

**FORM FOR EXPORT LICENSE AND PRIORITY ASSISTANCE FOR
PLAIN ARMS, AMMUNITION, AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR, TINY**

This license is hereby granted to the applicant named herein to export from the United States to the party named and material described, in the quantity specified, for a consideration not in excess of the permit amount, issued by the Office of Price Administration, as an approval of such price. This license is valid for a period of ONE YEAR from the date of issuance. If the consideration is in excess of the permit amount, the applicant must file a separate application for a license. REGULATIONS GOVERNING EXPORTS OF THIS TYPE ARE PUBLISHED IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER. APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE REQUIRED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS LICENSE. IF THERE IS A CHANGE OF ADDRESS, THE APPLICANT MUST FILE A DUPLICATE AND QUADRUPPLICATE when used.

1. Applicant (if applicant is agent, also give name of principal in 1 (b)):

(a) Name: **War Reliefs Board**
Address: **Washington 25, D. C.**
Citizenship: **American**

(b) Name: *********
Address: *********
Citizenship: *********

2. Applicant's Reference No.: **5***

3. Consideration: **None**

4. Date of Application: **8/17/46**

5. Give name and address (street, city, state) of the following concerned with this shipment:

(a) Purchaser in foreign country:
Name: **None**
Address: **None**

(b) Distributor/Wholesaler: Retailer: User:
Name: **None**
Address: **None**

(c) Consignee in foreign country:
Name: **Polignac, J. J.**
Address: **Of the Red Cross, 1000 17th St. N.W., Washington, D. C.**

(d) Consignor in foreign country (if name):
Name: **American Red Cross**
Address: **Washington, D. C.**

(e) Quantity to be shipped (see instruction B-4): **5,000 Parcels**

(f) Year No.: **199870**

(g) Description of commodities in sufficient detail to permit identification: **5,000 food parcels packed in a carton, etc.**

(h) Schedule B No. and Processing Code: **199870**

(i) Also show (if applicable): **199870**

10. Name (name and address) of the manufacturer, or if the manufacturer is a subsidiary or an affiliate of an American firm, the name of such subsidiary or affiliate:
**War Relocation Authority
Washington 25, D.C.**

12. (a) If item(s) not manufactured by applicant or affiliate thereof, state source of supply (check one):

- Producer Retailer Other (specify)
 Wholesaler/Distributor Own stock

(b) If the applicant or affiliate thereof is not the manufacturer, give name and address of probable supplier:

Name **Prince Co.**
Address **348 Broadway,
New York City**

13. If item(s) for which priority assistance is requested will be CAPITAL EQUIPMENT or will be used to REPAIR capital equipment, give the following information:

(a) The item(s) on which rating is requested is:

- For reserve stock.
 To expand present facilities.
 To repair present facilities.
 To replace present facilities.
 Other (specify)

(b) Explain how consignee now does the work for which you request this equipment, and why his present method cannot be continued:

14. (a) Describe fully the ultimate use of the item(s) to be exported. (Include what will be produced or manufactured, or what service will be rendered with the item(s) requested as described herein; also include a statement of the type of business in which items are to be used.)

The food parcels will be distributed by the International Committee of the Red Cross, from Sweden as a base, for the relief of persons detained in concentration camps in enemy and enemy occupied territory in Europe.

(b) Explain why it is necessary for the consignee to make this purchase at this time. (Omit if material is CAPITAL EQUIPMENT to repair or replace present facilities.)

15. Answer either (a) or (b):

(a) If applicant is a manufacturer and has filed statement of export prices with OPA for commodities listed in 7, indicate date such prices were filed:

(b) To show conformity with the Revised Maximum Price Regulations, state with regard to each article or material (per unit when possible):

- (i) Basic domestic price, \$ Delivery point:
Check applicable basic domestic price used: Cost of acquisition; Maximum price applicable to current sale to export seller by his supplier;
 Maximum price applicable to domestic sale by export seller; Other price authorized by the Regulation (specify):
(ii) Premium (if any) \$ (iii) If premium or price is affected by terms of payment, state terms.

16. Is there any arrangement whereby the licensee, seller, consignor, or supplier receives consideration which exceeds the amount stated in answer to 7 (f)?
Yes . No . If "Yes," explain.

17. Explain reasons or give the specifications, if any, which make the items covered by this application unusable or unsalable in the United States.

18. If this is an application to export to any of the SELECTED DESTINATIONS listed in the Comprehensive Export Schedule, list all types of insurance covering the consignment, and give names and addresses of all insuring companies.

FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF SUPPLIES
REQUIREMENTS AND SUPPLY BRANCH
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

QUALITY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, 1900
WASH DC
AUG 14 1948
1085741

Applicant's reference No.
Import recommendation No.
Sweden
Country of destination

War Refugee Board
(Applicant's name)
(Street address)
Washington 25, D. C.
(City and State)

FEA CASE No. _____

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reference num-
ber assigned the
license number

BRANCH

FEA 416
Budget Bureau No. 81-2081.
B. B. approval expires 8-16-44.

United States of America
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION—WAR PRODUCTION BOARD

FEA Blockade
Control No. **B 5079**
(Not to be filed in by applicant)

APPLICATION FOR EXPORT LICENSE AND PRIORITY ASSISTANCE FOR ARTICLES AND MATERIALS (OTHER THAN ARMS, AMMUNITION, AND IMPLEMENTS OF WAR, TINPLATE SCRAP AND HELIUM)

License is hereby granted to the applicant named herein to export from the United States to the purchaser and consignee in the destination stated herein the articles and materials described, in the quantity given, for a consideration not in excess of that permissible by the Revised Maximum Export Price Regulation, as amended, issued by the Office of Price Administration. If the consideration is in excess of such maximum price, the issuance of this license shall not be construed as an approval of such price nor as relieving the applicant of liability for any violation of such Price Regulation. **THIS LICENSE IS EXPRESSLY SUBJECT TO ALL RULES AND REGULATIONS ISSUED BY THE FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION.** Unless otherwise stated, it is valid for a period of ONE YEAR from the date of issuance. It is not transferable without official authority and is subject to revocation without notice.
IMPORTANT.—Applicant's signature required on DUPLICATE and QUADRUPLICATE (when used). See INSTRUCTIONS for filling in this form on the reverse side of ORIGINAL. If there is insufficient space for fully answering any question, supplemental typewritten sheets should be attached to EACH copy of the application.

TO BE FILLED IN BY APPLICANT

1. Applicant (if applicant is agent, also give name of principal in 1 (b)):		2. Applicant's Reference No.	3. Country of Destination
(a) Name War Refugee Board Address Washington 25, D. C. Citizenship American			Sweden
(b) Name Address Citizenship		4. Date of Application 8/17/44	5. Number of Import Recommendation, Selected Destinations (Blockade) Control Permit, or Import License
6. Give name and address (street, city, state) of the following concerned with this shipment:			
(a) Purchaser in foreign country: Name Rona Address Check, if for purchaser's own use <input type="checkbox"/> , or if for resale to (check one): (b) <input type="checkbox"/> Distributor/Wholesaler, <input type="checkbox"/> Retailer, <input type="checkbox"/> User.		(c) Consignee in foreign country (if same as purchaser, state "same") Name Delegato, International Committee of the Red Cross Address Osloberg, Sweden	
(d) Consignor in U. S. (if same as applicant or affiliate thereof, state "same") Name American National Red Cross Address Washington, D. C.			

(a) Item No.	(b) Quantity to be shipped (see instruction B4)	(c) (Do not fill in) Quantity approved (if different from 7 (b))	(d) Description of commodities in sufficient detail to permit accurate identification. Include applicant's purchase order description in full. Also show Schedule B No. and Processing Code	(e) CMP Code No. (if any)	(f) Total selling price and point of delivery; also unit value, if possible (see instruction B4)															
					Unit value	Total price														
	10,000 parcels		10,000 food parcels packed six (6) to a carton, aggregating 1,687 cartons. Each parcel contains the following: <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Commodity</td> <td>Weight in oz.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>cheese</td> <td>7.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>whole milk powdered</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>granulated sugar</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>raisins</td> <td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>prune butter</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>dehydrated soup</td> <td>18</td> </tr> </table>	Commodity	Weight in oz.	cheese	7.75	whole milk powdered	18	granulated sugar	18	raisins	18	prune butter	14	dehydrated soup	18	--	\$2.91 per parcel	\$29,100
Commodity	Weight in oz.																			
cheese	7.75																			
whole milk powdered	18																			
granulated sugar	18																			
raisins	18																			
prune butter	14																			
dehydrated soup	18																			

(g) Total weights (see instruction B4)			(h) Date(s) on which it is necessary that item(s) be ready for exportation											
Gross	Net	Cubic Meas.	Item No.	Month	Day	Year	Item No.	Month	Day	Year	Item No.	Month	Day	Year
75,848 lbs.	54,219 lbs.	4300.85 cu. ft.												

8. Describe in nontechnical terms item(s) on which priority assistance is requested. (Do not use trade name. Give approximate composition of alloys, if known.)

No priority requested.

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

FEA Case No. (License number when validated):
1080741
Validated Foreign Economic Administration 8/18/44 by Wm Lyons

NOT VALID WITHOUT OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION

Under authority of the War Production Board, delivery of the material referred to herein is assigned a preference rating of Application and extension of rating shall be made in accordance with Priorities Regulation No. 8.

9. If a PREVIOUS application for this material has been submitted, give FEA CASE No. and WPB CASE No. (if any) and check reason for filing this application:

Previous FEA Case No.	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal for higher preference rating.
Previous WPB Case No. (if any)	<input type="checkbox"/> Application returned for correction.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal of export license.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for reconsideration of rating denial.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other reason (state reason).

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

5 QUINTUPLICATE (Applicant's File Copy)	Identification Symbol	WPB Case No.
--	-----------------------	--------------

10. Send license to (name and address): War Reliance Board Washington 25, D. C.	11. If (a), (b), or (c) is a subsidiary or an affiliate of an American firm, state which and explain:
12. (a) If item(s) not manufactured by applicant or affiliate thereof, state source of supply (check one): <input type="checkbox"/> Producer <input type="checkbox"/> Retailer <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wholesaler/Distributor <input type="checkbox"/> Own stock	(b) If the applicant or affiliate thereof is not the manufacturer, give name and address of probable supplier: Name Wallace, Barton & Davis Co. Address 200-202 Greenwich Street, New York City
13. If item(s) for which priority assistance is requested will be CAPITAL-EQUIPMENT or will be used to REPAIR capital equipment, give the following information:	

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) The item(s) on which rating is requested is:

<input type="checkbox"/> For reserve stock.
<input type="checkbox"/> To expand present facilities.
<input type="checkbox"/> To repair present facilities.
<input type="checkbox"/> To replace present facilities.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) | (b) Explain how consignee now does the work for which you request this equipment, and why his present method cannot be continued. |
|--|---|

14. (a) Describe fully the ultimate use of the item(s) to be exported. (Include what will be produced or manufactured, or what service will be rendered with the item(s) requested as described herein; also include a statement of the type of business in which items are to be used.)

