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

Food Packages for Unassimilated Persons, Vol. 3 Folder 1 1-25

Back to front filing
London

Dated November 24, 1944

Re: 9321, November 8

Secretary of State,

Washington.

10344, November 24, 5 p.m.

Department and FEA informed Embassy (re Department's 9321, November 8) that they were willing to approve shipments to Pruskow given in Legation's 14440, October 31 to Department repeated London as 1400 and requested Embassy to inform Legation when MEW concurred. MEW has now given its approval provided that International Red Cross will assume responsibility for distribution and that any clothing sent is of Swedish origin.

Sent Stockholm as 754 repeated Department as 10344.

Please inform British Legation.

WINANT

JMS

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972
November 20, 1944

War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Paul McCormack

Dear Mr. McCormack:

We have your letter of November 20th asking us to ship 37,330 cartons containing 224,528 food parcels to Goethburg by the H/V SAIVO.

We have given the necessary instructions to this effect to our shipping departments in New York and Washington. We understand the parcels are already at the pier.

Very truly yours,

Theodore W. Knauth
Relief to Prisoners of War
Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Robert Pilpel was received through the American Legation in Lisbon under date of November 20, 1944:

"Only Meyer advises parcels may now be shipped from Switzerland but needs funds for this purpose; therefore please transfer him urgently $34,000 under Czechoslovak parcel project."

Very truly yours,

J. A. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. M. A. Lotvitt, Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,

February 11/22/44
Secretary of State,
Washington.

4016, Twentieth, 7 p.m.

JDC 121 WRB 283 FOR HEAVITT FROM PILPEL.

Salvador advises parcels may now be shipped from Switzerland but needs funds this purpose therefore please transfer him urgently $24,000 under Czechoslovak parcel project.

NOTE

VDB
November 20, 1944

Honorable Basil O'Connor
Chairman, American National
Red Cross
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. George Smith

My dear Mr. O'Connor:

It is my understanding that port facilities at
Marseille for the present preclude the shipment of
37,338 shipping cartons containing War Refugee Board
food parcels to that port.

I am informed that the S.S. Salvo will depart within
a week for Gothenburg. It will be appreciated if you will
arrange for the shipment of our parcels on this vessel.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Peble
Executive Director
Mr. Kurt Grossman
Assistant
Rescue Department
World Jewish Congress
1884 Broadway
New York 22, New York

Dear Mr. Grossman:

I have your letter of November 14 in reply to mine of November 8. I am afraid you must have read incorrectly or misunderstood my letter, as I rather definitely advised:

(1) It would be impossible for us to accept your clothing for shipment to Marseilles;

(2) You could make your arrangements to ship via Spanish or Portuguese commercial lines, or;

(3) We would accept this one shipment for Göteborg, provided you would make your own arrangements with the Swedish authorities and International Red Cross for movement from Sweden into Germany.

Therefore, as I clearly stated in my previous letter, we cannot accept your clothing for shipment to Marseilles.

As to accepting your shipment for Göteborg, may I repeat point number three above. This confirmation has not, as yet, been given us. Contrary to your advice to me, International Red Cross has not yet confirmed that it will accept and distribute the clothing. Mr. McCormack is again cabling International Red Cross for this confirmation.

As stated in my previous letter, we will accept your clothing for shipment when the above conditions have been taken care of reference Göteborg.

Sincerely yours,

D. H. Haverkamp
Relief to Prisoners of War

DHHPC

cot: Mr. Paul McCormack
War Refugee Board
Washington, D. C.
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: November 18, 1944
NUMBER: 3927

CONTROL COPY

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD FOR ATTENTION OF HARRISON

Reference your 7365 and 7366, November 6. Department and Board are encouraged by your reports of distribution of S.S. *Christina* goods by Intercross. Oliden from Stockholm has advised the Board that the 15,002 three-kilo parcels at Gothenburg have been restored and will go forward to camps in Germany in the near future if they have not already gone. Major portion of remaining 285,000 three-kilo parcels will go forward from here letter half November. As packing has already been completed, it is impossible to include clothing items in this shipment. World Jewish Congress has received approval from Department, WRB, FIA, and MEW to ship through Intercross facilities some 10,000 pounds of clothing for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe.

