Programme with Respect to Relief and Rescue of Refugees Food Pkgs. for Unassimilated Persons

Food Packages for Unassimilated Persons, Vol 4

Folder 1-36

Back to Front filing

36

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FEB 10 1945

Dear Mr. Peter:

Thank you for your letter of February 7, 1945, (S/2/h) enclosing a copy of a confidential letter concerning relief consignments to the Mauthausen Camp.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Marc Peter,
Delegate,
International Committee of the Red Cross,
1645 Connecticut Avenue,
Washington 9, D. C.

EBT RBH RBHutchison:inp 2/9/45

000107

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.

February 7th, 1945.

In replying, refer to (S/2/h)

The Executive Director,
Executive Office of the President,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D.C.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Sir,

Upon the request of our Geneva Headquarters, I am enclosing herewith, for your information a copy of a confidential letter addressed by the I.C.R.C. to Mr. McClelland at Berne, concerning supplies to Mauthausen Camp.

I would ask you to kindly acknowledge receipt of this letter at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Marc Peter

MARC PETER,
Delegate.

sgc.
encl. 1

000 108

(Ref: S/2/h)
rec'd Feb. 5/1945.

C
O
P
Y

November 16, 1944.

Ref: G.44/Sec
JES/GB

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Mr. McClelland,

You know how concerned we are with proceeding scrupulously and to the best of our ability in the matter of relief consignments for civilian prisoners in Germany, and avoiding any possible misappropriation of these supplies.

To give you an example, we had certain doubts as to the proper reception of parcels at the Mauthausen Camp; we stopped these several months ago, although the authorities and national Red Cross Societies of the countries whose nationals were deported to that camp pressed us to continue sending parcels at all costs.

Recent information received has confirmed our suspicions and we have therefore definitely struck this camp off the list of places where we feel justified in all conscience in sending relief supplies.

We are sending a copy of this letter to our Delegation in Washington for the information of the War Refugee Board.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) J.E. Schwarzenberg,

for: The International Committee of the Red Cross,
Directeur de la Division d'Assistance Spéciale.

Mr. Roswell McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister,
Legation of the United States of America,
B E R N E.

copy, sgc.

000102

February 10, 1945

The Executive Director

S. Akzin and Paul J. McCormack

Re: Trucks for Intercross

1. The War Department letter does not dispute the fact that 5 - 7 trucks are needed to ensure distribution of food supplies to "unassimilated" detainees, nor does it advance the argument that the requested use of a few trucks must be opposed on military grounds. It objects to the program merely on the ground that it might set a precedent affecting the shipment of supplies to POWs.

It should be noted, therefore, that a request of the American Red Cross to permit the use of trucks to ship supplies to POWs in Northern Italy has been cleared by the War Department. The Department has therefore agreed to set the very precedent the prevention of which it alleges to be the reason for its opposition to our program.

2. Even were a similar program rejected for POWs and "assimilated" civilian internees, this would not be a sufficient reason to reject our program in favor of "unassimilated" detainees. Indeed, POWs and civilian internees are protected by the Geneva Convention which ensures a minimum standard of their treatment, with supplies merely aiming at supplementing these standards; whereas the detainees lack any such protection and are known to receive far worse treatment at German hands.

But the very fact that the use of trucks was authorized by the War Department in the case of POWs makes it imperative that it withdraw its objections to a similar use of trucks in supplying persons known to fare much less well.

3. According to the reports of WRB representative in Bern, there is progressive disinclination of German authorities to make rolling stock available to Intercross. On the basis of the Geneva Convention and of reciprocity, the U.S. Government can apply pressure to secure continuance of Red Cross parcel service to POWs and civilian internees. It lacks, however, any such leverage to obtain similar facilities for the tolerated Red Cross program for detainees. Therefore, failure to provide the requested trucks threatens to stop completely this program, the one WRB program which promises to benefit the largest group of enemy victims.

4. Use of trucks in Northern Italy is justified by the disintegration of normal traffic in that area, where military operations are limited in scope.

0 0 0 1 1 1

Traffic conditions have also disintegrated in Germany, where military operations are on an exceedingly large scale.

5. Large stockpiles of POW food available in Switzerland, so that occasional rail tie-ups don't seriously endanger their distribution. Since WRB lacks large stockpile, loss of a single shipment by rail threatens our entire program.

6. An added consideration is the well-known German policy of mass-extermination of unassimilated, especially of Jewish, detainees when unchecked by the presence of foreign observers. The use of Swiss trucks manned by Intercross personnel is therefore an important means of ensuring that these detainees are kept alive.

7. Should chaos in Germany increase, such trucks manned by Intercross personnel can become the means of physically rescuing many detainees.

BA:PJM--ar: 2/10/45

000112

34

000113

Food Packages

February 9, 1945

To: Mr. Dent

From: Mr. McCormack

APPROPRIATION (Bureau of the Budget)

TITLE: Foreign War Relief, 1941-1945
SYMBOL: 111/50008

ALLOCATIONS:

I SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

TITLE AND SYMBOL: 20-111/50008 Foreign War Relief (Allotment to Treasury) 1941-45

By Presidential memorandum on September 12, 1944, it was directed that: "The unobligated balances of the funds allocated to the Treasury Department from the same sources as above, but not in an amount in excess of $285,000, shall be available to the Secretary of the Treasury to procure the materials, other than agricultural supplies, necessary for the packaging and transportation of the parcels and for reimbursement to the American National Red Cross for the cost of the packaging and transportation of the parcels to the International Committee of the Red Cross."

EXPENDITURES TO 12/31/44

$29,134.27	Cartons

OBLIGATIONS TO 12/31/44

$29,304.69	Cartons
170.42	Glue
705.00	Seals and Straps
332.50	Liner Paper
42,750.00	Packing and Handling
114,000.00	Overseas Transportation
$187,262.61	TOTAL

0 0 0 1 1 4

II. WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION

TITLE AND SYMBOL: 12-111/50008 (80)-Foreign War Relief (Allotment to Agriculture, Office of the Secretary) 1941-1945 (CCC)

By Presidential memorandum on September 12, 1944, it was directed that: "The unobligated balances of funds allocated to the Department of Agriculture from the appropriations for Foreign War Relief, continued available until June 30, 1945 by the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1944, shall be available to the War Food Administration to procure necessary agricultural supplies up to a value of $783,750."

EXPENDITURES TO 12/31/44

0.00

OBLIGATIONS TO 12/31/44

$309,134.09 Food items

There were shipped to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the American National Red Cross (acting as agent for War Refugee Board) a total of 285,000 three-kilo food parcels; 224,328 of these parcels with an over-all value of $477,819 (unit cost - $2.13) were shipped to Gothenburg, Sweden; 60,672 of these parcels with an over-all value of $100,113 (unit cost $1.65) were shipped to Toulon, France for consignment to the International Committee of the Red Cross. The parcels were actually distributed by the International Committee of the Red Cross to persons in concentration and refugee camps in Germany and German-controlled territory and not distributed in Sweden or France. The figures for over-all and unit prices were computed by the American National Red Cross.

PJMcCormack:ar 2/10/45

000115

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0 0 0 1 1 6

FEB 8 1945

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

My dear Mr. O'Connor:

There is transmitted herewith a memorandum signed by President Roosevelt authorizing, among other things, the acquisition commercially of food parcels by the Procurement Division of the United States Treasury to be consigned to the American National Red Cross for shipment to the International Committee of the Red Cross for ultimate distribution to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Inclosure

JJM
JJMcCormack:ar 2/7/45

000117

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000118

FEB 8 1945

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Treasury
Procurement Division
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Robert LeFevre

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith a memorandum signed by President Roosevelt authorizing, among other things, the acquisition commercially of food parcels by the Procurement Division of the United States Treasury to be consigned to the American National Red Cross for shipment to the International Committee of the Red Cross for ultimate distribution to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Enclosure

PJMcCormack:tr 2/7/45

000119

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FEB 8 1945

Memorandum

To: Deputy Commissioner D. S. Bliss
Bureau of Internal Revenue

From: Florence Hodel, Assistant Executive
Director, War Refugee Board

The War Refugee Board, through Treasury Procurement Division, is about to purchase from a private vendor 300,000 food parcels which will be consigned to the International Red Cross for distribution to persons in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe.