The food parcels will be distributed by the International Committee of the Red Cross, from Sweden as a base, for the relief of persons detained in concentration camps in enemy and enemy occupied territory in Europe.

(b) Explain why it is necessary for the consignee to make this purchase at this time. (Omit if material is CAPITAL EQUIPMENT to repair or replace present facilities.)

15. Answer either (a) or (b):

(a) If applicant is a manufacturer and has filed statement of export prices with OPA for commodities listed in 7, indicate date such prices were filed:

(b) To show conformity with the Revised Maximum Price Regulations, state with regard to each article or material (per unit when possible):
 (i) Basic domestic price, \$ Delivery point:
 Check applicable basic domestic price used: Cost of acquisition; Maximum price applicable to current sale to export seller by his supplier;
 Maximum price applicable to domestic sale by export seller; Other price authorized by the Regulation (specify):
 (ii) Premium (if any) \$ (iii) If premium or price is affected by terms of payment, state terms.

16. Is there any arrangement whereby the licensee, seller, consignee, or supplier receives consideration which exceeds the amount stated in answer to 7(f)?
 Yes . No . If "Yes," explain.

17. Explain reasons or give the specifications, if any, which make the items covered by this application unusable or unsalable in the United States.

18. If this is an application to export to any of the SELECTED DESTINATIONS listed in the Comprehensive Export Schedule, list all types of insurance covering the consignment, and give names and addresses of all insuring companies.



000619

August 17, 1944

Mr. Moeller, Shipping Agent
American National Red Cross
45 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Moeller:

The enclosure, as directed by you, described in detail the shipment of the 18,000 food parcels intended for persons in concentration camps in enemy Europe. These parcels are being consigned to the American National Red Cross for ultimate consignment to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Sincerely yours,

Henrietta K. Buchman
Executive Assistant
Joint Distribution Committee

Paul J. McCormack
Representative
War Refugee Board

PJM:EK
encls.

000620

15,000 FOOD PARCELS

The 15,000 parcels will come to you in two lots:

1. To be delivered by the Prince Company of 548 Broadway, New York City. This lot is represented by 625 cartons, each carton containing 6 individual parcels. The gross weight of the 625 cartons is 36,525 lbs., and the cubic measurements thereof 1193.75 ft. The individual parcels contain the following items:

1-12 oz. can of meat	5-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. packages dehydrated soups
1- 3 oz. can of meat spread	1-2 lb. jar of marmalade
2 pkgs. cookies	1-4 oz. package of tea
2 fruit cakes	1-4 oz. package of processed cheese

2. To be delivered by Wallace, Burton & Davis Co., 490-508 Greenwich Street, New York City. This lot consists of 1,667 cartons, each of which contains 6 small parcels (one of these large cartons contains only 4 smaller parcels instead of 6). The gross weight of this lot is 75,848 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., and the cubic measurements thereof 4250.85 ft. The individual parcels contain the following items:

7 $\frac{3}{4}$ oz.	-	cheese
1 lb.	-	Kraft whole milk powder
1 lb.	-	granulated sugar
15 oz.	-	package raisins
14 oz.	-	jar praline butter
9-2 oz. pkgs. or 6-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. pkgs.	-	dehydrated soup mix

000621

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000622

AUG 16 1944

Dear Mr. Quick:

The British and American blockade authorities have recently authorized the shipment of 300,000 food parcels from this country to the International Red Cross, Geneva, Switzerland, for distribution by the International Red Cross to unassimilated persons in concentration camps in enemy-occupied Europe. In view of the dire need of the people who will benefit by this program, it is imperative to arrange for the immediate dispatch of as many packages as possible.

The American Red Cross has advised the War Refugee Board that shipping space will be available within the next thirty days for 15,000 3-kilogram packages for this program. As agent of the War Refugee Board, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, 270 Madison Avenue, New York, has arranged for the purchase of 5,000 food packages from Prince Company, 568 Broadway, New York, and 10,000 packages from Wallace, Burton, and Davis Company, 490-506 Greenwich Street, New York. These 15,000 packages will be delivered to the American Red Cross who, as agent of the War Refugee Board, will ship the packages to the International Red Cross.

The 5,000 packages being purchased from Prince Company will contain $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of cheese each and the 10,000 packages being purchased from Wallace, Burton, and Davis Company, will contain 8 oz. of cheese each. It is understood that 100,000 red points will be needed for the aforementioned quantity of cheese. In addition, the 10,000 packages from Wallace, Burton, and Davis Company will contain 10,000 lbs. of sugar, for which it is understood 2,000 sugar coupons are needed. It will be

000623

APPROVED
BY THE DIRECTOR
OF THE FEDERAL
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

- 2 -

appreciated if you will arrange at once for the delivery of 100,000 red points and 2,000 sugar coupons to the War Refugee Board for these very important purchases.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Charles Quick, Chief Counsel,
Sugar Rationing Division,
Office of Price Administration,
2126 Federal Office Building I,
Washington, D. C.

*Legal Food Rationing
2126 FOP I
2nd & 1st St NW*

FH:jth 8/15/44

000624

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000625

CABLE FROM INTERCROSS, GENEVA TO INTERCROSS, WASHINGTON, August 15.

✓ Have news from London that our latest parcel scheme will be accepted.
Awaiting still confirmation from Washington. Please see that parcels which
will eventually be packed USA be as simple as possible and contain no luxury
goods but, if possible, only strengthening foods for undernourished people
STOP Hope that Amcross will permit use of fifty tons salvaged from Christina.

000626

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000627

Total
 \$46,500
 471,500 + 4000
 411,600 + 900
 412,500

311,500
 \$30,000
 42,000

August 14, 1944

Wallace, Burton & Davis Co.
 490-506 Greenwich Street
 New York 15, N.Y.

Att.: Mr. Fingus

Dear Sirs:

10307

This is to confirm the order for 10,000 food packages, each to consist of the following items:

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 7 3/4 oz. | - cheese | 1 lb. | - pan teams |
| 1 lb. | - Kraft whole milk powder | 15 oz. pkg. | - pastrami |
| 1 lb. | - granulated sugar | 14 oz. jar | - prune butter |
| 9-2 oz. pkgs. or 8-2 1/2 oz. pkgs. | dehydrated soup mix | | |

at a price of \$3.15 per package which includes packing and delivery to the pier.

The above items are to be put up in individual cartons and wrapped in water-proof paper, sealed with water-proof tape, six individual boxes to be placed in an outer carton - at least 200 test - and strapped for export.

This merchandise is to be delivered to a pier either in New York or in Philadelphia on or before August 21, 1944. You will be advised of the place to which delivery is to be made in advance of the date of delivery. In the event you fail to deliver the above order on or before August 21, 1944 at the place to be designated, we are free to reject the order and there shall be no responsibility whatsoever on our part. The terms of payment are cash upon receipt of the invoice.

Please confirm this understanding by signing the copy of this letter and return same to us.

Sincerely yours,

Henrietta K. Buchman
 Executive Assistant

P.S. The above price covers delivery to a pier in New York. In the event delivery is to be made to a Philadelphia pier, we stand ready to cover the actual cost of freight.

HEB:EK

000628



000629

Prince Company
568 Broadway
New York, N.Y.

August 14, 1944

Att.: Mr. Seymour Prince

Dear Sirs:

This is to confirm the order for 5,000 food packages, each to contain the following items:

- 1-12 oz. can of meat
- 1- 3 oz. can of meat spread
- 2 pkgs. cookies
- 2 fruit cakes

- 5-2 1/2 oz. packages dehydrated soups
- 1-2 lb. jar of marmalade
- 1-4 oz. package of tea
- 1-4 oz. package of processed cheese

at a price of \$3.00 per package, which includes packing and delivery to the pier.

The above items are to be put up in individual cartons and wrapped in water-proof paper, sealed with water-proof tape, six individual boxes to be placed in an outer carton - at least 200 test - and strapped for export.

This merchandise is to be delivered to a pier either in New York or in Philadelphia on or before August 21, 1944. You will be advised of the place to which delivery is to be made in advance of the date of delivery. In the event you fail to deliver the above order on or before August 21, 1944 at the place to be designated, we are free to reject the order and there shall be no responsibility whatsoever on our part. The terms of payment are cash upon receipt of the invoice

Please confirm this understanding by signing the copy of this letter and return same to us.

Sincerely yours,

Henrietta K. Buchman
Executive Assistant

HEB:MK

ACCEPTED: _____

*Total
46,500
471,500*

*250 / No wrapping
15,000
12,500*

8/11/44

000630

43

000631

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 14, 1944

TO: Mr. Pehle
FROM: Mr. McCormack
SUBJECT: Three Hundred Thousand three-kilo packages.

As you know, we have now been informed by London that the blockade has given their authorization to pack and ship from this country three hundred thousand food packages, three-kilo in weight for consignment to the International Committee of the Red Cross for distribution to unassimilated camps in enemy Europe. Likewise, blockade has given authorization which permits the International Committee to package in three-kilo parcels the consumable items salvaged from the SS Christina cargo. Harrison and McClelland have been advised of this authorization and the International Committee is ready to undertake this distribution and is apparently at work on packaging the salvaged goods. The time is short if we would take advantage of the opportunity of getting food from this country in the hands of these intended beneficiaries. In view of this I strongly urge that you, Mr. Abrahamson, and Miss Hojel arrange to meet, as soon as is feasible, with Mr. Richard Allen, Vice-chairman American National Red Cross and his staff for the purpose of arranging with that organization the necessary plans for them to procure the necessary supplies, package and ship same for consignment to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Mr. Allen might be informed along the following lines:

- (1) Formal blockade authorization to package and ship has now been obtained.
- (2) Procurement, packaging, and shipping of said packages is quite analagous to the procurement, packaging and shipping of present American Red Cross POW packages.
- (3) The Bureau of the Budget has informally informed us that:
 - (a) Ample funds remain unallocated that could be used for this purpose, and/or
 - (b) Unexpended balance already allocated to Department of Agriculture could be earmarked for this specific purpose by the Bureau of the Budget.

000632

(4) Recognizing the analogy outlined under item (2), American National Red Cross might be approached in one of two ways.