Department, WRB, and FIA have jointly requested MEW to approve shipment from the United States of an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels to be prepared for shipment after December. In order to expedite approval of this program, it is important that Intercross furnish you for transmittal to us all possible evidence of packages having been received by unassimilated persons and in addition, all other available evidence of proper distribution.

Reference *Christina* distribution, it would be appreciated if you would secure from Intercross the names and locations of the camps affected by the distribution, also assurance that Jewish internees were among the beneficiaries and the numbers thereof. In this connection, suggestion is made that Intercross attempt to embrace within distribution scheme all or some of the following camps: —Poland: Czestochowa, Jedrzejow, Katowice, Kielce, Klimontow, Krakow, Mielec, Mykolow, Opole, Oswiecim, Piotrkow, Radom, Sanok, Skarzysko, Tarnow, Krakow, Mielec, Mykolow, Opole, Oswiecim, Piotrkow, Radom, Sanok, Skarzysko, Tarnow, Krakow, Mielec, Mykolow.

 ainsi as mentioned above.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 280.
CABLE TO HAMILTON, BUSH, AND MCGALLAND FROM WAR REFUGEES BOARD

Reference your 7365 and 7366, November 6. Department and Board are encouraged by your report of distribution of S.S. Christina goods by Intercross. Olsen from Stockholm has advised the Board that the 15,002 three-kilo parcels at Gothenburg have been restored and will go forward to camps in Germany in the near future if they have not already gone. Major portion of remaining 285,000 three-kilo parcels will go forward from here latter half November. As packing has already been completed, it is impossible to include clothing items in this shipment. World Jewish Congress has received approval from Department, WRA, FEH, and WRA to ship through Amercorps facilities some 10,000 pounds of clothing for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps in enemy Europe.

Department, WRA, and FEA have jointly requested WRA to approve shipment from the United States of an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels to be prepared for shipment after December. In order to expedite approval of this program, it is important that Intercross furnish you for transmittal to us all possible evidence of packages having been received by unassimilated persons and in addition, all other available evidence of proper distribution.

Reference Christina distribution, it would be appreciated if you would secure from Intercross the names and locations of the camps affected by the distribution, also assurance that Jewish internees were among the beneficiaries and the numbers thereof. In this connection, suggestion is made that Intercross attempt to embrace within distribution scheme all or some of the following camps—Poland: Czeszow, Jedrzejow, Katowitz, Klec, Klimontow, Krakow, Kielce, Kowientow, Opole, Oswiecim, Piotrkow, Radom, Rzeszow, Starzewo, Trescinia, Wieliczka—Silesia; Slovakia: Sored.

THIS IS WRA BERN CABLE NO. 280.

1:45 p.m.
November 17, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Files
The cable below for Olsen is WRB 247.

The War Refugee Board requests that paraphrase of the following message be delivered to Mr. Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee, Postbox 7208, Stockholm from Dr. Leon Kubotski:

QUOTE

Kindly have food parcels forwarded following Bergen-belsen inmates: Josephine Ellenberg; Anna and Hermine Frunkin; Eugenia Dorsin; Henryk and Maria Goldberger; Isaac and Zvi Katznelson; Klara, AlfredJosef and Doriana Jurz (barrack 25}; Ellen, Erna and Julius Lauer; Emil Radz, wife and children; Walter Siegel, Henry Wilner. For Swedish protection suggest; Gisela Friedman, Szent Istvany park 17, Budapest 5; Elizabeth Tauber, 87 Dohanyutca, Budapest. UNQUOTE

STETTHIUS
(Acting)
(CSR)