Treasury Procurement proposes to purchase 300,000 packages of tax-free cigarettes, one each of which will be placed in said 300,000 parcels. Treasury Procurement likewise follows the practice in such contracts with private vendors of placing inspectors in the plant or plants where such packaging for Government is done. (This method of inspection was employed by the American National Red Cross in 1942 and 1943 when their standard prisoner-of-war parcels were being packed by private vendors.)

Mr. G. J. Hawthorne, Assistant Chief, Purchase and Supply, United States Treasury Procurement Division, who is handling this transaction for War Refugee Board, had this suggestion to make with a view to protecting this Government's interest in the handling of tax-free cigarettes under such circumstances: (a) Delivery to be made to Treasury Procurement in New York and a sufficient amount of cigarettes to be delivered out by them daily to the private vendor to accommodate his packing schedule. (b) The private vendor to be required to provide inventories (rate of submission to be determined) to Treasury Procurement, New York.

It is our understanding that it is necessary to file Form 663 to cover the procurement of these tax-free cigarettes. We would appreciate confirmation of this and advice from you as to the manner in which these cigarettes should be handled, both by Treasury Procurement and the private vendor, as well as the procedure to be followed with respect to inventory reports.

(Signed) Florence Hodel

PJMcCormack:ar 2/6/45

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

February 6, 1945

7 p.m.

1945 FEB 8 PM 12 29

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

Gen Ref Bd.
Pedle

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

CONTROL COPY

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.

945

Shipment of clothing in parcels from Sweden to Bergen-Belsen as proposed Stockholm's 173, January 30 to London, repeated to Department as Stockholm's 364, has our approval in principle, FROM DEPARTMENT AND FEA FOR EWD, provided Intercross can give reasonable assurances that parcels will reach addressees and that satisfactory information regarding receipt of clothing parcels authorized in November 1944 (REEMBS 9817, November 10) has been received. We question advisability of including Theresienstadt in view of increasing difficulties in connection with internal transportation Germany and proximity of that camp to Eastern zone military operations. However, if Intercross can secure delivery, we would offer no objection to shipments in controlled amounts to this camp. If Theresienstadt eliminated, amount of clothing authorized for shipment should be reduced proportionately. If MEW agrees, inform Stockholm repeating to Washington.

GREW
Acting
(EDK)

740.00115 EW/1-3045

SWP:EDK:EHJ 2-3-45

Approved by Miss Camp, FEA

Proposed copy not received in files

CE WRB

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

000123

Sent pkgs for unidentified Germans

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement. [redacted]

February 6, 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF

p.m.

War Ref Bd
Pehle

1945 FEB 7 PM 4 54

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

CONTROL COPY

AMLEGATION

BERN

593

The cable below for McClelland is WRB 390.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland from Arieh Tartakower, World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Number 304 negotiated proper authorities concerning allocation Redeross funds for distribution Jews internment camps after liberation such camps. No such plan known here besides more information needed what camps we have in mind. Please send more information this subject. War Refugee Board allowed us send you all names known to us Jews interned in order that same may profit War Refugee Board parcel scheme. Will compile list near future. Cabled also Kubowitzki and Hollander Stockholm send you such lists which you transmit McClelland. In meantime transmit all names you have to him. UNQUOTE

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

GREW
(ACTING)
(GLW)

WRB:MMV:KG
2/6/45

WE

SWP

RECEIVED

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

000123

CABLE TO LEGATION, BERN, SWITZERLAND, FOR MCCLELLAND

Please deliver following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland from Arieh Tartakover, World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Number 304 negotiated proper authorities concerning allocation Redcross funds for distribution Jews internment camps after liberation such camps stop No such plan known here besides more information needed what camps we have in mind stop Please send more information this subject stop War Refugee Board allowed us send you all names known to us Jews interned in order that same may profit War Refugee Board parcel scheme stop Will compile list near future stop Cabled also Kubowitzki London and Hellander Stockholm send you such lists which you transmit McClelland stop In meantime transmit all names you have to him. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 300.

11:00 a.m.
February 3, 1945

Copy sent
WJC
2/3/45
RJ

Miss Chauncey (for the Secy) Ackermann, Akain, Cohn, Drury, Dubois, Gaston, Hodel, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files
Bakeimier 2/2/45

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— 2024-9C

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-4

January 23rd, 1945

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

In reply refer to
#308

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

We would be most grateful to you if you would be good enough to send the following cable to our representative in Geneva, Gerhard Riegner:

"To: Gerhard Riegner
37 Quai Wilson
Geneva (Switzerland)

From: Arieh Tartakower

Number 304 negotiated proper authorities concerning allocation Redcross funds for distribution Jews internment camps after liberation such camps stop No such plan known here besides more information needed what camps we have in mind stop Please send more information this subject stop Warrefugeeboard allowed us send you all names known to us Jews interned inorder that same may profit Warrefugeeboard parcel scheme stop Will compile list near future stop cabled also Kubowitzki London and Hollander Stockholm send you such lists which you transmit McClellan stop In meantime transmit all names you have to him"

Very sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman
Rescue Department

KRG:tl

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

SAG
Distribution of this telegram
reading only by special
arrangement. ([redacted])

February 6, 1945
6 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
1945 FEB 7 PM 4 53

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

CONTROL COPY

LEGATION

STOCKHOLM
218

The cable below for Olsen is WRB 304.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee Postbox 7306, Stockholm from Dr. Arich Tartakower of World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergenbelsen inmates: Baumgarten, Marion, Thomas; Cohen, Aaron, Amalia; Hesse, Nathan, Marta; de Jong, Emmy (nee Meyer), Moos; de Jongh, Klara & Son, Maximilian; Klau, Rosa, Ursula; Moller, Minna & 2 daughters, Edith. UNQUOTE

GREW
(ACTING)
(GLW)

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

WRB:MMV:KG
2/5/45

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SWP

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

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Please deliver following message to Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee Postbox 7306, Stockholm from Dr. Arieh Tartakower of World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergen-Belsen inmates: Baumgarten, Marion, Thomas; Cohen, Aaron, Amalia; Hesse, Nathan, Marta; de Jong, Emmy (nee Meyer), Moos; de Jongh, Klara & Son, Maximilian; Klau, Resa, Ursula; Moller, Minna & 2 daughters, Edith. UNQUOTE

This is WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 304

12:30 p.m.
February 2, 1945

MissChauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files

Comment WFC 2/3/45 RS

BAkzin:ar 2/1/45

Ba 74 -

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 174-4

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

In reply refer to: No. 316

January 31, 1945

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Dr. Akzin

Dear Sirs:

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 7306, Stockholm
From: Dr. Arieh Tartakower

Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergen-Belsen inmates: Baumgarten, Marion, Thomas; Cohen, Aaron, Amalia; Hesse, Nathan, Marta; de Jong, Emmy (nee Meyer), Moos; de Jongh, Klara & Son, Maximilian; Klau, Resa, Ursula; Moller, Minna & 2 daughters, Edith."

Thank you for giving this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

KURT R. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department

KRG:bm

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

ELP-444
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement. ([redacted])

Bern

Dated February 2, 1945

Rec'd 1:15 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington.

744, February 2, 1 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

In line with Legation's 416, January 20, exchangees from Bergen Belsen (BB) recently in Switzerland.

Reported that upwards of 25,000 men and women (Jewish) deportees arrived in BB early in January from Auschwitz and adjoining upper Silesian camps. They were "housed" under most primitive conditions in tents in BB and will, it appears, be transferred progressively to other parts of Germany as labor.

Exchangees from BB were in state of acute under-nourishment, three having died during their stay here. I have every reason to believe this situation is far from confined to BB but common to all German concentration camps and deportee work companies. Fact that tens of thousands of internees in similar or worse physical condition are liable to be found as Germany is occupied by Allied forces should be drawn to attention of competent military authorities and UNRRA anew.

BB exchangees

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

000139

BB exchanges further reported although parcels reaching camp were properly delivered to them number was pitifully inadequate to need. According to all available information this due to deterioration in land transport in Germany rather than to any withholding of packages, which are generally distributed if they actually reach a camp. Any favorable action, accordingly, which could be taken on basis of Legation's 455, January 22, would be of greatest value.

HUDDLE

JT

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FEB 2 1945

Dear Mr. McClelland:

In connection with the food parcel programs of the War Refugee Board and of the International Committee of the Red Cross, I enclose for your information the attached lists received from the World Jewish Congress in New York and stated to contain the names of Jews interned in Terezin (pages 1 to 227) and Bergen Belsen (page 1).

On the basis of information available to you, you may wish to consider whether these lists should be utilized as a basis for sending individual packages to persons in the above-named camps.