(a) They might be persuaded to handle the entire transaction from this point onward. This would entail a formal request from them to the President for the allocation of the necessary funds and the making of appropriate arrangements with the Office of Distribution of the Department of Agriculture for the procurement of parcels commercially packed or procurement of stock to be packed by American National Red Cross facilities.

(If (a) above is desired and achieved, attachment No. I is a suggested letter from you to Mr. Allen formalizing this agreement.)

(b) The alternative would require a formal request from the War Refugee Board to the President for the allocation of the funds necessary to cover the cost of procuring parcels either commercially packed or supplies procured by Agriculture for packaging by American National Red Cross. If this method is employed American National Red Cross would come into the picture at the point when the Department of Agriculture receives the necessary allocation from the Bureau of the Budget.

(If (b) above is desired, attachment No. II is a suggested letter from you to the President, officially requesting the necessary allocation. Attachment No. III is a suggested letter from you to Mr. Allen, formalizing the agreement reached with American National Red Cross if (b) is employed.)

Only one point is not decided at this time. You will recall when we met with Mr. Allen recently he said that the American National Red Cross in their use of these congressionally appropriated funds had not made use of them in extending relief in enemy or enemy-occupied countries. He indicated that there were however two exceptions, i.e. the relief program in Greece; and a recent medical program in occupied France for both of which a part of these funds was utilized. In each instance before undertaking the expenditure Mr. Allen informally cleared with the Chairmen of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. He suggested that we follow this precedent.

I shall be happy to make the appointment for you at the American National Red Cross.

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ATTACHMENT I

DRAFT

August 14, 1944

Mr. Richard F. Allen

Vice-Chairman Insular and Foreign Operations

American National Red Cross

Washington 13, D. C.

My dear Mr. Allen:

Following our recent meeting and exchange of letters, the War Refugee Board has been informed officially by blockade authorities in London that the Relief Sub-Committee thereof agrees to the shipment and distribution of 300,000 specially prepared three-kilo food parcels to concentration camps in enemy Europe. Authorization for use by the International Committee of the Red Cross of the consumable portion of the salvaged cargo of the SS Christina has likewise been obtained. Appropriate instructions have gone forward from the Department of State and the Board to the American Mission at Bern for the packaging of this consumable salvage into three-kilo parcels for distribution by the International Committee.

The War Refugee Board, subsequent to the receipt of the aforementioned authorization, has been advised informally by the Bureau of the Budget that ample funds, as yet unallocated, remain available through the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1941 and the Third Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Act of 1942 to cover the cost of procurement of these 300,000 parcels.

Accordingly, it will be appreciated if the American National Red Cross will request of the President an allocation in the amount of \$1,125,000 for allotment to the Department of Agriculture to cover the cost of procurement and necessary packing of these parcels. It will

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ATTACHMENT I, DRAFT

-2- Mr. Richard F. Allen, August 14, 1944

likewise be appreciated if the American National Red Cross will arrange to pack and ship for consignment to the International Committee of the Red Cross these parcels as they become available for ultimate distribution by the International Committee to unassimilated persons in camps.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

PJM:ml

000635

ATTACHMENT II

D R A F T

August 14, 1944

The Honorable the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

From the unallocated balance of the \$85,000,000 made available by the Congress through the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1941 and the Third Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Act of 1942 it is recommended that the sum of \$1,125,000 be made available to the Office of Distribution of the Department of Agriculture for the American National Red Cross.

This allocation will cover the costs involved in the purchasing of 300,000 food parcels of three-kilos each for ultimate distribution by the International Committee of the Red Cross to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe.

We have discussed with officials of the American National Red Cross this specific use of these funds and that organization has agreed to arrange for the packaging and shipment of these parcels and has further indicated that it interposes no objection to this request for the use of these funds by the War Refugee Board.

Faithfully yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

000636

COMMENT III

DRAFT

August 14, 1944

Mr. Richard F. Allen
Vice-Chairman Insular and Foreign Operations
American National Red Cross
Washington 13, D. C.

My dear Mr. Allen:

//Following the understanding reached at our recent meeting with respect to the 300,000 food parcels for consignment to the International Committee for distribution by them to unassimilated persons in camps, the War Refugee Board has formally requested of the President the necessary allocation of funds to the Department of Agriculture for the procurement of these supplies. A copy of my letter to the President is attached. It will be appreciated if the American National Red Cross will arrange to undertake the necessary negotiations with the Office of Distribution of the Department of Agriculture for the procurement of these supplies and the packaging and ultimate shipment for consignment to the International Committee.

May I take the opportunity afforded by this letter of expressing my appreciation to the American National Red Cross for their splendid cooperation. Only with the kind of cooperation you have given could the Board have expected to make this program a reality.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

FJM:ml

000637

42

000638

War Ref Bd (Mr. Beble)

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: August 11, 1944
NUMBER: 2769

CONTROL COPY

FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND.

Blockade authorities have agreed to Intercross proposal (your 4578, July 18 and Department's 2663, August 3) for sending three-kilo parcels to persons in concentration camps. Agreement also has been given to use of portion of reclaimed Christmas cargo in same manner to be packaged in Switzerland. Intercross should be so advised at once.

Authorization as regards parcels to be shipped from here covers 300,000 parcels. Plans for their preparation are now being made, and you will be kept informed of developments. Transportation, as you may know, is very difficult at present, but we are hopeful that this obstacle will be surmounted through the establishment of a new prisoner-of-war supply shipping route via Gothenburg. Blockade authorities wish to consider and pass on procedure to be used by Intercross in safeguarding packages sent from here between shipment from Gothenburg and affixing of labels. Intercross may wish to arrange for the affixing of labels on parcels at Gothenburg and the forwarding of same by mail from that point. It is suggested that you discuss this

matter
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

000639

matter with Intercross.

With reference to reclaimed Christina cargo, Department's 296 of July 20 to Geneva (Amcross SW 917 for James) is amended to provide for use by Intercross of such portion of usable items as in its discretion may be used profitably in three-kilo parcels for distribution to unassimilated groups in concentration camps.

A strict accounting procedure should be set up concerning all items used by Intercross for this purpose in order that possible reimbursement on a pro rata basis to the French and Belgians may be computed here. Please request Intercross to furnish you, to be forwarded to us, such information concerning receipt or non-receipt of parcels as may become available to Intercross and information with respect to camps in which distribution is made, the nationalities and number of persons thereof benefiting by this distribution. Please inform James.

(Repeat to London for their information.) #6355

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 117

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

000640

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
ON D.C.

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND, FROM THE DEPARTMENT AND WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Blockade authorities have agreed to Intercross proposal (your 4578, July 18 and Department's 2663, August 3) for sending three-kilo parcels to persons in concentration camps. Agreement also has been given to use of portion of reclaimed Christina cargo in same manner to be packaged in Switzerland. Intercross should be so advised at once.

Authorization as regards parcels to be shipped from here covers 300,000 parcels. Plans for their preparation are now being made, and you will be kept informed of developments. Transportation, as you may know, is very difficult at present, but we are hopeful that this obstacle will be surmounted through the establishment of a new prisoner-of-war supply shipping route via Gothenburg. Blockade authorities wish to consider and pass on procedure to be used by Intercross in safeguarding packages sent from here between shipment from Gothenburg and affixing of labels. Intercross may wish to arrange for the affixing of labels on parcels at Gothenburg and the forwarding of same by mail from that point. It is suggested that you discuss this matter with Intercross.

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(Repeat to London for their information.)

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 117

FH:NUM:ar

8/19/44
JOT

000641

41

000642

*2 was Ref. by
Mr. P. H. ...*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: August 11, 1944
NUMBER: 5228

CONTROL COPY

McClelland sends the following for the War Refugee Board.
Reference is made herewith to Department's cable of August 3, no. 2663, and Legation's cable of July 29, no. 4697.

ICRC.

no. file

James, Amcross representative at Geneva, with approval, intends to allocate from 50 to 75 tons salvaged Kristing foodstuffs to ICRC's package program for concentration camps in Germany for immediate parceling and shipment. We would like to know if you could in principle arrange to reimburse Amcross for these goods or if you would prefer that I reimburse ICRC here in Switzerland out of WRB funds (Amcross-SW 917, July 20).

If it proves possible to ship projected 300,000 parcels, on basis of recent information from Germany ICRC cautions that foodstuffs contained in them, while nutritive (with stress on fats) be of the simplest kind to forestall German criticism that "luxury goods" not available to the German population are being received by prisoners in concentration camps.

HARRISONH

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

000643

40

000644

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 1744

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

August 9, 1944

In reply refer
to No. 212

Hon. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

May I offer you the expression of sincere appreciation on behalf of the W.J.C. Executive Committee for your untiring efforts with the concerned authorities for the relaxation of the blockade rules in favor of the Jews segregated in concentration, labor and extermination camps in occupied Europe. We have been very happy to learn that an agreement has finally been reached between the Blockade Authorities and the International Red Cross.

May I, however, observe that as far as the camps are concerned to which the first dispatches are destined, we cannot entirely agree with the suggestions of the International Red Cross.

We share, of course, the basic viewpoint of the International Red Cross according to which its activities have to be conducted according to the principle "without discrimination of race or creed". However, we must observe that according to our information, no Jews (or very few) are left in the concentration camps of Sachsenhausen, Oranienburg, Watzweiler, Dachau, Ravenswueck, Buchenwald, and Weimar. I attach herewith a list of unassimilated camps in which there are a number of Jewish inmates and to which the dispatch of food parcels could result in a definite alleviation of the plight of these unfortunate people. May we strongly suggest that these camps be given priority in the program which has been worked out.

I am confident that you will grant this remark your attentive consideration.

Sincerely yours,

A. Leon Ribowitzki
A. Leon Ribowitzki, Head
Rescue Department

AIK:lm
Enc.

*8/11/44
Processed with
the International Red
Cross and
meeting with
the British
Government*

000645

UNASSIMILATED CAMPS

Germany

Hanover
Belsenbergen

Upper Silesia

Birkenau
Jewish civil work camps:
Faubruck
Graitaitz, District Reichenbach

Austria

Mauthausen

Belgium

Mechelt
Huy
Breendonck
Hoboken
Perjweren (?)
Hasselt

France

Gurs
Drancy

Netherlands

Westerborck

Slovakia

Jewish work camps:
Sered nad Vahun
Vyhne

Poland

Czestochowa
Deutsch Horst, Arbeitslager, Post Hansky, Kreis Cholm Pomorze
Jedizejof, Distrikt Radom
Klimentov, Kreis Opatov
Krakow-Podgorcze
Kariljec bei Oswiecim
Krychow, Arbeitslager, Kreis Cholm Pomorze
Laziska bei Opole
Luta, Post Sobibor, Kreis Cholm Pomorze
Ossawa, Kreis Cholm
Oswiecim
Ostrow Lubelski
Rejowice, Kreis Cholm Pomorze
Sanok, Bezirk Krakow

000646

Sajeczycze, Post Staw, Kreis Chola Pomorze
Cher, Kreis Cholim Pomorze
Mieliczka-Bochnia

Northern Italy

San Martino di Rosignano, Province Alessandria
Monte Ferrato " "
Cesareo, Province Parma
Fossoli near Carpi, Province Modena

000647

20

000648

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
SWP

August 7, 1944

My dear Miss Hodel:

I refer to telegram no. 6035, July 31, 1944, which was sent to the American Embassy at London for the Economic Warfare Division by the Department, the Foreign Economic Administration, and the War Refugee Board, with regard to the distribution of food packages in concentration camps in the occupied countries of Europe.