WRB: 21119 NO
11/17/44
11/17/44

NOE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Library, 1-11-72
By R. H. Dates: SEP 21 1972
CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM, FOR OLSHEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

The War Refugee Board requests that the following message be delivered to Mr. Fritz Hallender, Congress Committee, Postbox 7306, Stockholm from Dr. Leon Kubowitzki:

QUOTE Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergenbelsen inmates: Josephine Ellenberg; Anna and Hermine Fraschin; Eugenia Gorlin; Henryk and Maria Gollerber; Isaac and Livi Katanelson; Klara, Alfredjosef and Boriana Nars (barrack 23); Ellen, Erm and Julius Lauer; Emil Race, wife and children; Walter Stegel, Henry Wilner. For Swedish protection suggests: Gisela Friedman, Gisental Istvanyipark 17, Budapest 5; Elizabeth Tabor, 57 Dohanytca, Budapest. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WUB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 247.
November 10, 1944

Dear Mr. Pehle:

May I ask you to transmit, through the facilities of the State Department, the following message to Mr. Hollander in Stockholm:

"To: Mr. Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee,
Postbox 7300, Stockholm
From: Dr. Kuboritzi

Kindly have food parcels forwarded following Bergenbelsen inmates: Josephine Ellenberg; Anna and Harold Frankin; Eugenia Gorlin; Henry and Maria Goldberger; Isaac and Zivia Watenel; Klara, Alfred Josef, and Doriana Kurs (barrack 23); Ellen, Erna and Julius Lauer; Emil Racz, wife and children; Walter Siegel; Henry Wilner. For Swedish protection suggest: Gisela Friedman, Szent Istvanpark 17, Budapest 5; Elizabeth Tauber, 57 Dobanyutox, Budapest."

Sincerely yours,

A. Leon Kuboritzki

AMB: [Signature]
Mr. Paul S. McCormick  
Room 367 1/2  
Treasury Building  
Washington, D. C.  

Dear Mr. McCormick:

Following your request I am sending you herewith a copy of a cable (No. 1290) which we received from the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva concerning relief to Camp Bergen-Belsen.

As you see, the Committee is, of course, willing to be of assistance in this matter in the limits of its possibilities.

Believe me to be, dear Mr. McCormick

Sincerely yours,

MARC PETER  
Delegate to the United States of America

cable copy No. 1290  
AL/SGS
COPY OF INCOMING CABLEGRAM:
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
- DELEGATION IN THE UNITED STATES

Cablegram received from: Interacroixrouge
Geneva, Switzerland

Date received: November 2, 1944

1290 YOUR 1041 HAVE REQUESTED SEVERAL TIMES URGENT SHIPMENT FOOD
AND CLOTHING FOR FORMING JEWISH AND OTHER CAMP STOP CONSULT
FOR EXAMPLE OUR NOTE NO 900 STOP AT PRESENT STILL ABLE TO SHIP
CLOTHING AND FOOD TO BERGEN-BELSEN STOP ARE KEEPING REPRESENTATIVE
WAR REFUGEE BOARD INFORMED OF OUR POSSIBILITIES SHIPMENTS AND CONTROL

INTERCROIXROUGE 99745

P.S. Note No. 900, referred to above, was sent to you under date
of May 2, 1944.
This message is for WAIB, the Department and FEA.

As set forth in Department's 9419 of the tenth of November and WAIB 21, the Relief Sub-Committee approves shipment of further 300,000 three kilo parcels. In approving consignment, FEA representative, drew attention to the present shortage of transportation to Geneva from Marseilles and stated he presumed that these parcels would be scheduled so that they did not conflict with essential Prisoner of War supplies' onshipment.

GALLMAN

CONTROL COPY

DCR: MLG
11-17-44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 11-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972
In reply refer to No. 280

Attention: Mr. Paul McCormack

Dear Mr. Pehle:

With reference to previous telephone conversations with Mr. Paul McCormack, we would indeed be very much interested in learning whether it was possible for you to clarify the indication that there are internees classified as "A" internees in the camp Bergen-Belsen.