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Representative of the
War Refugee Board,
% United States Legation,
Bern, Switzerland.

Enclosures.

BA:FH:hd 2/2/45

000138

000137

Food Pkgs for unassembled Persons

SAO

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Distribution of [illegible] reading only by special arrangement. (SECRET)

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CONTROL COPY

1945 FEB 3 PM 5 27

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

Non Ref Bd

Pedle

AMEMBASSY

LISBON

206

The cable below is WRB 134.

Please deliver paraphrase of the following message to Robert Pilpel, Lisbon, from M. A. Leavitt, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE Isaac Edersheim and Dutch Committee Switzerland cabled Netherland Committee here that Saly Mayer refuses provide International Red Cross with funds for food parcels to internees. They claim they have 3000 persons their list which being used by War Refugee Board for parcels from Sweden but they state quicker send parcels from Switzerland. Inform Saly Mayer and cable report. UNQUOTE

(Action)
(Info)

[redacted]

For security reasons the text of this message must [illegible]

WRB:MAV:KG
2/2/45

WE

SWP

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

000138

CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, LISBON, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Robert Pilpel, Lisbon,

from M. A. Leavitt, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE ISAAC SEEESHEIM AND DUTCH COMMITTEE SWITZERLAND CABLED NETHERLAND COMMITTEE HERE THAT BALY MAYER REFUSES PROVIDE INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS WITH FUNDS FOR FOOD PARCELS TO INTERNEES STOP THEY CLAIM THEY HAVE 3000 PERSONS THEIR LIST WHICH BEING USED BY WAR REFUGEE BOARD FOR PARCELS FROM SWEDEN BUT THEY STATE QUICKER SEND PARCELS FROM SWITZERLAND STOP INFORM BALY MAYER AND CABLE REPORT UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB LISBON CABLE NO. 134.

4:00 p.m.
January 31, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files

Comment
JDC
2/1/45
RS

Filmgr 1/31/45

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

1945 FEB 1 AM 9 55

MS-1831
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement. [redacted]

Bern
Dated January 31, 1945
Rec'd 6:11 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

CONTROL COPY

Secretary of State,

Washington.

690, January 31, 5 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

Please refer paragraph two Legation's 216, January 12.

ICRC has now received definite confirmation that three freight cars containing our first shipment of WRB parcels via Goteborg previously reported held up at Warnemuende went forward to concentration camps early in January.

HUDDLE

JT

[redacted]
For security re[illegible]
text of this mes[illegible]
be closely g[illegible]

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

000141

000142

1/31/45

To: Mr. Hack

From: Miss Hodel

Attention: Mr. Robt. LeFevre

In accordance with your memorandum of January 13, 1945, to Mr. J. W. Pehle, the War Refugee Board requests that Treasury Procurement arrange to purchase for the War Refugee Board and for consignment to the American National Red Cross for shipment to the International Committee of the Red Cross 300,000 three-kilo food parcels in accordance with the attached outline on food requirements and packing specifications.

There is also attached a copy of the memorandum that has been forwarded to the White House for presidential signature, obligating $1,125,000 of the Foreign War Relief Appropriation for this purpose.

Assistant Executive Director

Attachments.

RJM

PJMcCormack:ar 1/30/45

000143

WAR REFUGEE BOARD FOOD PARCELS

Food Requirements

Each of the 300,000 three-kilo food parcels are to contain one each of the following items:

Biscuits, K 2 (or equivalent) pkg.	6¼ oz.
Cheese (tin)	8 oz.
Whole Powdered Milk (tin)	16 oz.
Oleomargarine (tin)	16 oz.
Salmon or Tuna (tin)	8 oz.
Meat (tin)	12 oz.
Chocolate Bar (or equivalent) pkg.	4 oz.
Bar of Soap pkg.	2 oz.
Cigarettes pkg.	3/4 oz.
Multi Vitamin Capsules pkg.	—
Sugar (cubes) pkg.	8 oz.

With respect to the meat item, it is recommended that 150,000 tins be Kosher.

With respect to cigarettes, it is suggested that Treasury Procurement purchase same for such vendor and/or vendors by whom the finished parcels shall be produced.

Specifications

Biscuits, K 2: In accordance with Quartermaster Corps tentative specifications No. CQD 176-A, Type II, Crackers, whole wheat, square (inner containers 4" x 2-3/4" x 2-3/4").

Cheese: All of the processed cheese shall conform to the applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act of June 25, 1938, as amended, and to amendments, regulations and decisions pertaining thereto, and shall be packed in tins of the size 300 x 208 holding 8 oz. net, which shall be lacquered on the inside and lined with parchment. Keys will not be required and the can

000144

need not be scored.

Whole Powdered Milk: All of the milk shall meet the requirements for spray process dried whole milk set forth in "Tentative U. S. Standards for Grades of Dried Skim Milk and Dried Whole Milk" dated May 14, 1943, and shall be packed in vacuumized, hermetically sealed cans with inert gas added and keys, 16 oz. net to the tin.

Oleomargarine: The Oleomargarine shall meet all applicable requirements of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act of June 25, 1938, as amended, and to amendments, regulations and decisions pertaining thereto, and shall, in all other respects, meet the requirements of all other Federal agencies regulating the production of this commodity. It shall contain not more than 15 per cent moisture, 3.5 per cent salt and not more than 0.1 per cent of the weight of the finished product of sodium benzoate or benzoic acid, but no other preservatives. The product may contain an emulsifier or combination of emulsifiers, approved under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic regulations, not exceeding 0.5 per cent of the weight of the finished product. Oleomargarine having the above characteristics shall be prepared from fats, or blends of fats, having a melting point (Wiley) of 36° to 38° C. Vegetable oil other than cottonseed or peanut oil used shall have been hydrogenated sufficiently to reduce the Iodine number to 80 (Wijs) or less. The commodity shall be packed in one-pound labeled tins lacquered inside and outside.

Fish (Salmon or Tuna): Fish delivered shall meet the requirements of Federal Specifications for canned salmon PP-S-31a, dated July 29, 1942, sections B to F, inclusive, provided that except for Reds and Chinooks Section E-1 of such Specifications shall be revised for the purpose of this contract to delete the words "shall be reasonably free from watermarking" and insert in lieu thereof the words "watermarking shall be scored only when texture, color of flesh, amount of oil, odor, and flavor have been affected."

If cans are manufactured from tin plate lighter than 1.25 hot dipped plate, all parts of such cans manufactured from such plates shall be inside and outside enameled. At the time of delivery cans shall be sound and clean, free from rust and serious dent.

Meat: a. The item of pork luncheon meat shall be in accordance with Federal Specifications FSCC 10, Item 1600 and shall be packed in 12 oz. tins.

b. Kosher Corned Beef, packed similarly as was procured from Feinberg Kosher Sausage Company, 809 Lyndale Avenue, North, Minneapolis, Minnesota, on Contract AW-f(F)-13809.

Chocolate Bar: Each chocolate bar shall be prepared from the following ingredients only, in proportion by weight as follows:

Chocolate, plain, mildy dutched, adjusted to 54% cacao fat:	30 parts
Sugar: granulated	40 parts
Milk solids, nonfat, dry, powdered, previously designated as Milk, dry powdered skimmed	20 parts
Added cacao fat:	10 parts
Vanillin: Ethyl Vanillin	1/10 parts or 1/30 "

Thiamin Hydrochloride: Sufficient thiamin hydrochloride shall be added to the Chocolate Bar formula to give not less than 0.450 milligrams vitamin B to each four-ounce bar.

Packaging

Each individual Chocolate Bar shall be wrapped in twenty-five pound minimum basis weight glassine paper which shall contain not less than 8 per cent of a hygroscopic plasticizing agent. Each wrap shall be glued along the full length of the longitudinal seam and both end folds. Wrappers other than that specified will be considered if samples and specifications are submitted and provided such wrappers are sealed as specified above. One major surface of the bar's wrapping, or label, shall be legibly printed as follows:

4-ounce Chocolate Bar

INGREDIENTS: Sugar, Chocolate, Skim Milk
Powder, Cacao fat, Artificial Flavoring, 0.450 mg.
Vitamin B (Thiamin Hydrochloride).
4 ounces net
Packaged by _____

Soap: Milled or Floating shall be in 2 ounce odorless bars - triple wrapped in wax glassine wrapper, all overlaps heat sealed. If milled, the soap shall conform to all applicable provisions of Federal Specification P-S-621a, except Amendment 1. If floating, the soap shall conform to all applicable provisions of Federal Specification P-S-616a, except Amendment 1 and except that maximum matter insoluble in water shall be .4% instead of .2% as provided.