In this connection, I enclose a copy of the Department's telegram no. 6121, August 3, to London, concerning the distribution of the salvaged Christina cargo by Intercross to concentration camps.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure:
To London, no. 6121,
August 3, 1944.

Eldred D. Kuppinger
Eldred D. Kuppinger
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Miss Florence Hodel,
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

000649

C O P Y

This telegram must
be paraphrased before
being communicated to
anyone other than a
Government Agency

August 3, 1944

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.

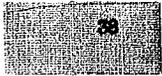
6121

Minister Harrison at Bern, in telegram of July 29,
supports proposal made by WRB representative (reference
penultimate paragraph Department's 6035, July 31) that
exceptional permission be granted to distribution of at
least part of salvaged Christina cargo to concentration
camps by Intercross in form of individual parcels. He
emphasizes that decision must be reached in near future
since after end of September these goods will not be
suitable for consumption.

STETTINIUS, Acting

800.142/7-2944

000650



000651

Comité Internatio. .
de la Croix Rouge à Genève, Suisse
Délégation aux Etats-Unis
d'Amérique



International mmittee of the Red Cross
in Geneva, Switzerland
Delegation to the United States
of America

1645 Connecticut Ave. N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.
August 7, 1944

Ref: R/11

Miss Florence Hodel
Assistant to the Executive Director
War Refugee Board
The Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

Referring to our telephone discussion of this afternoon, I am sending you herewith a translation of Note No. 1070, received from Geneva, on the subject of assistance to Jewish people, together with twelve copies referred to therein.

I should greatly appreciate your making out notes dealing with the various questions raised, which may either be cabled to Geneva or communicated by letter on my return on the 12th inst.

I also count on your returning the file with the several copies mentioned.

Sincerely yours,

A. E. Zollinger
Delegate

AEZ:MJC
Enclosures

000652

TRANSLATION

Geneva, 30 June 1944

G. S/Pe - G. 59/2

Note No. 1070

PK/AP
Note for the I.C.R.C. in Washington, D. C.

Subject: Action of the War Refugee Board

With a view to keep you regularly posted concerning the question of assistance to Israelites in countries under Axis control, we are sending you herewith a new lot of copies of exchange letters with the Legation of the United States in Switzerland to this effect.

By the same occasion, we recall the following notes which we sent you and on which we should like to have your opinion:

- No. 814 of the 21 of February, 1944
- No. 489 of the 27 of August, 1943
- No. 820 of the 25 of February, 1944
- No. 823 of the 28 of February, 1944
- No. 838 of the 10 of March, 1944
- No. 863 of the 16 of March, 1944
- No. 875 of the 23 of March, 1944
- No. 900 of the 6 of April, 1944
- No. 925 of the 20 of April, 1944
- No. 926 of the 21 of April, 1944
- No. 930 of the 25 of April, 1944

*The W. R. B
received copies or
extracts of these
notes. - They all
treat the same
subject: Relief
to Jews. 2.*

In order to give the Israelites in Axis controlled countries any assistance, it would be very useful to us to know what the War Refugee Board intends to do after having obtained the information and the documents which we requested you to pass on to them.

We have said repeatedly that we are always disposed to do our utmost to succor deportees and internees in concentration camps, but such action must be undertaken as rapidly as possible and according to the possibilities of the moment, if occasions for intervention are not to be missed and which may not present themselves again.

Our note No. 489 of August 27, 1943, stressed the necessity to receive food stuff from overseas in order to enable us to undertake a general relief action in concentration camps. Our possibilities in obtaining supplies in

000653

Note No. 1070

-2-

30 June 1944
Geneva

Switzerland and in other neutral countries in Europe are too reduced to make it possible for us to send one food parcel per month to each person on our relief list whose address is in our possession. Since then, the number of unfortunates to whom we could, in principle, send relief has grown very much bigger, and the possibilities of finding supplies in Europe, on the other hand, are very considerably reduced. At the same time, the American authorities who are interested in this question have never as yet told us their viewpoints in this regard, and they have not told us whether an exception to the rules of the blockade could be envisaged, so as to make it possible for us to receive the food stuffs, which are indispensable to the development of our relief action in favor of the different categories of war victims as (persecuted groups without distinction in race or creed).

We earnestly hope that you will soon be able to let us know whether the War Refugee Board is in agreement with the suggestions which we have submitted and whether this body has the intention to send us the relief in kind, which is necessary for the realization of our projects. These projects are fully defined in the Annex to our note No. 875 of the twenty-third of March.

*Care was
sent you
in April*

You will understand that these questions are of urgent character, as we are almost daily informed of demands on the part of governments as well as private organizations. This is to request you to let us know as rapidly as possible the opinions of the American authorities who are especially concerned with this problem. You may perhaps have in your possession information, official or private, which refers thereto and which we do not possess in Switzerland.

000654

Correspondance échangée avec M. McClelland
ou la Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
et dont copie n'a pas été envoyée à la
Délégation du C.I.C.R. à Washington.
(Information de M. Peter).

Correspondance du 19 avril au 12 juin 1944.

000655

Copie GB

G.59/2/51 - G.85
PK/AP

le 12 juin 1944.

Monsieur McClelland
Légation des Etats-Unis
B e r n e
29, Alpenstrasse

Concerne : Israélites argentins internés à l'orphelinat
Rothschild à Paris.

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 1er juin 1944 par laquelle vous nous donnez des indications sur la façon dont vous envisagez une aide éventuelle aux 14 Israélites argentins qui sont internés à l'orphelinat Rothschild à Paris.

Conformément à votre suggestion, nous transmettons la demande du Consulat royal de Suède de Paris au Congrès juif mondial afin de tâcher d'obtenir de lui une aide financière.

Nous ne manquerons pas de vous faire connaître la teneur de la réponse du Congrès juif mondial.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

J.E. Schwarzenberg

000656

Arch.
Chrono
Bopp
Secrét.
Direct.
Liaison
M. Kuhne
M. Lombard

June 9th, 1944.

G.59/2/112 G.69
JES/MHA/HL

Mr. Roswell McClelland
7, rue des Chaudronniers
GENEVA

Dear Mr. McClelland,

Following my letter of 31 May 1944 and in accordance with your suggestion, we wrote to the World Jewish Congress in Geneva, drawing their attention to the necessity for sending help immediately to Jewish refugees in Rumania, who, according to reports from our Delegation, are in urgent need of assistance.

Mr. Riegner has just replied that he has communicated our appeal to his organisation in New York. We must therefore wait.

Yours sincerely,

L. E. SCHWARZENBERG

000657

The Following Pages Are the Best Available

000658

G.3/48b - G.59/2/112

May 31, 1944

G.85

PK/mha/AL

Legation of the United States of America

S. S. R. S. S.

Re: Relief for Jews in Rumania.

Dear Sirs,

The International Committee have just received from their delegation in Rumania a particularly urgent appeal for emergency help on behalf of Jews in that country.

Through the efforts of the WRB, a sum of 100,000 Swiss francs was transferred to Rumania to meet the cost entailed by this relief work. This sum has unfortunately covered only a small proportion of the requirements of the Jews. Although only a certain number of the deportees in Rumania have returned to Rumania, there are, on the other hand, a large number of orphans and refugees who require help.

Our delegation is very afraid the consequences will be very serious if the Jewish organizations in Rumania do not receive substantial help promptly. The latter are overwhelmed by the increasing demands made upon them and can collect only small sums, because the well-to-do population have left Buzarest and are at present out of reach.

You will find enclosed in this communication the copy of a letter sent by Dr. Fildermann to our Delegate in Buzarest asking him to draw the attention of foreign Jewish organizations to the tragic plight of the Rumanian Jews.

000659

We hope that the WRB will be able shortly to devote additional funds to the assistance of Jews in Rumania and shall appreciate any practical suggestions in this respect.

In accordance with the desire expressed by Dr. Fildersmann, we are notifying the "World Jewish Congress" and Mr. Saly Mayer likewise of his appeal.

Yours sincerely,

April 1941

[Handwritten signature]

[Extremely faint and mostly illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

000660

G.85
G.59/8
PK/GB

Arch.
Chrono
Bopp
Secrét.
Direct.
M. Lombard
M. Kuhne
Mme Cousin

le 31 mai 1944.

Monsieur Mac GLELAND
Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
29, Alpenstrasse
B e r l i n

Concerne : situation des Israélites en Hongrie.

Monsieur,

Selon des informations qui nous ont été envoyées par le représentant de la "Communauté juive de Budapest", la situation des Israélites en Hongrie se présentait au début du mois de mai, de la façon suivante :

Les autorités ont pris des mesures pour restreindre les possibilités d'achat de produits alimentaires par les Israélites. A titre d'exemple, ils ne reçoivent que 10 grammes de sucre et 10 grammes d'huile de sésame par jour.

La police a fait réquisitionner environ 3500 logements de familles juives et a obligé la plupart des propriétaires à y laisser leurs meubles.

Dans presque toutes les provinces hongroises, les Juifs ont été contraints de quitter leurs domiciles et transférés dans des camps d'internement et des ghettos où sont rassemblés 10 à 15.000 personnes. Les Israélites habitant des villes de moins de 10.000 habitants ont été rassemblés à proximité des grands centres où ils sont installés de façon très précaire dans des moulins, des fermes, ou même simplement dans les champs. La plupart d'entre eux n'ont pas eu la possibilité d'emporter avec eux leur argent et leurs vêtements en quittant leur domicile.

Des milliers d'Israélites ont été internés dans des camps de concentration où ils vivent dans des conditions très précaires car l'installation de ces ghettos, qui ont été constitués dans un délai excessivement court, est encore insuffisante. Les logements laissent à désirer et les internés n'y sont ravitaillés ni en aliments ni en médicaments. En effet, les autorités ont chargé les institutions juives d'assurer l'approvisionnement de ces camps et d'y assurer des conditions d'hygiène normales, mais ces institutions n'ont pas la possibilité d'intervenir car elles ne disposent pas des moyens nécessaires. Elles ne peuvent se procurer ni

./.