To-day, we saw a postal card received by one of our clients, according to which the German government has given permission for the receipt of food parcels, from individuals, by internees in Bergen-Belsen.

Very sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman
Assistant
Rescue Department

KRG:tl
November 14th, 1944

Mr. Paul McCormack
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

In reply refer to No. 277.

Dear Mr. McCormack:

Confirming our telephone conversation of even date, I am enclosing herein copy of a letter written by me to Mr. D. B. Haverkamp of the American Red Cross. I have also sent a copy of this letter to Mr. Franklin S. Pollak of the Foreign Economic Administration.

At this time, I have also submitted Form FEA 419 to Mrs. Arneson of the President’s War Relief Control Board.

Thank you for all your cooperation.

Very sincerely yours,

[Kurt A. Grossman, Assistant
Rescue Department]

KRG:tl
enc.
November 14th, 1944

Mr. D. B. Haverkamp
Relief to Prisoners of War
American Red Cross
Washington 13 D.C.

Dear Mr. Haverkamp:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of November 8th and I have duly noted all the information you were good enough to give me in this letter.

With reference to the three points mentioned by you as needing confirmation, we are glad to be able to inform you that:

1. Bergen-Belsen is on the list of those camps approved to receive war refugee packages.

2. The International Red Cross agreed to receive and supervise distribution into the camp.

3. According to information given me by the War Refugee Board this morning, the British Blockade authorities have approved the consignment of 10,000 lbs. of clothing to Bergen-Belsen.

Therefore, I would be very grateful to you if you would accept our clothing for shipment, and, as you can well imagine, we would prefer the route to Marseilles, since that would guarantee that the clothing will arrive just in time to be of value to the internees of Bergen-Belsen.

Hoping to hear from you in this respect, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman
Assistant

KRG111

00: Mr. Paul McDonnell
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.
DLE Distribution of true by special
DEPARTMENT
OF STATE
November 12, 1944
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OUTGOING
TELEGRAM
NOV 10, 1944
W A S H I N G T O N
12 P.M.
DISTRIBUTION
DIVISION OF
TELEGRAPHIC
AND RECORDS
(LIATION)
ARMED
FORCES
(1)
FLOYD
SHORE
(2)
A N N A L E T O N
(3)
W A R
RECEIVED
12/1/44
L A N G E N H A U S E
(4)
DEPARTMENT
OF STATE
SUBJECT
The cable below for Olsen is forward.
The War Refugee Board requests that the following message
be transmitted to Mr. Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee,
Hoffa 7806, Stockholm, from Dr. Kubowitzki, World Jewish
Congress:

QUOTE (Thanks your message 30/10 will advise you next
days. Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergenholtz
immediate Hans, Lotte and Susi Andorn, Rose Berger, Aiah Lima
and Francesca Birnbaum, Benno and Dorothy Both, Henry and
Rebecca van Besor, Robert and Louis Jacobi Habking, Jolde and
Ursula Kohn, Max and Dora Lewinger, Blusengrof Lieberman
and daughter, Kurt Harta and Evi Neumann, Claire, Martin,
Jacques and Ralph Perlberger, Dora, Felicita Matuschibort
and Hendryk Josef Reich. UNQUOTE

DECLASIFIED
State Dept. Letter 11/12
By R. B. Parks dated SEP 21 1972
CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM, FOR OLSEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

The War Refugee Board requests that the following message be transmitted to Mr. Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee, Postbox 7306, Stockholm, from Dr. Kupnowski, World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Thanks your message 30/10 will advise you next days. Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergenbelsen inmates: Hans, Lotte and Eule Audena, Rosa Berger, Isaac Lima and Franciska Birnbaum, Banno and Dorotha Both, Henry and Rebecca van Kase, Robert and Louis Jacobo Helbing, Goldo and Urdan Kahn, Max and Dora Landirg, Blumegrose Liermann and daughter, Kurt Herta and Evi Neumann, Claire, Martin, Jacques and Ralph Freiberger, Dora, Policia Maryannorbert and HendrykJosef Reich. UNQUOTE.