Cigarettes: This item shall be of such brands as are available and as procured directly by Treasury Procurement Division.

Multi-Vitamin Capsules: Shall be packed 16 tablets to the package, each tablet to contain not less than the following:

Vitamin A	2500 units
" D	200 units
" C	37½ mg.
" B1	(Thiamin) 1 mg.
" B2	(Riboflavin) 1.5 mg.
Niacin Amid	10 mg.

Sugar: White, tablet or cube in 8-ounce packages.

Each item shall be marked with the contractor's commercial label which shall comply with all applicable regulations and statutes, but this label must not include any design or other patriotic slogan or emblem.

Packing Specifications

The 300,000 individual containers shall be as follows:

Fibre, 275 lb. test, .016/.030

Size: 9-5/8 x 6-1/4 x 4-1/2

These containers shall be devoid of all markings including usual test markings.

The 50,000 shipping cartons shall be as follows:

.100 Fibre

Size: 19-7/8 x 9-15/16 x 10-1/8

These cartons shall be devoid of manufacturer's markings including test stamp except that on each of two ends shall appear:

To: International Red Cross Committee

Weight: 43 lbs. Cubic Feet: 1.32

There shall likewise appear on each of two ends and two sides an identifying circle five inches in outside diameter with a 3/4" solid color ring. Fifty per cent (25,000) shall bear the letter "K" in the circle.

Six (6) of the individual food parcels shall be packed to each shipping carton. Each shipping carton shall contain top and bottom a sheet of water proofing described as:

9½x19½
Kraft Asphalt Kraft 30-30-30

0 0 0 1 4 7

Glueing:

a) The individual 300,000 cartons shall be sealed with #55A (made by National Starch Co., New York) or its equivalent.

b) The shipping cartons shall be sealed with a waterproof glue such as #737 RC2 (made by Dewey & Almy, Cambridge, Mass.) or its equivalent.

Strapping:

Each shipping carton shall be strapped and sealed with two bands around the sides with 3/8 x .015 special steel straps and #37 seals (Acme Steel)

Receipt Cards:

Each of the individual food parcels shall contain receipt card printed identical with the attached sample.

000142

C
O
P
Y

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 31, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretary of the Treasury
Chairman of the American National Red Cross
Executive Director of the War Refugee Board

Since the procurement and shipment of the 285,000 food packages for distribution to victims of enemy persecution in Europe, referred to in my memorandum of September 12, 1944, have been successfully completed, the Executive Director of the War Refugee Board has recommended that an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels be procured by this Government for similar distribution to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps located in that part of Europe now held or occupied by the enemy.

In order that this program may be put into effect as rapidly as possible, it is directed that the following steps be taken at once:

(1) The unobligated balances of funds allocated to the Treasury Department from the appropriations for Foreign War Relief, continued available until June 30, 1945, by the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1944, shall be available to the Secretary of the Treasury up to a value of $1,125,000 to procure commercially these parcels and for reimbursement to the American National Red Cross for the cost of warehousing within the United States and the ultimate transportation of these parcels to the International Committee of the Red Cross. As agreed between Treasury Procurement Division and the War Refugee Board, the Director of Procurement shall arrange for the purchase of these parcels for delivery to the American National Red Cross.

(2) As agreed between the American National Red Cross and the War Refugee Board, the Chairman of the American National Red Cross shall arrange for the warehousing within the United States and shipping of the 300,000 three-kilo food parcels to the International Committee of the Red Cross for ultimate distribution among such unassimilated persons.

(3) The Executive Director of the War Refugee Board shall exercise over-all responsibility for this project.

(Signed) FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

000150

000151

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

File.

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 174-4

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

In reply refer to
No. 317

January 31, 1945

Brig. General William O'Dwyer, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear General:

With reference to my letter of January 29th, I am enclosing herewith a continuation of the list of Jews interned in Theresienstadt as well as a list of persons in Bergen Belsen which I would appreciate your forwarding to Mr. McClellan in Switzerland, in order that these people may benefit from the War Refugee Board food parcel scheme.

I trust that you will give this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

KURT R. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department

KRG:bm
Enc.

No attachments when received in file

000152

000153

Food Pkgs to Nazi-held Persons

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

January 31, 1945

7 p.m.

EG
Distribution of this reading only by special arrangement. ([redacted])

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

1945 FEB 1 PM 2 27

Gen Ref. Bd.

CONTROL COPY

LEGATION

STOCKHOLM

173

The following for Olsen is WRB 301.

Representatives of World Jewish Congress have recently asked Board to consider expansion of food parcel scheme from Sweden. Before considering this proposal, Board would appreciate report from you on present program involving food packages purchased in Sweden for inmates at Bergen-Belsen. Board would also appreciate your recommendations on possible expansion of the program which would include deliveries to camps other than Bergen-Belsen. For your information representatives of World Jewish Congress also approached Mann in London on the same matter and specifically requested that WRB funds be used for the proposed expansion.

GREW
(Acting)
(GLM)

[redacted]

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

WRB:MMV:EG
1/30/45

NOE

SWP

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

000154

CABLE TO JOHNSON IN STOCKHOLM FOR OLSEN FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Representatives of World Jewish Congress have recently asked Board to consider expansion of food parcel scheme from Sweden. Before considering this proposal, Board would appreciate report from you on present program involving food packages purchased in Sweden for inmates at Bergen-Belsen. Board would also appreciate your recommendations on possible expansion of the program which would include deliveries to camps other than Bergen-Belsen. For your information representatives of World Jewish Congress also approached Mann in London on the same matter and specifically requested that WRB funds be used for the proposed expansion.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 301.

1:30 p.m.
January 30, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files

FH:agr 1-30-45 724

000156

File

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

4321

Office of Supply (CCC)

January 30, 1945

Mr. Paul J. McCormack
War Refugee Board
Main Treasury Building, Room 4413
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCormack:

Pursuant to telephone conversation of today, we are enclosing herewith copies of purchase announcements setting forth the specifications for the soap, oleomargarine, chocolate bars, cheese, milk and ascorbic acid tablets, which were requested, among other items, by the American Red Cross under their Requisitions WRB-2 and WRB-3.

With respect to the biscuits, the purchase of this item was made in accordance with Quartermaster Corps tentative specifications No. CQD 176-A, Type II, Crackers, whole wheat, square (inner containers 4" x 2-3/4" x 2-3/4"). We do not have a copy of these specifications in our files, but a copy can be secured from the Army Quartermaster at Chicago, Illinois.

The type of sugar purchased was described as white, tablet or cube, in 8-ounce packages.

The item of pork luncheon meat was purchased in accordance with Federal Specifications FSCC 10, Item 1600. We do not have a copy of these specifications in our files but any meat canner will recognise and have on file a copy of the specifications mentioned.

As you know, the item of Kosher Corned Beef was handled as a negotiated purchase from Feinberg Kosher Sausage Company, 809 Lyndale Avenue, North, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Contract AW-f(F)-13809 was issued to cover the negotiation.

Please do not hesitate to call on us for any additional information which you may desire.

Very truly yours,

H. W. Prentice

H. W. Prentice
Program Liaison

Enclosures (6)

000157

Fish delivered shall meet the requirements of Federal Specifications for canned salmon PP-S-31a, dated July 29, 1942, sections B to F, inclusive, provided that except for Reds and Chinooks Section E-1 of such Specifications shall be revised for the purpose of this contract to delete the words "shall be reasonably free from watermarking" and insert in lieu thereof the words "watermarking shall be scored only when texture, color of flesh, amount of oil, odor, and flavor have been affected.

If cans are manufactured from tin plate lighter than 1.25 hot dipped plate, all parts of such cans manufactured from such plates shall be inside and outside enameled. At the time of delivery cans shall be sound and clean, free from rust and serious dent.

Cans shall be embossed with the code word "Salmon" or shall be so marked with indelible ink. Embossing may be on either end of can. Ink marking may be on the body or either end of the can and the ink shall meet specifications O.Q.M.G. S.P.Q.R.D. 400.1141.

4321"

[redacted]

Salter

Multi-Vitamin Capsules

Multi Vitamin Capsules 16 tablets per
Approx less than the follo
Vitamin A 2500 units
" D 500 units
" C 37½ mg.
" B1 (Thiamin) 1 mg.
" B2 (Riboflavin) 1.5 mg
Niacin Amid 10 mg.