000661

argent, ni vivres, ni vêtements à expédier dans les ghettos car les Autorités ont ordonné le blocage immédiat de toute fortune juive dépassant 5.000 pengoes par personne.

Il semble également que des Israélites hongrois aient été déportés dans d'autres pays sans que leurs familles en aient été avisées et aient conservé des possibilités de communiquer avec eux. Il y a lieu d'ajouter que les institutions juives ont été dissoutes par les Autorités et leurs biens confisqués. En revanche, une organisation officielle chargée de la représentation des intérêts des Juifs a été constituée sous le nom d'"Union des Juifs en Hongrie". Cette organisation ne semble toutefois pas encore avoir pris des mesures pratiques pour venir en aide aux Israélites.

La "Communauté juive de Budapest" déplore tout particulièrement le sort des enfants qui sont traités exactement comme les adultes et doivent, comme eux, supporter la manque de nourriture et d'hygiène des camps de concentration.

Comme les Autorités refusent d'accorder un nouveau permis de séjour à des personnes considérées comme juives et ne prolongent pas les permis accordés, même s'il s'agit de tout petits enfants, il est à craindre que les enfants, qui sont actuellement en liberté, ne bénéficient d'un permis de séjour, ne soient à nouveau internés ultérieurement.

Nous avons prié notre délégation de Budapest de nous tenir au courant du développement de cette situation et de nous faire savoir si elle entrevoit une possibilité de faire parvenir des secours aux internés par notre intermédiaire ou par toute autre voie. Si une possibilité d'apporter une aide aux Israélites de Hongrie vient à se présenter, nous ne manquerons pas de vous en informer immédiatement.

Je vous prie d'agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération la plus distinguée.

SCHWARZENBERG

P.S. Nous vous prions de considérer ces communications comme confidentielles et de ne pas mentionner votre source d'information.

000662

YA.

COPIE

G.59/2/51
G.55

Secrétaire traitant : M. P. KURNE
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bern, June 1, 1944.

Dear Dr. Schwarzenberg,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 25 dealing with the question of fourteen Jews of Argentine nationality interned in the Rothschild orphanage, Paris for whom regular packages would be desirable.

It is not quite clear to me from your letter whether this problem could be solved if you could be supplied with the necessary funds to purchase these packages, or whether you feel that it would be necessary to import relief supplies. It is my understanding that you still have certain possibilities with Balkan Supplier at present in Switzerland and from Swiss sources of making up a certain number of packages. If it is merely a question of money, it might be possible to obtain a certain amount for this purpose either from the Joint Distribution Fund (after discussion with Mr. Mayer) or from Gerhart Riegner of the World Jewish Congress, who has recently received considerable funds for relief to Jewish refugees.

I should like to discuss this matter with you when we meet on Friday morning.

Very truly yours,

(S) Roswell McClelland,
Special assistant to
the American Minister.

Dr. Jean E. de Schwarzenberg
O.I.C.R.
Geneva

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G. 59/2/51 G. 85
PK/HL ZC/II/23/78

Arch.
Chrono
Boyp
Secrét.
Direct.
E. Kühne 25 mai 1944.
CCC
Chrono CCC
M. Lombard

Légation des Etats-Unis
29, Alpenstrasse
B e r n e

aux bons soins de Monsieur McClelland

Concerne: Israélites argentins internés à l'orphelinat
Rothschild de Paris.

Monsieur,

Le Consulat royal de Suède vient de nous faire parvenir une lettre dans laquelle il nous signale qu'il y a actuellement 14 Israélites argentins internés à l'orphelinat Rothschild à Paris pour lesquels l'envoi régulier de colis de vivres serait, paraît-il, indispensable. Le Consulat royal de Suède espérait que le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge pourrait lui faire parvenir des envois réguliers de colis alimentaires qu'il se chargerait de faire distribuer aux internés de l'orphelinat Rothschild.

Ces personnes ne sont pas au bénéfice de la Convention de Genève relative au traitement des prisonniers de guerre, qui est appliquée par analogie aux internés civils, et les autorités du biseau s'opposent à l'envoi de secours d'outre-mer à cette catégorie de victimes de la guerre. Ne disposant plus actuellement de fonds pour une telle action et étant donné les difficultés auxquelles nous nous heurterions si nous voulions exporter des vivres de Suisse, nous vous signalons ce cas dans l'espoir que le War Refugee Board verra peut-être une possibilité de nous faire parvenir des secours pour ces Juifs détentours de passeports argentins.

Nous pourrions écrire à ce sujet aussi aux Autorités ou à la Croix-Rouge d'Argentine, mais avant de faire cette démarche dont le résultat ne nous semble point certain (il s'agit probablement de Juifs qui ne sont pas d'origine argentine), nous aimerions avoir votre opinion.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération distinguée.

J. E. SCHWARZENBERG

0 0 0 6 6 4

JMG

C O P I E

G 59/2/112

G 59/2/ 151

G 85

M. Lombard

Secrétaire traitant : Mr P. KUBINE

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

BIERN , May 26, 1944

Monsieur
Dr de Schwarzenberg,
Director of the Division of Special Assistance,
Central Agency for Prisoners of War, I.C.R.C.

G E N E V A

Dear Dr. Schwarzenberg ,

Allow me to acknowledge somewhat belatedly your letter of the 5th of May, addressed to Mr. Reagan, concerning the financial relief which the International Committee has transmitted to its delegate in Bucharest, taken from funds placed at its disposal by the Joint Distribution Committee. The information which you have given us concerning the utilization of this portion of the funds is sufficiently detailed. The Legation, however, would appreciate receiving, in so far as possible, more detailed information concerning the financial transaction involved. Under the terms of the special WRB license granted to the Joint Distribution Committee the Legation should receive, for the record, indications, for instance, concerning the rate of exchange secured, the mode of transfer, and the names, if feasible, of the agents through whom such transfers were effected. If I recall our conversation accurately, the amount employed consisted of 100,000 Swiss francs, which realized 33,000,000 Rumanian lei. So far as the agent through whom this operation was carried out is concerned, I believe we left matters that you would ask him whether he had any objection to his name being mentioned.

If in your estimation and that of Mr Saly Mayer the sending of further funds seems to be the most effective and rapid means of getting relief to these people, the Legation would certainly have no objection to the continuation of work along this line. If possible we would naturally appreciate receiving in advance details as to proposed future operations of this nature.

I take this occasion also to acknowledge your letter of the 16th of May and thank you for the report which you kindly transmitted to us along with that letter concerning the situation of Jewish refugees in Dalmatia and on the Island of Rab. Such reports, even if not one hundred per cent accurate, are always valuable to us by way of general background and as a basis for comparison with other information which might reach us from various sources.

With kind personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

(S) Roswell D. McClelland

31 MAY 1944

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M. Kubno
M. Wilhelm
Commixte

May 5th, 1944.

G. 59/2/R.
PK/NHA/HL

Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Legation of the United States of America
B e r n

Re: Relief for Jews in Rumania.

Dear Mr. Reagan,

In accordance with the scheme for the expenditure of the 100,000 dollars donated by the Joint and transferred through the kindness of the War Refugee Board, which was submitted for your consideration last February, we credited our Delegate in Rumania already at the end of March with a certain sum for relief to Jews.

In a first short report which we have just received, our Delegate gives us some general indications as to the purchase for which he has spent the amount allotted:

* in agreement with Jewish persons who have the confidence of the Joint.

1. A sum of 3,000,000 lei was added to a sum of 10,000,000 lei remaining over from a former scheme. These 13,000,000 lei have been used to purchase clothing and underwear. Part of the clothing is still stocked in Bucarest to meet the requirements of the destitute. Responsible persons draw upon this stock of clothing according to requirements.

2. A sum of 15,000,000 lei has been used to purchase foodstuffs which are stored in a warehouse in Bucarest from which our Delegate will draw the necessary quantities to supply the needs of the Jews leaving on the ships which are to carry them to Turkey or Palestine.

3. A sum of 10,000,000 lei is being used for the relief of Jewish war-victims, either in cash, or in clothing, food, housing and transportation expenses, etc. This amount enables our Delegate to help the deportees who have been brought back from Transnistria, the refugees from Bessarabia, Bukovina and Moldavia, people whose homes have been damaged or destroyed by bombardment, and Jews who are emigrating to Palestine. The figures for destitute persons who are in need of help from our Delegate cannot so far be accurately

guaged, but according to information he received from the Vice-President of the Council of Ministers, our Delegate is expecting to see 30,000 Jewish refugees arrive from Moldavia. In addition, there will be several thousand refugees from Bessarabia, Bukovina and Transilvania. It is impossible to have these people work in order to earn enough to pay for their own maintenance, and for an indefinite period they will therefore have to be supported by the Jewish benevolent organizations.

It is most likely that we shall shortly be receiving from our Delegate, in completion of this information, more detailed vouchers showing the use to which these 32 million lei have been put. We should however be glad if you would inform us whether the report from our Delegate which we have given you above is sufficiently detailed as regards utilization of the funds donated by the War Refugee Board, or whether you would require additional information which we should ask of our Delegate in Bucharest if you so desired. The question is all the more important as our Delegate at the end of his report asked us to be kind enough to place as rapidly as possible fresh sums at his disposal to assist Jewish refugees, deportees and emigrants.

We leave it to you to decide whether, perhaps in agreement with Mr. Saly Mayer, to whom we are sending a copy of this letter, you considered it feasible to support a request for more funds to be used for relief work in behalf of the destitute Jewish population in Rumania.

We should appreciate hearing your views as to the next steps to be taken, before forwarding the above particulars to our Delegation in Washington for the information of the War Refugee Board.

Yours faithfully,

J. E. SCHWARZENBERG

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G.57//141 B.22
ZK/20 FF/MHA/HL

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H. Kuhne
H. Bachmann

W. W. W. W.

Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Legation of the United States of America
W. W. W. W.

Dear Mr. Reagan,

Following your letters of 11 and 21 April 1944 concerning the purchase of foodstuffs in Portugal with a view to distributing relief to the Jewish internees in the camps in Croatia, I am now able to give you some particulars which will, I hope, answer satisfactorily the four questions you raised in your letter of 11 April.

1. The internees to be helped are 1,700 Croatian Jews who are interned in the three following camps:

Jasenovac
Stara Gradiska
Gredjani Salas

2. As far as the probable cost of this relief action is concerned, I cannot give you a definite answer before I hear exactly what the composition of the parcels purchased in Portugal is going to be. But for your information, I can indicate that in a recent offer which reached us from Portuguese purveyors, the parcels contained:

1 can 500 gr. tunny-fish in olive oil
1 can 500 gr. anchovies (a kind of sardine)
1 package 500 gr. sweet-potato paste
2 packages of 20 cigarettes

for the price of Swiss francs 10.- per parcel Cif Lisbon.