THIS IS WAR STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 236.

1:45 p.m. November 1, 1944

Abrahamson, Ackmann, Ackner, Cohn, Daniel, Friedman, Hoch, Lesser, Mann, McCormack, Miles

Friedman McCormack 11/3 received with pleb 11/6/44
November 2, 1944

In reply refer to No. 273

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 1st by which you forwarded to me a message from Mr. Hollander.

May I ask you to transmit to him the following cable through the facilities of the State Department:

"To: Mr. Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee, Postbox 7920, Stockholm
From: Dr. Rubinstein

Thanks your message 30/10 will advise you next days, kindly have food parcels forwarded following Bergen-belsen inmates: Hans, Lotte and Susi Andorn, Rosa Berger, Izak Lina and Francisca Birnbaum, Barun and Dorothea Roth, Henry and Rebecca van Baco, Robert and Louise Jacob Holbing, Solde und Urdian Cohen, Max and Dora Lainger, Blumegross Liebermann and daughter, Kurt Herta and Evi Neumann, Claire, Martin, Jacques and Ralph Perlberger, Dora, Felicia Maria and Dorothea Helbing." 

Sincerely yours,

A. Rubinstein
Head, Rescue Department
MINNEAPOLIS MINN NOV 14 1054A 1944
WAR REFUGEE BOARD ATTN A J Mccormick
ROOM 4413 US TREASURY BLDG

THE 39360 CANS SHIPPED FROM MINNEAPOLIS MINNESOTA
ON NOVEMBER FIFTH OF KOSHER CORN BEEF LOAF HAVE
SATISFACTORYLY PASSED THE INCUBATION TEST AND CAN BE
USED BY RED CROSS

DR D D TIERNEY BAI.

132P.

39360.
MINNEAPOLIS MINN NOV 13 140P
A J Mccormick, War Refugee Board Room 4413
US Treasury Bldg
Doctor Tierney will not allow shipment balance order until
full ten days incubation unless his Washington office
instructs otherwise. As completing order tomorrow cans
would arrive New York December first advise
Arnold Feinberg Feinberg kosher sausage co.
During the first and second half of November, the balance of our Refugee Board's 300,000 three-kilo food parcels will go forward consigned to Intercross as authorized by the Berle-Foot Agreement.

In view of the extreme urgency of extending additional aid to unassimilated persons in Germany-controlled concentration camps and the time-consuming aspects in this country of food procurement, packaging and shipping operations, the Department, FSA and WRB recommend the shipment from this country of an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels during a three-month period beginning December 1944 for consignment to Intercross. This recommendation is endorsed by the Department, FSA and WRB and we jointly request that this matter be referred to the Relief Sub-Committee with a view to obtaining blockade authorization to proceed with this program at the earliest possible date.
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR RENANT AND MANN FROM DEPARTMENT, FEA AND WRB

During the first and second half of November, the balance of War Refugee Board’s 300,000 three-kilo food parcels will go forward consigned to Intercross as authorized by the Berle-Poot Agreement.

In view of the extreme urgency of extending additional aid to unassimilated persons in German-controlled concentration camps and the time-consuming aspects in this country of food procurement, packaging and shipping operations, the Department, FEA and WRB recommend the shipment from this country of an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels during a three month period beginning December 1944 for consignment to Intercross. This recommendation is endorsed by the Department, FEA and WRB and we jointly request that this matter be referred to the Relief Sub-Committee with a view to obtaining Blockade authorization to proceed with this program at the earliest possible date.

THIS IS WRB LONDON CABLE NO. 21.

9:30 a.m.
November 9, 1944.

Miss Cheeseley (for the Secy) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Lesser, Mann, McCormack, Files

FR:AA:7038 11/9/44
The following is for the information of the War Refugee Board.