Parke - Davis

000160

1/30/45 12:45

To: Mr. McCormack

Mr. Latta's office called (Executive Clerk, White House) in connection with memo Budget sent to their office. They have received the papers but no action has been taken as yet. They will let you know as soon as action is taken.

R.C.

0 0 0 1 6 1

0 0 0 1 6 2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

War Ref Bd
Pehle

BG-1588
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. ([redacted] 0)

1945 JAN 31 PM 2 28

Stockholm

Dated January 30, 1945

Rec'd 8:45 p.m.

(LIAISON)

CONTROL COPY

Secretary of State

Washington

364, January 30, 6 p.m.

The following telegram has been sent to the Embassy at London.

173, January 30, 6 p.m.

World Jewish Congress representative in Sweden requesting approval ship 50 tons clothing in 2 1/2 kilogram parcels to Jewish internees (my 364 January 30, 6 p.m. repeats this message to Department) in German concentration camps at the Resienstadt and Bergen Belsen under same conditions outlined in Legation's 1281 October 14, 6 p.m. to London repeated Department as Legation's 4181 and approved by London 587 October 18, 9 p.m. to Legation sent Department as London's 8907 and Department's 2111 October 20, 8 p.m. to Legation repeated London as Department's 8720.

British and Legation recommend approval and would appreciate early decision.

JOHNSON

JMS

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

000163

000164

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 174-4

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

In reply refer to
No. 314

January 29, 1945

Brig. Gen. Thomas O'Dwyer, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear General:

Attached you will find a list of Jews interned in Theresienstadt which you will be good enough to send to your representative, Mr. McClellan, in Switzerland in order that these people may, for the first time, benefit from the War Refugee Board food parcel scheme. Additional lists will follow shortly.

I trust that you will give this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

KURT R. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department

KRG:bm
Enc.

000163

000166

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DD
Distribution of this
reading only by special
arrangement ([redacted] W)

January 26, 1945

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

1945 JAN 27 PM 3 41

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

CONTROL COPY

AHLEGATION

STOCKHOLM
142

The cable below for Olsen is WRB 297.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee, Postbox 7306, Stockholm, from Dr. Arieh Tartakower of World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergenbelsen inmates: Block, Sally, Hans; Van Esso, Henri, Rebekka; Fischelberg, Fela, Wolf, Leopold, Min; Hecht, Bruno, Alice (nee Fabian), Richard, Edith (nee Stempel); Facks, Erich, Rose; Kurz, Klara and two children; Presseisen, Moritz Heinrich, Flora, Hans (or Josua), Salomon, Ernst Leopold; Skop-Faur, Lothar; Rosenthal, Minna, Eduard, Erna, Peter; Sachs, Gertrud (nee Bernstein); Schoenbeck, Hans, Trude, Ellen, Inge, Klaus; Weigert, Rudolf; Zwiebel, Nissen, Cyla Hechla; Slagter, Leon, Rebecca. UNQUOTE

GREW
(Acting)
(GLW)

ACTING

WRB:MMV:KG
1/25/45

NOE

SWP

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

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

CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, STOCKHOLM, FOR OLSEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver following message to Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee, Postbox 7306, Stockholm, from Dr. Arieh Tartakower of World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE KINDLY HAVE FOODPARCELS FORWARDED FOLLOWING BEIGENBELSEN INMATES: BLECK, SALLY, HANS; VAN ESEO, HENRI, REBEKKA; FISCHELBERG, FELA, WOLF, LEOPOLD, MIN; HECHT, BRUNO, ALICE (NEE FABIAN), RICHARD, EDITH (NEE STEMPEL); FACKS, ERICH, ROSE; KURZ, KLARA AND TWO CHILDREN; PRESSEISEN, MORITZ HEINRICH, FLORA, HANS (OR JOSUA), SALOMON, ERNST LEOPOLD; SKOP-FAUR, LOTHAR; ROSENTHAL, MINNA, EDUARD, ERNA, PETER; SACHS, GERTRUD (NEE BERNSTEIN); SCHOENBECK, HANS, TRUDE, ELLEN, INGE, KLAUS; WEIGERT, RUDOLF; ZWIEBEL, NISSEN, CYLA RECHLA; SLAGTER, LEON, REBECCA. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 297.

Copy sent to World Jewish Congress
Per Miss Drury

10:30 a.m.
January 23, 1945.

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Files.

RD

RDrury 1/22/45

000168

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 174-4

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

In reply refer
to No.306

January 19, 1945

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

Attention: Dr. Akzin

Dear Sirs:

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 7306, Stockholm
From: Dr. Arieh Tartakower

Kindly have foodparcels forwarded following Bergen-Belsen inmates: Bleck, Sally, Hans; van Esso, Henri, Rebekka; Fischelberg, Fela, Wolf, Leopold, Min; Hecht, Bruno, Alice (nee Fabian), Richard, Edith (nee Stempel); Facks, Erich, Rose; Kurz, Klara & 2 children; Presseisen, Moritz Heinrich, Flora, Hans (or Josua), Salomon, Ernst Leopold; Skop-Faur, Lothar; Rosenthal, Minna, Eduard, Erna, Peter; Sachs, Gertrud (nee Bernstein); Schoenbeck, Hans, Trude, Ellen, Inge, Klaus; Weigert, Rudolf; Zwiebel, Nissen, Cyla Rechla; Slagter, Leon, Rebecca."

Thank you for giving this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

KURT R. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department

KRG:bm

000169

000170

JAN 26 1945

Dear Mr. Feinberg:

I have for acknowledgement your letter of January 23, 1945.

The purpose of this letter is to confirm the fact that the Feinberg Kosher Sausage Company was required, by virtue of the packing and shipping schedules of American National Red Cross, to meet a delivery dead-line on November 10, 1944. It is our understanding that in order to make delivery of an initial shipment on this date, motor as opposed to rail transportation had to be utilized.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Arnold Feinberg,
Feinberg Kosher Sausage Company,
809 - 817 Lyndale Avenue North,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

PJMcCormack:ro
1/26/45.

0 0 0 1 7 1

KOSHER SAUSAGE CO. · MINNEAPOLIS

FEINBERG

OPERATED UNDER U. S. GOVERNMENT INSPECTION

eight-o-nine to eight seventeen

Lyndale Avenue North

ESTABLISHED 1890

January 23, 1945.

War Refugee Board,
Room 4413 U. S. Treas. Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Mr. A. J. McCormick, Please

Dear Sir:

We have been having a little trouble collecting for our last shipment to the Red Cross, due to the fact that we made the shipment by truck instead of by rail as per the instructions on the government bill of lading.

If you remember, it was necessary to get the first shipment of cans in New York by November 10, and the only possible way to ship was by truck, which took five days from Minneapolis, while rail took from two to three weeks. At the time of shipment, when you, Mr. Brinkman, and the writer were discussing the necessity of having the product arrive in New York at this hurried date, no one thought about the instructions on the government bill of lading. The writer did not even notice any instructions on the bill of lading, as he assumed that all oral instructions from you were to be followed.

The Office of War Food Administration, realizing that we were just trying to accommodate the Red Cross, and that shipping by truck meant no additional revenue to us, has agreed, unofficially, to pay us the full amount if you or Mr. Brinkman will write us a letter to the effect that in our hurry to make certain boats you instructed us to ship by truck. If we do not receive such a letter from either you or Mr. Brinkman, they will deduct $575 from our last invoice, which is the difference between rail and truck rates on the two shipments. We would very much appreciate it if you would send us this letter because due to the trouble we ran into when canning this product, we did ourselves no good financially to begin with, and then if we are to lose an additional $575, it would be very unfair.

Yours very truly,

FEINBERG KOSHER SAUSAGE CO.

By: Arnold Feinberg

Feinberg's Finest Kosher Foods

Arnold Feinberg

AF/mkf

000172

000173

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

20 — 25 [illegible]

SH-1055
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement: [redacted]W)

Bern

Dated January 22, 1945

Rec'd 6:14 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

CONTROL COPY

455, January 22, 1 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

[redacted] security reasons the text of this message must be closely guarded.

In view rapid deterioration internal rail transport in Germany I am becoming increasingly concerned about dwindling possibilities of getting our WRB parcels to men and women in German concentration camps.