According to the opinion expressed by our delegate in Zagreb who has received information on the requirements of the internees, it should be planned to distribute two parcels per month per internee, i.e. 2,400 parcels in all.

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3. In order to answer your third question we asked the representative of the Joint in Switzerland to get into touch with the representative of the Joint in Lisbon, Dr. Schwarz, requesting the latter to let us know what goods he would be able to purchase in Portugal and at what price. We know that Dr. Schwarz has asked to be allowed a few days to take up the question with the appropriate Portuguese authorities and to send us his answer. I believe he told Mr. Saly Nayer by telephone that he thought he would be able to find parcels at 1 dollar or 1 1/2 dollars apiece.

3. As for the guarantee of safe arrival of the parcels in the camps to be supplied by us, our delegate in Zagreb proposes to proceed to distribute through the Jewish Community in Zagreb which has hitherto looked after the maintenance of the Jews in these camps. Our delegate would obviously remain in close contact with the Jewish Community and would report to us on the manner in which distribution had been arranged.

Yours sincerely,

J. E. SCHWARZENBERG

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YJ.

C o p i e

G.59/2/151

G.85

Z/A

M. Bachmann

Personne responsable: M. PERRIN

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bern, April 21, 1944.

Dr. J.E. de Schwarzenberg,
Member of the Secretariat of the
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Conseil Général,
Geneva.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I wish to thank you for your letter of April 19, 1944, concerning the purchase of foodstuffs in Portugal for Jewish internees in Croatia.

Your suggestion that the Joint Distribution Committee purchase the foodstuffs in Portugal and deliver them to your delegate in Lisbon has been transmitted by telegram to the War Refugee Board for its consideration. I shall not fail to inform you as soon as a reply has been received by the Legation.

I am looking forward to receiving your further report concerning the other points of inquiry raised by the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours

(S) Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.

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Arch.
Chrono
Bopp
Secret.
~~Direct.~~
M. Kuhne

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G.59/2 G.85
JES/HL

April 19th, 1944.

Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Legation of the United States of America,
B E R N

Dear Mr. Reagan,

May I thank you for your letter of April 11th concerning the purchase of foodstuffs in Portugal to be supplied to Jewish internees in Croatia. We shall answer the questions put to us by the War Refugee Board as soon as possible and I am glad to note that its attitude seems to be favourable to our proposal. It will be easy to give a positive answer to points 1), 2) and 4). I am awaiting additional information under point 3), because, to simplify matters, we thought it expedient that the "JOINT" in Lisbon should proceed itself to buy foodstuffs, which would be handed over to our delegation there for shipment. Thus, no transfer of funds would be necessary, and we hope that the Joint people in Lisbon will be able to secure the appropriate merchandise in that country.

Hoping to be in a position to give you an answer soon, I am

sincerely yours,

J. E. SCHWARZENBERG

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JJD

C O P Y

G.59/2/151

G.59/Y

G.85

M.P. Kuhne

Secrétaire traitant : Mr. SCHWARZENBERG

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

BERN, April 11, 1944.

Dr. J.E. de Schwarzenberg
Member of the Secretariat of the
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Conseil-Général,
G e n e v e s.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg,

Reference is made to your letter of March 23, 1944, concerning the proposal to purchase in Portugal foodstuffs to be supplies to three internment camps in Croatia. A summary of your proposal was telegraphed to the American authorities and a reply has now been received. The Legation is requested to transmit to you the following message from the War Refugee Board:

" In order that the licensing of the necessary remittances may be expedited, please advise the War Refugee Board at once with regard to the following points:

1. The nationality and the number of persons in the three camps to whom aid is to be extended;
2. An estimate of the cost which would be involved;
3. The type of food to be purchased for packaging in Portugal, and
4. Assurance that such food supplies will be received by the intended beneficiaries."

It would be appreciated if you would forward your reply to the above inquiry to the Legation for transmission to the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

(S) DANIEL J. REAGAN,
Commercial Attaché.

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DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM
RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.
DIVISION OF LONDON

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

RA-130

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

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

Secretary of State
Washington

6279, August 5, 7 p.m.

FOR DEPARTMENT, FEA AND WRB.

Relief subcommittee agrees to shipment and distribution of 300,000 specially prepared 3 kilo food parcels to concentration camps as proposed in your telegram 6035, July 31. Only provisio made by ^{MEW} was that route of on-shipment from Gothenburg of any parcels sent via Gothenburg must be approved by British. MEW is telegraphing British Embassy on same subject. There is no (repeat no) objection to use of salvaged cargo of CHRISTIANA for this purpose.

CONTROL COPY

EBC:WMB

WIN/ENT

For security reasons the text of this message must be destroyed after use.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

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DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE
BJR

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

August 3, 1944

2 p.m.

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

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.

6121

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AUG 6 1944

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

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

Minister Harrison at Bern, in telegram of July 29, supports

proposal made by WRB representative (reference penultimate paragraph Department's 6035, July 31) that exceptional permission be granted to distribution of at least part of salvaged Christiana cargo to concentration camps by Intercross in form of individual parcels. He emphasizes that decision must be reached in near future since after end of September these goods will not be suitable for consumption.

STETTINIUS
Acting
(EDK)

800.142/7-2944

SWP:EDK:EHJ

8-1-44

WRB

S/CR

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

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000677

I. W. Kelly
J. W. Pella

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: August 3, 1944
NUMBER: 2663

CONTROL COPY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOR HARRISON AND MCGLELLAND.

This is War Refugee Board Cable No. 105.

Re your 4578 July 18 there is repeated for your information the text of a telegram to the American Embassy at London from Department, FEA, and War Refugee Board for EWD:

QUOTE

. UNQUOTE.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

000678

5903

AMERICAN

AMERICAN

SECRETARY OF STATE

OFFICE OF THE

RECEIVED
JUL 18 1944
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

TO: DIRECTOR
FROM: AMERICAN
SUBJECT: AMERICAN

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND

Re your 4578 July 18 there is repeated for your information the text of a telegram to the American Embassy at London:

QUOTE From Department, FEA, and War Refugee Board for END.

We have been informed by the Legation at Bern of the response made by the International Red Cross Committee to the joint approach made on July 4 by American and British representatives in regard to the possible implementation of the section of the Berle-Foot agreement concerning the distribution of food parcels in concentration camps in enemy Europe (reference Embassy's 5003, June 23, Department's 5013, June 24 and Department's air mail instruction 4234, June 23.)

Our information is substantially the same as that conveyed to MSW in Bern's telegram 2865, July 8, copy of which has been received by Department from the British Embassy, Washington. In addition, however, we are informed that Germans will accept for delivery to concentration camps parcels up to a maximum weight of three kilos only whether containing food or clothing. Moreover, parcels must not bear national Red Cross markings although it appears that IRCC can affix its label to otherwise plain parcels.

It is recognized that the IRCC alternative proposal is substantially the same as the plan they have advanced in the past for effecting delivery of parcels to concentration camps. Obviously this method offers less assurance that the addressees of parcels actually will receive and retain them than would be the case under the plan set forth in the Berle-Foot agreement. IRCC, however, claims to have had very good success in obtaining signed receipts and seems to be satisfied that the addressees actually benefit from the parcels for which they sign receipts.

At this juncture we suggest that the economic warfare considerations which heretofore have precluded us from making packages available to IRCC for distribution under their plan are less controlling than has heretofore been the case. The amount of food which might fall into enemy hands could not affect the outcome of the war nor prolong it and the desperate situation of the people held in these camps makes it increasingly necessary that an effort be made to give them some assistance even though we may not have ironclad guarantees of 100 percent receipt by the intended beneficiaries. We propose, therefore, that blockade authorization be granted for the shipment of 300,000 specially prepared three-kilo food parcels to the IRCC for distribution on a trial basis by it under their plan communicated in telegram 2865, July 8 from British Legation, Bern, to MSW. Transportation, of course, presents a serious problem but we would hope that such parcels could be sent via the northern route which we are attempting to establish for the shipment of prisoner of war supplies.

WEB representative at Geneva has inquired whether usable food items from Christian cargo could be turned over to IRCC for packaging by latter

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into three-kilo parcels and forwarding under above-mentioned plan to individual addressees in camps selected by ICRC. If blockade authorities agree in principle to ICRC plan referred to above, we assume that there would be no objection to the utilization of salvaged Christina cargo as proposed by WRB representative. Urgent action required in view of necessity for early consumption these items in order to avoid possible spoilage.

Please present this matter to the Relief-Sub-Committee as soon as possible and endeavor to obtain a favorable reply. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WAR REFUGEE BOARD CABLE NO. ¹⁰⁵ 103-

July 28, 1944
11:30 a.m.

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

OK: RSM
FH:AA:RJM:ar
Cleared with [unclear] 7/27/44

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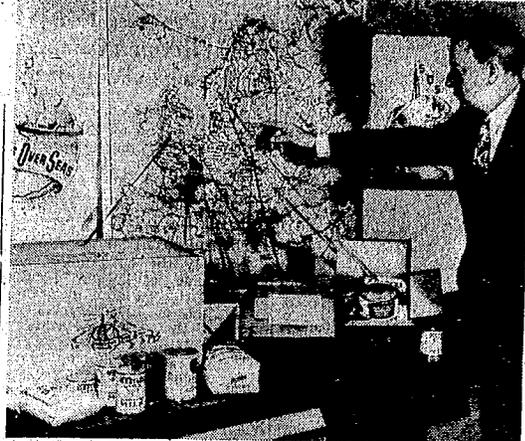
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Store Installs Complete Service For Sending Food Boxes Abroad

NEW YORK HERALD-TRIBUNE 8/1/44



Herald Tribune—Engels

Displays of civilian relief food packages are waiting the government's word to start travel into the war-torn countries

Government Approval Is Awaited on Project to Supply and Transport Relief Items to Civilians in Countries Torn by War

By Clementine Paddleford

A sign of "new-times-coming" is this morning's Lewis & Conger window display announcing an SOS ("Shippers Over Seas") service to supply civilian food relief to relatives and friends in war-torn lands.

Every arrangement is complete for this merchandising service to go into operations as soon as the government gives to "go" signal. Then starts the greatest package trek of all time as the food gifts cross the borders into France, Italy, Holland, Sweden or where have your dear ones. Rumor is that the time is soon when food packets may be sent into Italy. Mind you, that is merely a rumor. The only civilian gift shipments allowed abroad at the moment are those to Great Britain.