Continuing my no. 7365,

8,000 new names and numbers of political deportees of camps of Osnau alone were brought in by the use of individual receipt cards in collective shipments. Since the German authorities have refused consistently to communicate lists of deportees to ICRC, these data are of great value. For a great many families this constitutes the first sign of life from loved ones, many of whom have been reported executed previously. Also, these names allow ICRC to send individually addressed parcels in the future to those prisoners with accordingly better assurance of receipt.

There have been shown to me recent reports on certain concentration camps in Germany depicting unbelievably hard and primitive living conditions. One camp housing some 30,000 women has not even the most elementary pharmaceutical supplies, no shipments of such supplies from any source having ever been made to concentration camps. Acute and bitter is the lack of clothing, especially winter under wear and warm socks. Consequently I am making every attempt to organize shipments of
parcels of pharmaceuticals from Switzerland and if at all possible I urge that you include a few thousand two and one-half kilo clothing parcels (underwear and stockings and socks for both women and men) with 285,000 food parcels to be shipped this month.

Very limited is the time still available to us when transportation conditions inside Germany will allow forwarding of such parcels.

HARRISON
In reply refer to No. 275

hon, John W. Peble
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

Attention: Mr. McCormick

Dear Sir:

With reference to our various discussions regarding the sending of clothing and food to camp Bergen-Belsen, I am taking the liberty of enclosing herewith copy of a cable received by the International Red Cross from its headquarters in Geneva.

As you know, we are still waiting for the approval of the British Blockade Authorities for the consignment of clothing.

I would be most grateful to you if you would be good enough to use your good services in securing this approval.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Groden, Assistant
Rescue Department
Copy of Incoming Cablegram: International Committee of the Red Cross
Delegation in the United States
Date received: November 2, 1944
Cablegram received from Geneva, via RDA

TRANSLATION

Cable 1280

HAVE ASKED SEVERAL TIMES URGENT SHIPPIING OF FOOD AND CLOTHING
FOR FORWARDING TO JEWISH AND OTHER CAMPS STOP AT PRESENT ARE
STILL ABLE TO SEND TO BERGEN-BELSEN CLOTHING AND FOOD STOP
KEEPING POSTED CONSTANTLY REPRESENTATIVE WAR REFUGEE BOARD
IN SWITZERLAND OF OUR POSSIBILITIES FOR SHIPMENTS AND
SUPERVISION.
November 9, 1944

Mr. Kurt R. Grosman
Assistant
Rescue Department
World Jewish Congress
1554 Broadway
New York 23, New York

Dear Mr. Grosman:

I have your letter of October 24, 1944 reference your interest in moving your 10,000 pounds of clothing to Europe for delivery to Bergen-Belsen.

As advised in our telephone conversation, this was the first information or instruction we had received reference your interest in moving goods on Red Cross ships.

As you undoubtedly know, our primary commitment is to move supplies for prisoners of war, and, at the present time, to move food parcels for prisoners of war. Every inch of shipping space it is possible for us to secure is being utilized, and principally for food.

The flow of supplies from both Barcelona and Lisbon into Switzerland has been halted. It is, therefore, necessary for us to move practically all our supplies from Barcelona and Lisbon over to Nantes or Marseilles for transport into Switzerland. Our only two ports of entry for movement of goods into Switzerland and Germany, therefore, are Marseilles and Goteborg, Sweden.

I am afraid that it would be impossible for us to accept your clothing for shipment to Nantes, as at Marseilles we operate under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army, which requires the bulk of the harbor, dock, warehouse, and overland transportation facilities for its own vitally important fighting supplies. They allot us a small portion of the facilities for only prisoner of war relief supplies. Consequently, even if we were to ship your clothing to Nantes, it definitely could not be transported on into Switzerland unless it were for relief to prisoners of war. The Army would not allow it to move.