Germans are progressively more disinclined to make RR freight cars available to ICRC for all parcel services into Germany even that for POWS. Amcross representative Geneva tells me our Army officials plan induce Germans under Geneva Convention supply transport for POW parcels; but we can hope for no such leverage in case of shipments to unassimilated persons for whom Nazis only tolerate parcel distributions. I should therefore like to submit to Boards serious consideration proposition that four or five five to seven ton trucks be made available to me which could in turn be lent to ICRC Division of Special Relief for delivery WRB parcels to accessible camps.

Recently

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

Recently for instance ICRC delegate working out of their headquarters at Uffing near Munich obtained admission to hitherto unvisited and unknown camp of Lands Bergamlech in Eastern Bavaria. This camp housed some fifteen thousand internees eighty per cent Jewish deportees. Commander was unusually accomodating and if ICRC man had had any means of transportation or supply of parcels available at Uffing there would have been no difficulty about delivering them personally directly to this camp.

The same applies to Dachau which is just outside Munich.

Situation regarding accessibility all camps particularly Jewish in Vienna area to ICRC is developing most favorably.

SS group there in charge of these camps is headed by an Austrian Nazi named Ebner and includes a German SS named Krumey who is specifically in charge of all Hungarian Jewish deportees in Austria and is man directly responsible for physical delivery of two groups from Bergen Belsen to Switzerland. These two are displaying all signs of willingness to collaborate certainly in any relief activities if not in more interesting work.

This situation was first mentioned in Legation 7575 November 16, 1944 and was discussed at length about two weeks ago with Dr. Tudicum, ICRC delegate in Vienna.

in Vienna. If trucks were available this area great deal of good work could be accomplished.

I cite these two examples of Landsberg and Vienna to show that as Germany internally becomes more disorganized transportation breaks down but also camp commanders and isolated SS groups become increasingly independent and open to making of valuable local working arrangements.

Availability of trucks to ICRC delegates for actual delivery of parcels to camps has further important advantage of offering far superior control possibilities as to safe reception by intended beneficiairies than obtainable via German railroads when it is frequently most idfficult trace freight cars which may be held up for weeks and even months on sidings completely unknown to ICRC as recently occurred in Warnemuende affair.

It may be possible rent buy or otherwise acquire trucks here in Switzerland although Swiss Army is very strict about any transport equipment leaving country. In event trucks could be acquired provision would doubtless have to be made supply fuel and perhaps tires from outside.

I should most welcome expression Board's opinion this proposition as I would conservatively estimate time still available to us for this invaluable work at not more than four to five months.

HTM HUDDLE

12

0 0 0 1 7 7

DRAFT - 1/20/45

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: Secretary of the Treasury
Chairman of the American National Red Cross
Executive Director of the War Refugee Board

Since the procurement and shipment of the 285,000 food packages for distribution to victims of enemy persecution in Europe, referred to in my memorandum of September 12, 1944, have been successfully completed, the Executive Director of the War Refugee Board has recommended that an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels be procured by this Government for similar distribution to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps located in that part of Europe now held or occupied by the enemy.

In order that this program may be put into effect as rapidly as possible, it is directed that the following steps be taken at once:

(1) The unobligated balances of funds allocated to the Treasury Department from the appropriations for Foreign War Relief, continued available until June 30, 1945, by the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1944, shall be available to the Secretary of the Treasury up to a value of $1,125,000 to procure commercially these parcels and for reimbursement to the American National Red Cross for the cost of warehousing within the United States and the ultimate transportation of these parcels to the International Committee of the Red Cross. As agreed between Treasury Procurement Division and the War Refugee Board, the Director of Procurement shall arrange for the purchase of these parcels for delivery to the American National Red Cross.

(2) As agreed between the American National Red Cross and the War Refugee Board, the Chairman of the American National Red Cross shall arrange for the warehousing within the United States and shipping of the 300,000 three-kilo food parcels to the International Committee of the Red Cross for ultimate distribution among such unassimilated persons.

(3) The Executive Director of the War Refugee Board shall exercise over-all responsibility for this project.

1/22/45
Delivered by hand to Mr Waverley, Bur of Budget
PJM

Cleared
W - with Mr Pehle

P.J.McCormack:ar 1/20/45

000178

000179

Original delivered by hand to Mr. Hassett, Executive Mansion. 1/19/45 PJ McC

JAN 19 1945

My dear Mr. President:

It is recommended that the sum of $1,125,000 be committed for War Refugee Board purposes from the unobligated balance of the $85,000,000 made available by the Congress through the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act, 1941, and the Third Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Act, 1942, continued available until June 30, 1945, by the Second Deficiency Appropriation Act, 1944, and now allocated to Treasury Procurement. The purpose of this commitment would be for the procurement and shipment of 300,000 three-kilo food parcels for ultimate distribution by the International Committee of the Red Cross to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps in that part of Europe now held or occupied by the enemy.

You will recall that on September 12, 1944, commitments were made by you to the War Food Administrator and the Secretary of the Treasury covering the costs of packaging and shipping 285,000 three-kilo food parcels for similar distribution to unassimilated persons by the International Committee of the Red Cross. The American National Red Cross, which acted as packer and shipper in this instance, has now completed this project for the Board. This request for an additional allocation is to cover the costs of an expansion of this food parcel project and has been made possible by the approval of the American and British Blockade authorities.

We have discussed with officials of the American National Red Cross this specific use of these funds, and that organization has indicated that it interposes no objection to this request for the use of these funds by the War Refugee Board. Since the American National Red Cross is not in a position to arrange for the packaging of these parcels at this time, the matter of procuring the parcels commercially has been presented to officials of Treasury Procurement, which has indicated its willingness and ability to undertake the matter of procurement commercially for the Board. As in the past, shipping facilities will be extended to the Board by the American National Red Cross.

Faithfully yours,

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

The President,

The White House.

FDR. PJM
PJMcC:FH:hd 1/18/45

000188

TO:

MISS HODEL 2410

Title 11 of the First War Powers Act(Sec. 611, Title 50) authorizes the President to authorize any Government department exercising functions related to the prosecution of the war effort, to enter into contracts "without regard to the provisions of law relating to the making, performance *** of contracts whenever he deems such action would facilitate the prosecution of the war ***"

The President authorized the Treasury Department to enter into contracts in the manner indicated by the First War Powers Act in Executive Order No. 9023, dated January 14, 1942. See also Executive Order No. 9001, dated December 27, 1941 the terms of which are incorporated by reference into Executive Order No. 9023.

mjm

Noted JH

Matthew J. Marks TR-6

10

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE JAN 18 1945

TO Secretary Morgenthau

FROM J. W. Pehle

1

Unless you see some objection, we are moving forward to obtain, through the Bureau of the Budget, Presidential clearance for the use of $1,125,000 from the unobligated balance of the appropriations of Foreign War Relief for the procurement and shipment of 300,000 food parcels for distribution by the International Red Cross to persons in German concentration camps. Treasury Procurement will obtain the parcels from commercial contractors and the American Red Cross will handle the shipping to the International Red Cross. The project has been approved by the American and British Blockade authorities.

This program is an extension of the project which we undertook last fall for the shipment of 300,000 food parcels to persons in German internment camps. The first shipment has been completed and the packages are now being distributed by the International Red Cross.

J W Pehle

This was cleared orally with the Secretary this morning 1/19

J.W.P.

JAN 1 8 1945

Secretary Morgenthau

J. W. Pehle

Unless you see some objection, we are moving forward to obtain, through the Bureau of the Budget, Presidential clearance for the use of $1,125,000 from the unobligated balance of the appropriations of Foreign War Relief for the procurement and shipment of 300,000 food parcels for distribution by the International Red Cross to persons in German concentration camps. Treasury Procurement will obtain the parcels from commercial contractors and the American Red Cross will handle the shipping to the International Red Cross. The project has been approved by the American and British Blockade authorities.

This program is an extension of the project which we undertook last fall for the shipment of 300,000 food parcels to persons in German internment camps. The first shipment has been completed and the packages are now being distributed by the International Red Cross.

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

FH:hd 1/18/45

0 0 0 1 8 4

9.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

PROCUREMENT DIVISION

WASHINGTON 25

1/17 ?

Miss Florence Hodel
Special Assistant to the Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

The current balance under the Foreign War Relief Appropriation, about which you inquired in your letter of today, is $4,645,706.

It is understood, however, that the Red Cross has made commitments that would reduce the available balance to $2,340,000. This still leaves a sum sufficient to permit the contemplated allotment.