SIGN NOW—The new service is supplied by the Shippers Over Seas, a division of the Prince Company, gift packers for the armed forces. The experts in charge of the "relief" branch of the work have been 25 years in the food gift by mail field. It was in 1919 that they shipped into Europe from America hundreds of thousands of food packages to the hungry. Beginning this month the company is opening departments in leading stores of many cities. Here Lewis & Conger is first and will be one of the principal representatives. The registration book opens today on the main floor of the store where customers may sign for the service. The store will then notify signees when government regula-



Herald Tribune—Engels.

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STAPLES—These world traveling foods will be of the bread and butter sort of necessities, staples of the larder—ham, bacon, diced beans, cereals, cocoa, milk, tinned butter, fats, sugar, coffee, tea, dehydrated vegetables, prepared soups, jellies and jams. SOS boxes will conform to every regulation, both American and foreign. Suppose you are sending a package to Britain. No package may be mailed that weighs more than five pounds and no single item may weigh more than two pounds. SOS packets now on display for the British meet these regulations yet contain a healthful assortment of foods, such as pressed ham, smoked cheese spread, packages of dehydrated soup, cookies, lemon crystals, melba toast, dried eggs, marmalade. The delivered price, including all shipping charges, handling, packing and duty is just \$5, and delivery guaranteed.

LOST AND FOUND—Locating lost friends for clients is new wrinkle of the SOS mailing service, made possible through the cooperation of the steamship company handling the shipments. Their representatives in foreign ports around the world will contact the local consular service of the various districts. No charge for the search, as the innovation is purely for the purpose of promoting closer relations between the stores and their customers.

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Bern 105 Oct 8/3 2663

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

July 31, 1944
RESTRICTED (80-00)
9 p.m.

Indelible
(initials)

**AMEMBASSY,
LONDON**

6025
From Department, FRA, and WEB for NWD.

We have been informed by the Legation at Bern of the response made by the International Red Cross Committee to the joint approach made on July 4 by American and British representatives in regard to the possible implementation of the section of the Berle-Foot agreement concerning the distribution of food parcels in concentration camps in enemy Europe (reference Embassy's 5003, June 23, Department's 5013, June 24 and Department's air mail instruction 4234, June 26).

Our information is substantially the same as that conveyed to NWD in Bern's telegram 2665, July 8, copy of which has been received by Department from the British Embassy, Washington. In addition, however, we are informed that Germans will accept for delivery to concentration camps parcels up to a maximum weight of three kilos only whether containing food or clothing. Moreover, parcels must not bear national Red Cross markings although it appears that IROC can affix its label to otherwise plain parcels.

It is recognized that the IROC alternative proposal is substantially the same as the plan they have advanced in the past for effecting delivery of parcels to concentration camps. Obviously, this method is far less satisfactory on economic warfare grounds than the one set forth in the Berle-Foot agreement, in that offers considerably less definite assurance that the addressees actually will receive and retain the parcels. IROC, however, claims to have had very good success in obtaining signed receipts and seems to be satisfied that the addressees actually benefit from the parcels for which they sign receipts.

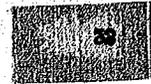
At this juncture, however, we believe that the economic warfare considerations which heretofore have precluded us from making packages available to IROC for distribution under their plan should largely be waived, in view of the humanitarian and political considerations involved. The amount of food which might fall into enemy hands could not affect the outcome of the war nor prolong it and the desperate situation of the people held in these camps makes it increasingly necessary that an effort be made to give them some assistance even though we may not have ironclad

guarantee of

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

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DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

IS-218

PLAIN

Bern

Dated July 29, 1944

Rec'd 4:31 p.m.

Copy only

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
CONTROL COPY

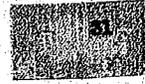
4897, Twenty-ninth

Have recently seen Amcross 296, July 20 containing their recommendations for liquidation here in Switzerland of salvaged cargo of standard food packages from the CRISTINA. In view increasing improbability that contemplated shipment of 100,000 parcels per month for three months or any part thereof can reach Switzerland due to increasing transportation difficulties if and when Joint Blockade Committee should authorize these shipments I renew our request that exceptional permission be granted to utilize at least part of CRISTINA goods to make up packages for ICRC distribution to concentration camps in Germany and German occupied territory. A decision must be reached in this matter in very near future as salvaged CRISTINA goods will only be fit for consumption up to about the end of September.

HARRISON

RB HTM

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000689

*I read by Ed
Pelle*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: July 29, 1944
NUMBER: 4899

CONTROL COPY

For WRB from McClelland.

In connection with my message No. 4897 dated July 29 with regard to food parcels, please refer antepenultimate paragraph of LELCS 4578, of July 18.

HARRISON

DGR:GFW

8-1-44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

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ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
SWP ✓

July 28, 1944

My dear Miss Hodel:

I enclose for your records, with reference to the meeting held in this Division on July 17 in regard to the disposition of the salvaged cargo of the S.S. Christina a copy of a telegram sent by the American Red Cross on July 20 to its representative at Geneva for communication to the International Red Cross Committee.

The Belgian and French representatives have agreed to the disposition of those portions of the cargo to which the Belgian Government and the French Committee have title in the manner outlined in the American Red Cross telegram.

Sincerely yours,


Eldred D. Kuppinger
Assistant Chief
Special War Problems Division

Enclosure:

No. 296 to Geneva,
July 20, 1944.

Miss Florence Hodel,
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

000692

COPY

TELEGRAM SENT

July 20, 1944

AMERICAN CONSUL,

GENEVA (SWITZERLAND)

No. 296, Twentieth

For Amcross.

QUOTE SW 917. Your 534. We greatly appreciate all efforts Intercross has made with CRISTINA cargo under adverse circumstances.

Amcross prefers that none of the waterlogged merchandise, even canned goods, leave Switzerland for camps as rust process will continue and eventually damage goods to extent of endangering consumers. Air which reaches whole powdered milk or meats soon spoils contents.

Therefore Amcross, having received authority from original donors, gives Intercross entirely free hand to dispose by sale of all damaged goods, including even those slightly damaged, in Switzerland; if used for constructive purpose they need not bicker long about price. In case of goods consumable now but which should not be kept long on hand, we would be glad to see these made available at moderate prices to Swiss authorities for use in Swiss refugee camps.

If certain goods appear absolutely safe, we leave to discretion Intercross sending same in respective ratio three to one to French and Belgian warprisoner camps, as Intercross has suggested, advising us of quantities so dispatched. However, where slightest doubt we prefer goods remain Switzerland.

Please ask Intercross to keep accounts so that in due time we can be advised expenses involved in (1) salvage operation Sets (2) transportation if any Sets to Switzerland (3) expenses Switzerland (4) quantities of supplies sold (5) total amount received from sale. Amcross UNQUOTE.

HULL

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DRAFT

*Obtained
from Mr
Kipping
7/26/44*

AMEMBASSY

LONDON

and W.R.B.
From Department and FEA for EWD.

✓ We have been informed by the Legation at Bern of the response made by the International Red Cross Committee to the joint approach made on July 4 by American and British representatives in regard to the possible implementation of the section of the Berle-Foot agreement concerning the distribution of food parcels in concentration camps in enemy Europe (reference Embassy's 5003, June 23, Department's 5013, June 24 and Department's air mail instruction 4234, June 23.)

Our information is substantially the same as that conveyed to MEW in Bern's telegram 2865, July 8, copy of which has been // received by Department from the British Embassy, Washington. In addition, however, we are informed that Germans will accept for delivery to concentration camps parcels up to a maximum weight of three kilos only whether containing food or clothing. Moreover, parcels must not bear national Red Cross markings although it appears that IRCC can affix its label to otherwise plain parcels.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ It is recognized that the IRCC alternative proposal is substantially the same as the plan they have advanced in the past for effecting delivery of parcels to concentration camps. Obviously this method offers less assurance that the addressees of parcels actually will receive and retain them than would be the case under the plan set

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forth in the Berle-Foot agreement. IRCC, however, claims to have had very good success in obtaining signed receipts and seems to be satisfied that the addressees actually benefit from the parcels for which they sign receipts.

At this juncture we suggest that the economic warfare considerations which heretofore have precluded us from making packages available to IRCC for distribution under their plan are less controlling than has heretofore been the case. The amount of food which might fall into enemy hands could not affect the outcome of the war nor prolong it and the desperate situation of the people held in these camps makes it increasingly necessary that an effort be made to give them some assistance even though we may not have ironclad guarantees of 100 percent receipt by the intended beneficiaries. We propose, therefore, that blockade authorization be granted for the shipment of 300,000 specially prepared three-kilo food parcels to the IRCC for distribution on a trial basis by it under their plan communicated in telegram 2865, July 8 from British Legation, Bern, to MEW. Transportation, of course, presents a serious problem but we would hope that such parcels could be sent via the northern route which we are attempting to establish for the shipment of prisoners of war supplies.

WEB representative at Geneva has inquired whether usable food items from Christina cargo could be turned over to ICRC

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for packaging by latter into three-kilo parcels and forwarding under above-mentioned plan to individual addressees in camps selected by ICRC. If blockade authorities agree in ~~principle~~ principle to ICRC plan referred to above, we assume that there would be no objection to the utilization of salvaged Christina cargo as proposed by WRB representative. Urgent action ~~by WRB representative~~ required in view of necessity for early consumption these items in order to avoid possible spoilage.

Please present this matter to the Relief-Sub-Committee as soon as possible and endeavor to obtain a favorable reply.

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SWP:EDK:EHJ

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AMEMBASSY

LONDON

From Department, FEA, and WRB for EWD.

We have been informed by the Legation at Bern of the response made by the International Red Cross Committee to the joint approach made on July 4 by American and British representatives in regard to the possible implementation of the section of the Berle-Foot agreement concerning the distribution of food parcels in concentration camps in enemy Europe (reference Embassy's 5003, June 23, Department's 5013, June 24 and Department's air mail instruction 4234, June 23.)

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It is recognized that the IRCC alternative proposal is substantially the same as the plan they have advanced in the past for effecting delivery of parcels to concentration camps. Obviously this method offers less assurance that the addressees of parcels actually will receive and retain them than would be the case under the plan set forth in the Berle-Foot agreement. IRCC, however, claims to have had very good success in obtaining signed receipts and seems to be satisfied that the addressees actually benefit from the parcels for which they sign receipts.