One alternative would be for you to ship the clothing on the established Spanish and Portuguese Commercial Steamship Lines to Cadiz, Barcelona, or Lisbon. This might be done if you could secure confirmation that the goods could be moved on from there into Switzerland. However, in view of our inability to have supplies transported direct from Lisbon and Barcelona into
Switzerland, it would be advisable for you to obtain this confirmation before shipment.

We could accept this one shipment of clothing for Goteborg, Sweden, provided you could make your own arrangements with the Swedish authorities and International Red Cross for movement from Sweden into Germany.

As you know, before we could accept your clothing for shipment, it would be necessary that we receive confirmation of the following points:

1. That Bergen-Belsen is on the list of those camps approved to receive War Refugee packages;

2. That International Red Cross agrees to receive and supervise distribution into the camp;

3. Clearance from the British Blockade authorities.

I have been in touch with Mr. McCormack of the War Refugee Board reference the last two points. Mr. McCormack advises me that definite confirmation has not, as yet, been received.

As per your request, we attach hereto a copy of our standard packing instructions.

Sincerely yours,

D. B. Haverkamp
Relief to Prisoners of War

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Paul McCormack
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

General Files
Our Files
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

To: American Embassy, London
From: Secretary of State
Dated: November 7, 1944
Number: 9321

For EMD from FEA and Department.
Approval of proposed shipments as listed in Stockholm's 1400, October 31 to London, is recommended.
Inform Stockholm if HEW concurs.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

CONTROL COPY
DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION
OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

RA-648
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency.

Bern
Dated November 6, 1944
Rec'd 6:32 p.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

7385, November 6, 4 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM McCLELLAND.

Legation's 6283, September 21.

ICRC has just submitted most encouraging report on satisfactory distribution of CRISTINA goods allotted to parcel program for political prisoners both men and women in German concentration camps. It is worth noting that this has been very first lot of foodstuffs granted to ICRC for assistance to this category of prisoners. As such it has been invaluable.

During September and October 25,600 parcels weighing total of 54,756 kilos were sent individually addressed to 12,300 detainees and as collective shipments through men of confidence to another 12,300 prisoners. Approximately 8,500 parcels went to French detainees, 4,300 to Belgians, 4,200 to Poles, 3,800 to Norwegians, 2,800 to Dutch and balance to Czechs, Greeks,
-2-7365, November 6, 4 p.m. from Bern

Grecks, Yugoslavs, Spaniards and (e).

International Red Cross delegates were able to visit all camps where parcels were sent and satisfactorily ascertain that great majority packages reached beneficiaries. International Red Cross has been instrumental in getting commanders in certain concentration camps to allow men of confidence for various national groups which has greatly facilitated distribution collective shipments. On the other hand a few camps were encountered where prisoners were not even allowed to return individual receipts.

HARRISON

(e) Repetition requested on above garbled groups.
CORRECTION

November 9, 1944

In telegram from Bern numbered 9365, dated November 6, 4 p.m. page 2 line 1 delete "(*)" insert "Italians" so as to read "Yugoslavs, Spaniards and Italians."

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

REV

Note: Correction from the Legation.
Reference your 4532 October 31 and terminology "unassimilated persons in concentration camps." The Geneva Convention on prisoners of war has, by agreements between certain powers, been applied to civilians nationals detained by the enemy and who are said to be thereby assimilated to the status of prisoners of war thereby obtaining the same rights and privileges as military prisoners of war. Such civilians so held in special civilian internment camps are reported through Intercess to countries of their nationality and are accorded rights and privileges described in the convention such as despatch and receipt of mail, receipt of food parcels and clothing, and visits by Intercess delegates. Persons detained by enemy governments in concentration camps such as Belzenberg, Belsenbrück, and Auschwitz are not covered by these agreements and are therefore commonly referred to as "unassimilated persons."

It is to this category of detained persons that the Board's parcel program, 93 ton program from Sweden and similar undertakings are directed in keeping with Berle-Food agreement authorizing programs of this nature.