Very truly yours,

William W. Parsons

William W. Parsons
Executive Officer

000186

0 0 0 1 8 7

JAN 16 1945

Dear Mr. Parsons:

The War Refugee Board proposes to request the President to commit, from the Foreign War Relief Appropriation allocated to Treasury Procurement, the sum of $1,125,000 for the purchase of food parcels to be distributed to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps in territory now held or occupied by the enemy. It has been agreed between the War Refugee Board and Treasury Procurement that these parcels shall be purchased by Treasury Procurement Division. Their distribution, under agreement between War Refugee Board and the International Committee of the Red Cross, will be handled by the latter agency.

It has been suggested by the Bureau of the Budget that we secure from you a letter stating that there is a sufficient unobligated balance to cover this expenditure. We have discussed this specific use of $1,125,000 from the Foreign War Relief Appropriation with officials of the American National Red Cross, and that organization interposes no objection to the proposed use of these funds.

An early reply will be appreciated from you with respect to the amount of the unobligated balance of the Foreign War Relief Appropriation allocated to Treasury Procurement.

Very truly yours,

/S/ Florence Hodal

Florence Hodal
Special Assistant to the
Executive Director

Mr. William W. Parsons,
Executive Officer,
Procurement Division,
U.S. Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

PJMcC FH

PJM:rh 1/16/45

000188

Draft - 1/10/45

Mr. William W. Parsons
Executive Officer
Procurement Division
U.S. Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Parsons:

The War Refugee Board proposes to request the President to commit, from the Foreign War Relief Appropriation allocated to Treasury Procurement, the sum of $1,125,000 for the purchase of food parcels to be distributed to unassimilated persons in concentration and refugee camps in territory now held or occupied by the enemy. It has been agreed between the War Refugee Board and Treasury Procurement that these parcels shall be purchased by Treasury Procurement Division. Their distribution, under agreement between War Refugee Board and the International Committee of the Red Cross, will be handled by the latter agency.

It has been suggested by the Bureau of the Budget that we secure from you a letter stating that there is a sufficient unobligated balance to cover this expenditure. We have discussed this specific use of $1,125,000 from the Foreign War Relief Appropriation with officials of the American National Red Cross, and that organization interposes no objection to the proposed use of these funds. ~~by the Board.~~

~~May we therefore expect to hear from you at your early convenience~~ An early reply will be appreciated from you with respect to the amount of the unobligated balance of the Foreign War Relief Appropriation allocated to Treasury Procurement.

Very truly yours,

Executive Director

~~J. W. Pehle~~

Special Assistant

000183

7.

000190

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AIR MAIL

[redacted]

Bern, January 15, 1945.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am happy to enclose for the Board's examination a detailed distribution chart made up by the Division of Special Relief of the International Committee of the Red Cross covering some 142,365 WRB food parcels out of the second lot which arrived at Göteborg on the SS SAIVE. This will give you a clearer picture of the highly complicated nature of properly organizing the distribution of our parcels and an indication as to the pains taken by the I.C.R.C. in behalf of this work. The International Committee has asked me to inform you that the names of the camps should be considered as strictly confidential as any publication of this list or leakage regarding our program would run the most serious risk of seriously jeopardizing its successful carrying-out. As you are aware the Germans, at best, only tolerate the distribution of such parcels and the I.C.R.C. has carefully and gradually built up the possibility of distributing them in so many places by virtue of local, "ad hoc" arrangements with camp commanders. And in view of the desperate situation of these thousands of men and women every effort should be made to continue this small flow of vital packages to them.

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

Very sincerely yours,
Roswell D. McClelland
Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

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

Tableau de distribution des colis du "War Refugee Boa

NORVEGIENS				POLONAIS				TCHÈQUES				YOUGOSLAVES				LUXEMBOURGEOIS				DIVERS				
Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		
N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	
	15				740		1000		115		400		65				20				15			BUCH
	1835		2200		540		12.000				1500		5				40				20			SACH
	15		300		675		5.000		20				260				50				10			DACH
	100				750		750		5				10				15				15			RAVE
	70				380		250						10								5			HAMB
					20																			HANN
	5						250																	BREM
																								SANG
																								HOLL
					10			K	25							K	5							BERG
K	5											K	550							K	1900			THER
K	10			K	1290			K	5			K	5			K	5			K	1205			AUSC
																				K	5			
					45								5											FELD
																	10				5			FLOSS
													5				5							JOHA
					55								5											FLÖH
					15				5				5											NEUB
							150														20			GROSS
	675																5				5			SCHL
	330				130		800																	STUT
																					50			INTER
	800				1250				10															DIVER
																	550				380			ZWOD
K	5			K	20			K	10															BIRKE
K	35																							MONO
													470				20							ARBE
																								LAGER
																								STARA
																								KÖNIGS
																								HAPPU
																								TORGAU
																								LIEBER
	200								140															Jan Ovli
							500																	FELDPO
																								FELDPO
																								LANDSH
																								MÜHLDO
4.000		2.500		5.920		20.700		195		1.930		1.535				725				3.635				
6.500				26.620				2.125				1.535				725				3.635				

Refugee Board" (SS-Saive)

CAMPS	DIVERS Individuels N°d'envois	DIVERS Individuels Quantité Colis	DIVERS Collectifs N°d'envois	DIVERS Collectifs Quantité Colis	ISRAÉLITES Individuels N°d'envois	ISRAÉLITES Individuels Quantité Colis	ISRAÉLITES Collectifs N°d'envois	ISRAÉLITES Collectifs Quantité Colis	BELGES Individuels N°d'envois	BELGES Individuels Quantité Colis	BELGES Collectifs N°d'envois	BELGES Collectifs Quantité Colis	BRITANNIQUES Individuels N°d'envois	BRITANNIQUES Individuels Quantité Colis	BRITANNIQUES Collectifs N°d'envois	BRITANNIQUES Collectifs Quantité Colis
BUCHENWALD bei WEIMAR		15			K	20				2215		2000		5		
SACHSENHAUSEN ORANIENBURG		20			K	15				360		600		5		20
DACHAU bei MÜNCHEN		10			K	15				520		800		5		
RAVENSBRUCK bei FÜRSTENBERG		15			K	10				245		800		5		
HAMBURG NEUENGAMME		5			K	5				180		300				
HANNOVER STOEKEN						–				5		25				
BREMEN FARGE K.L. NEUENGAMME						–										
SANGERHAUSEN (Sachsen)					K	5				200		300				
HOLLEISCHEN (Sudenland)					K	5										
BERGEN - BELSEN bei Celle (Hannover)		K 1900			K	665		10.000	K	5			K	5		
THERESIENSTADT Post Bauschowitz (Böhmen)		K 1205			K	6480		10.000					K	5		
AUSCHWITZ (Oberschlesien)		K 5			K	10			K	25		200				
FELDPOST 07702																
FLOSSENBURG bei WEIDEN		5								10						
JOHANNGEORGENSTADT																
FLOHA (Sachsen)																
NEUBRANDENBURG MECKLENBURG										5						
GROSS - ROSEN bei LIEGNITZ		20			K	15										
SCHLIESSFACH 209 WEIMAR		5														
STUTTHOF bei DANZIG												60				
INTERNES D'HONNEUR Gr. I et II		50														
DIVERS HOPITAUX					K	315				585		800		45		
ZWODAU bei FALKENAU a/d EGER		380														
BIRKENAU NEUBRUN					K	25										
MONOWITZ (OIS)					K	15										
ARBEITSLAGER MÜNCHEN 68										30						
LAGER EBERSWALDE West II																
STARA GRADISKA					K	190										
KÖNIGSBERG (NEUMARK)					K											
HAPPURG																
TORGAU, FORT ZINNA																
LIEBEROSE																
Janovitz (Post BENESCHAU)																
FELDPOST DIVERS																
FELDPOST N° 21159 L 1 (KZ. LANDSBERG)								5.000				500				
LANDSHUT a/d Isar Bayern								1.000								
MÜHLDORF a/ Inn "								500								
		3.635				8370		26.500		4.385		5.885		75		20
		3.635				34.870				10.270				95		

Division d'Assistance Spéciale
Service C. C. C.

ctifs	BRITANNIQUES				ESPAGNOLS				FRANCAIS				GRECS				HOLLANDAIS				ITALIENS				TOTAL PAR CA
	Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		
Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	
2000		5				5				5450		10.000		5				275		3500		5			
600		5		20		15		80		1875		5000		50		300		145		2600		5		250	
800		5				50				2395		5000		150				450		500		160			
300		5								1965		2500		10				75		800					
300						5				85		500						65		100		5			
25										15		150						5							
										20		150													
300										100		250		5				5							
										20		100													
	K	5			K	165			K	65			K	5			K	560							
	K	5							K	10			K	5			K	745			K	10			
200									K	165		250					K	25							
										150															
										75		600						5							
										35		200													
										15		150													
										5		50						5							
										5		25													
60																									
										5															
										220															
800		45			15					2905				130				1150				40			
												25													
																	K	315							
																	K	160							
										5								5							
												500													
												100													
												40													
												15													
												50													
500												500				500				500					
25	75		20		255		80		15.575		26.155		360		800		4.290		8.000		225		250		
	95				335				41.730				1.160				12.290				475				142.36

Division d'Assistance Spéciale
Service C. C. C.