At this juncture we suggest that the economic warfare considerations which heretofore have precluded us from making packages available to IRCC for distribution under their plan are less controlling than has heretofore been the case. The amount of food which might fall into enemy hands could not affect the outcome of the war nor prolong it and the desperate situation of the people held in these camps makes it increasingly necessary that an effort be made to give them some assistance even though we may not have ironclad guarantees of 100 percent receipt by the intended beneficiaries. We propose, therefore, that blockade authorization be granted for the shipment of 300,000 specially prepared three-kilo food parcels to the IRCC for distribution on a trial basis by it under their plan communicated in telegram 2865, July 8 from British Legation, Bern, to MEW. Transportation, of course, presents a serious problem but we would hope that such parcels could be sent via the northern route which we are attempting to establish for the shipment of prisoner of war supplies.

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Please present this matter to the Relief-Sub-Committee as soon as possible and endeavor to obtain a favorable reply.

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SWP:EDK:EHJ

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AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON 13, D. C.

July 28, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

In answer to your letter of July 25, with reference to the possible assistance which the American Red Cross may be in preparing and shipping 100,000 food parcels per month for a three month period for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe after the German authorities acquiesce to certain guarantees, providing approximately the same conditions of distribution and supervision by the International Red Cross Committee and their delegates as is the case for bona fide prisoners of war, I assure you the American Red Cross will render such assistance as is possible and consistent with our facilities and our previous obligations.

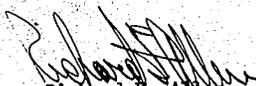
There have been times during the past year when the demands upon us for prisoner of war packages were very considerably in excess of the facilities of our packaging centres. There have also been times when available shipping space to Europe was considerably less than required to fulfill commitments which we had made to the United States and Allied authorities for the delivery of prisoner of war packages to Geneva. When the German authorities acquiesce in the plan mentioned above we will immediately survey our previous obligations in relation to the facilities in our packaging centres and our shipping space and will make a vigorous effort to act promptly.

With reference to the availability of \$1,125,000 from the Emergency Relief Appropriation this is a matter for decision by the United States Government who will, of course, pass upon the propriety of such use of these funds. The American Red Cross will interpose no objection to such use of the \$1,125,000 amount although it would be a source of great embarrassment to us if amounts in excess of this sum were diverted from the purposes for which these funds have hertofore been used, since we have a natural desire to carry on to completion the relief programs which are well known to the President and the Appropriations Committee of the United States Senate and House of Representatives.

✓ Mr. J. W. Pehle
Page Two
July 28, 1944

With best wishes to you for success in the important work which you are carrying on and with assurance of our desire to assist in every proper fashion, I am

Sincerely,


Richard R. Allen
Vice Chairman

RFA:ps

000701

JUL 25 1944

Dear Mr. Allen:

Reference is made to our meeting of July 20, 1944. You will recall that I advised you that recent discussions between Mr. Dingle M. Foot, Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Warfare, and representatives of State, Foreign Economic Administration, and War Refugee Board, resulted in an agreement to permit the shipment from this country of 100,000 standard food parcels per month for a three-month period. These packages will be consigned to the International Committee of the Red Cross for distribution exclusively to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe. Distribution, of course, is contingent upon German acquiescence to certain specific guarantees. This proposal has been presented by the American and British missions in Switzerland to the International Committee and we are momentarily awaiting their answer.

Anticipating an affirmative reply from the International Committee, we are desirous of making the necessary advance arrangements. Because most of the persons who will be the ultimate beneficiaries of this distribution are in dire distress, having had little or nothing in the way of relief since the outbreak of war, we are hopeful that the parcels can be packed and shipped promptly. As you may know, we are not an operating agency and have neither the facilities to undertake such a project nor the desire to duplicate existing facilities. It is my understanding that the American National Red Cross will be willing to undertake this packaging and shipping for the Board. Further, it is my understanding that the American National Red Cross will not interpose any objection to our approaching the Bureau of the Budget with a view to the allocation of \$1,125,000 from the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act to cover the cost of packing and shipping these 300,000 food parcels. It will be helpful in our approach to the Bureau of the Budget if you will see fit to confirm these understandings at your earliest possible convenience.

I wish to express my appreciation to you and Mr. Pate for meeting with us the other day and for your helpfulness in the solution of this problem.

Very truly yours,

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

Mr. Richard F. Allen, Chairman
Insular and Foreign Operations
American National Red Cross
Washington, D. C.

PJ McCormack:ar 7/24/44
(1) P.J.M. AA FH



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Comité International
de la Croix Rouge à Genève, Suisse
Délégation aux Etats-Unis
d'Amérique



International Committee of the Red Cross
in Geneva, Switzerland
Delegation to the United States
of America

1645 Connecticut Ave. N. W.
Washington 9, D. C.

Ref: S
July 26, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Re - Supplies to internees, deportees, etc.
in concentration camps.

From a communication received from the ICRC it would appear that Princess Juliana of Holland, as President of the Dutch Red Cross, took occasion to intervene in Washington in support of the steps taken by the ICRC with the War Refugee Board on behalf of the "persecuted groups" in Europe.

This Delegation has, however, been unaware of any such steps having been taken.

The ICRC, in explaining the actual situation to the Dutch Minister in Berne, profited of the occasion to review the actual position as follows:

In the first place, it must be pointed out that the problem of relief for Jews is closely linked with the similar problem of relief for the deportees (civilian prisoners in concentration camps), in the sense that any action on the part of the ICRC cannot be limited to Jews alone, but must be based on the principle, already accepted by the War Refugee Board, "without discrimination of race or creed".

The ICRC will therefore be compelled to include in a general action of relief all the concentration camps.

There is nothing new in this, but it bears repeating.

The same applies again to the fact that the Blockade Authorities have hitherto categorically refused to grant navicerts for any consignments from overseas destined for persons not assimilated to prisoners of war and

civilian internees; that is, as long as the Convention relating to prisoners of war is not also made applicable to internees in concentration camps. The decision whether or not the said Convention can or should be made applicable to the internees in question depends, however, solely on the German Government which hitherto steadfastly refused to take into consideration any demand in this respect, on the plea that these deportees have been arrested for reasons of public security. The Blockade Authorities, therefore, make any action of relief in favour of these unfortunates dependent on a decision of the Detaining Power and the ICRC is at a loss to understand whether the Blockade Authorities under these conditions really wish to uphold the principle of making such consignments subject to the application of the Convention or whether their attitude is not rather dictated by the question of control. As a matter of fact, it would seem to the ICRC that the Blockade Authorities desire above all to prevent any such relief-consignments falling into the hands of the enemy, and if they insist upon the formality of the application of the Convention, it is because it offers in their opinion the best guarantee that the relief sent actually reaches the intended beneficiaries.

In view of the fact that it is out of the question to obtain from the German authorities the same privileges of the Convention for the internees in concentration camps, as are afforded assimilated civilian internees, the ICRC would like to know whether the American authorities demand the same conditions of control for consignments to interned Jews and political prisoners, without, however, the formal application of the Convention.

We have pointed out already on previous occasions that the ICRC would be in a position to furnish sufficient proof that the food parcels really do reach the addressees, and if so desired, the ICRC would be prepared to submit such proof to the representatives of the Blockade Authorities in Switzerland who would then be in a position to judge and decide in each individual case whether sufficient guarantees exist to justify the sending of relief to concentration camps.

The ICRC would all the more welcome a definite decision as they are puzzled by the fact that the British authorities have replied negatively in the case of concentration camps in Germany but the Blockade admitted supplies to camps of detained foreigners in southern France (Vernet, Gurs, etc.) to whom the Convention does not apply either. It would therefore, in the opinion of the ICRC be interesting

to know the criterion on the basis of which the Blockade allowed the furnishing of supplies to civilian prisoners whose status in no way differs from that of the detainees in the large concentration camps in Germany.

I believe that in view of the relief action on a larger scale which the War Refugee Board has in view, it may be relevant to clear up with the Blockade Authorities the questions raised above and shall therefore feel glad to hear from you further in this matter.

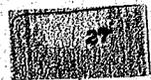
Yours very truly,



Alfred E. Zollinger
Delegate of the ICRC

AEZ:pst

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*I - war ref. Fed.
Hull*

RECEIVED
CONTROL COPY

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT
TO: American Legation, Bern
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: July 21, 1944
NUMBER: 2480
X
[REDACTED]

WRB sends following for McClelland.

WRB No. 79.

Please deliver the message given below to Dr. Gerhart Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, from Dr. Kubowitzki of the World Jewish Congress:

Joint Relief Committee in London has recently made a proposal to International Committee of Red Cross for shipment of food parcels to refugees in internment camps through blockade for distribution under Red Cross supervision. Foreign Economic Administration questioned whether InterCross has had adequate staff to insure proper distribution in enemy countries. Developments in this project should be followed by you and to insure its success please assist wherever possible.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

000708

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON, BERN, FOR McLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Dr. Gerhart Riegner,
37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, from Dr. Kubowitzki of the World Jewish
Congress:

"Foreign Economic Administration discussing with British
supplying relief through blockade. It appears that personnel
of Intercross in Axis Europe has been too limited for
adequately supervising distribution. Are asked whether can
help this respect. Are also requested get from Intercross
specific assurances on method supervision in order to
insure reaching addressees including statement of number
supervising personnel and where and how they would operate."

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 79

2:45 p.m.
July 11, 1944

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

ao FH:db 7/8/44

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copy sent to
COSC 7/11
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July 21, 1944

Mr. Stewart

Mr. McCormack

Summarized report showing status of funds made available by sec. 40 of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1941 and the Third Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Act, 1942, as of April 30, 1944.

Amount appropriated - - - - -	\$85,000,000.00
Less: Amount allocated by the President for the purchase and delivery of relief supplies to be distributed by the American Red Cross; Treasury Department, Procurement Division - - - - -	\$51,000,000.00
Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Administration - - - - -	15,000,000.00
War Department, Office of Surgeon General - - - - -	15,000,000.00
Total allocations - - - - -	\$81,000,000.00

Unexpended balance at Agriculture as of April 30, 1944 - - -\$4,181,420.36

It has been suggested that you might be able to readily ascertain the balance at Treasury Procurement.

On page 28 of the Hearings Before the Subcommittee of the Committee on Appropriations, House of Representatives, 78th Congress, 2nd Session, on the Second Deficiency Appropriation Bill for 1944, there was indicated that the unallocated balance as of April 30, 1944, with the Bureau of the Budget was \$3,907,000 and that allocations still in the hands of the procurement agencies unexpended as of April 30 amounted to \$11,538,996.86.

Mr. Richard F. Allen, Vice Chairman, Insular and Foreign Operations, American National Red Cross, in testifying before the Subcommittee, indicated that Red Cross had expended \$9,000,000 from this fund during the past year and estimated that their program for the coming year called for an expenditure of "about \$12,000,000."

cc: Miss Hodel ✓
Mr. Abrahamson

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