Please convey Board's appreciation to Whisler for his work in restoring our parcels for forwarding.

11/3/44

By R. H. Parks Date: SEP 21 1972
Reference your 4432, October 31 and terminology "unassimilated persons in concentration camps." The Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War has, by agreements between certain powers, been applied to civilian nationals detained by the enemy and who are said to be thereby assimilated to the status of prisoners of war thereby obtaining the same rights and privileges as military prisoners of war. Such civilians so held in special civilian internment camps are reported through Interross to countries of their nationality and are accorded rights and privileges described in the convention such as despatch and receipt of mail, receipt of food parcels and clothing and visits by Interross delegates. Persons detained by enemy governments in concentration camps such as Belzec, Belsen, Wöbbelin and Krakow are not covered by these agreements and therefore are commonly referred to as "unassimilated persons." It is to this category of detained persons that the Board's parcel program, 93 ton program from Sweden and similar undertakings are directed in keeping with Berle-Foot agreement authorizing programs of this nature.

Please convey Board's appreciation to Wheeler for his work in restoring our parcels for forwarding.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 233.
November 3, 1944

Mr. Paul McCormack
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
2113 Main Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCormack:

Since our conversation of the other day I have made a study of our arrangements with various government agencies, which shows that in fact, signed agreements with the War and with the Navy Departments are approximately similar in language to the Executive Order which forms the basis upon which we are proceeding to the packaging and shipment of supplies for the War Refugee Board.

The Disbursing Officers of the War and of the Navy Departments have taken the general tenor of these signed agreements plus our verbal arrangements with the Quartermaster Corps and the Judge Advocate General as constituting sufficient authority to reimburse the Red Cross on our submission of public vouchers, taking our word for the fact of the shipment of the supplies charged for.

Recent experience with the Certifying Officer of Treasury Procurement, Mr. Herbert Reilly, leads us, however, to doubt whether he would consider the terms of the Executive Order as sufficient to authorize him to pay us. Briefly put, his contention is that Treasury Procurement must have both physical possession of and legal title to goods, before he can certify any payments concerning them.

Such a ruling, as you will easily understand, raises practical difficulties, and we feel that it is essential that you find some means whereby, on the shipments made for the War Refugee Board, payments would be made on our submission of a public voucher, attaching as substantiation, a copy of the Executive Order and a copy of an agreement with your Board fixing the rate at which charges are to be made.

Very truly yours,

Arthur C. Robinson
Relief to Prisoners of War
November 1, 1944

Mr. Paul McCormack
Executive Office of the President's War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. McCormack:

In accordance with the request you made some time back, I am enclosing a couple of the receipt cards which are to be used in the War Refugee packages which are now being prepared.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Ralph S. Stockard
Relief to Prisoners of War

ENROLLMENT FOR SERVICE
AMERICAN JUNIOR RED CROSS ENROLLMENT CAMPAIGN, NOVEMBER 1-15, 1944
# EMPFANGSBEScheinigung

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*Unterschrift des Empfängers*

*Signature du destinataire*

_Genaue Adresse (Block)..... Matrikelnummer*

_Münuméro matricule_
Zurück an das:

INTERNATIONALE KOMITEE
VON ROTEN KREUZ
Zentralstelle für Kriegsgefangene

GENF
SCHWEIZ
The American National Red Cross has informed me that they began the packaging of our food parcels on October 26. Production of 14,000 parcels daily (six-day week) is being maintained.

The S.S. Caritas I, sailing approximately November 11, will carry 185,000 of our parcels. The remaining 100,000 parcels will go forward on the S.S. Mangalore November 25. Both sailings will follow the Darseille route.
November 1, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FJLRO

Re: Food packages for concentration camps.

In view of the fact that 300,000 food packages will have been sent from the United States by November 25th under the Sefhe-Poste agreement, Mr. Peale requested today that we give consideration to a further expansion of this program and suggested that steps be taken at once to raise the matter with the various interested agencies.

F. Model