AIS		GRECS				HOLLANDAIS				ITALIENS				TOTAL PAR CAMP
Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		Individuels		Collectifs		
N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	N°d'envois	Quantité Colis	
	10.000		5				275		3.500		5			
	5000		50		300		145		2.600		5		250	
	5000		150				450		500		160			
	2500		10				75		800					
	500						65		100		5			
	150						5							
	150													
	250		5				5							
	100													
		K	5			K	560							
		K	5			K	745			K	10			
	250					K	25							
	600						5							
	200													
	150													
	50						5							
	25													
			130				1150				40			
	25													
						K	315							
						K	160							
							5							
	500													
	100													
	40													
	15													
	50													
	500				500				500					
26.155		360		800		4.290		8.000		225		250		
30		1.160				12.290				475				142.365

0 0 0 1 9 5

6.

000196

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. J. W. Pehle DATE: January 13, 1945

FROM : Mr. Mack

SUBJECT: War Refugee Board Food Parcel Program

I have reviewed the memorandum addressed to you by Miss Hodel dated January 5th concerning the War Refugee Board Food Parcel Program, and the Office of Procurement is prepared to undertake those matters outlined in the memorandum for handling by this organization.

It is requested that specific instructions be furnished as to the food requirements, packaging specifications; likewise, the required marking and documentation, together with the necessary allocation of funds.

5.

000198

Files

AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
WASHINGTON 13, D. C.

January 13, 1945

Mr. J. W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
15th & Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Paul McCormack

Dear Mr. Pehle:

We are pleased to advise that we have shipped on the S.S. CARITAS II to Marseilles, consigned to the International Red Cross Committee, Geneva, Switzerland, the following supplies:

10,112 cartons containing 60,672 War Refugee food packages

Overseas transportation $34,785.28

The American Red Cross does not accept responsibility for any loss in transit.

Sincerely yours,

D. B. Haverkamp
Relief to Prisoners of War

000194

000200

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

EJG-65

Distribution of truc[illegible] reading only by special arrangement. ([redacted]W)

Bern

Dated January 12, 1945

Rec'd 12:58 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

CONTROL COPY

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

216, January 12, Noon

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Legation's 8415, December 29

According recent information from their delegation in Germany ICRC states retention our first load 15,002 WRB parcels at Warnettende is part of general standstill all parcels including those for POWS transshipped during last two months from Gooteborg via Luebeck. German POW apparently establish closed east west transport corridor to bring up supplies for their recent western offensive. No non-military freight traffic in north south direction was allowed traverse this corridor.

ICRC has been negotiating for some weeks get such stocks held up moving and received January 10 unconfirmed report that three cars containing our parcels had gone forward on January 4.

News of shipment remaining 60672 WRB parcels to Toulon contained your 4401, December 30 most welcome as we may have more luck getting them into Germany from south

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1977

00020 1

south.

In packing future parcels please include individual receipt cards in about 60% of all "K" parcels as exact addressees for more than about 8000 individual Jewish detainees in German camps are not available to us here so that many will have to go forward as collective shipments.

HUDDLE

WTD

3.

000203

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 174-4

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

January 10th, 1944 1945

In reply refer to No. 303

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

Att: Dr. Benjamin Akzin

Dear Mr. Pehle:

As per our conversation to-day, I am enclosing herewith copy of the letter we received from Howard F. Bresee dated December 21st, 1944.

We would appreciate any effort on your part in this connection, especially in view of the importance of the matter.

Very sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman
Rescue Department

KRG:tl
enc.

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C
O
P
Y

HEADQUARTERS ARMY SERVICE FORCES
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
WASHINGTON 25 D.C.
21 December 1944

World Jewish Congress
1834 Broadway
New York 23 N.Y.

Att: Kurt R. Grossman, Assistant
Rescue Department

Gentlemen:

The Provost Marshal General has directed me to reply to your letter dated 12 December 1944, concerning Henk Hartogh, Lore Hartogh, and Mrs. Fanny Heilbut and two sons.

As stated in letter to you dated 4 December 1944, existing regulations do not permit the issuance by this office of parcel labels for the benefit of French, Polish, Yugoslav, Belgian, Greek Italian or Netherlands Nationals interned by the German Government. These regulations are set forth in Bulletin No. 100, Foreign Economic Administration. Therefore, parcel labels for the benefit of the persons named above cannot be granted.

After reviewing the Perlberger and other similar cases, it has been determined by this office that sufficient evidence has not been furnished to establish Mrs. Claire Perlberger and her three children, Martin, Jacques, and Ralph, as United States citizens. Therefore, the issuance of parcel labels for their benefit by this office was in error.

The same situation exists in the case of Herta Neumann, Kurt Neumann, and Evi Neumann for whom you requested parcel labels in your letter dated 7 November 1944, and which were issued to Mr. Felix Neumann, 645 West 160 St., N.Y., New York on 14 November 1944.

Another like case is that of Dr. and Mrs. Benno Both and Mrs Rosa Berger, for whom parcel labels have been issued to Dr. Jakob Berger, 1165 Shakespear Avenue, New York 52 New York.

On 8 September 1944, labels were issued for the benefit of Mrs. Edmund Willner to Mr. Clarence B. Willner, 23 West 76 St., New York, N.Y. This case is in the same category as the above.

On 29 November 1944, labels for the benefit of Mrs. Franciszka Weidman were issued to Mr. Clarence B. Willner, 23 West 76 St. New York, N.Y. This case is also in the same category.

On 10 August 1944, labels were issued to Dr. Jakob Jan Reich 121 West 72nd Street, Hotel Raleigh, New York, N.Y. for the benefit of his wife Mrs. Dora Reich and children, Felicia, Maryan Norbert and Hendryk Josef. This case is also in the same category.

It is necessary, therefore, in order to comply with existing Foreign Economic Administration regulations, to cancel the parcel and tobacco label privileges for the benefit of the persons named

000205

above until such time as definite proof of their United States citizenship is furnished to this office.

It is regretted that this action is found to be necessary. You may be assured, however, that upon definite proof of United States citizenship of any of the above named internees, parcel label privileges will be reinstated.

Sincerely your,

Howard F. Bresee,
Colonel, C.M.P., Director
Prisoner of War Information Bureau.

000206

2.

000207

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE January 5, 1945

TO Mr. Pehle

FROM Miss Hodel

Re: War Refugee Board Food Parcel Program

Upon receipt of approval from the British and American blockade authorities for the extension of the War Refugee Board food parcel program, the Board asked the American National Red Cross to undertake the packing and shipping of an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels in the same manner in which it had handled the Board's first project of 285,000 parcels. We have been advised by Mr. Basil O'Connor, Chairman of the American National Red Cross, that, because present commitments exceed their normal capacity to pack, the American National Red Cross is unable to make a commitment for our program as far as packing is concerned. He has suggested, however, that we make arrangements for the commercial packing of these 300,000 parcels. The American National Red Cross will be glad to ship the packages for the War Refugee Board.

The following plan whereby packages may be obtained commercially is submitted to you for approval and the concurrence of Treasury Procurement:

1. The War Refugee Board will obtain authorization from the President permitting the Bureau of the Budget to allocate $1,125,000 to Treasury Procurement from the congressional appropriation for foreign war relief.

2. Treasury Procurement will contract with a private vendor for the purchase of 300,000 three-kilo food parcels delivered at dockside Philadelphia to the American National Red Cross who will arrange for their trans-shipment to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

3. The War Refugee Board will arrange with the Blockade Division of FEA for an emergency food allocation to the private vendor, and will file the necessary application for an FEA export license.

4. The War Refugee Board and Treasury Procurement will arrange for the necessary priorities from WPB to enable the private vendor to procure cartons and strapping for these parcels.

5. The War Refugee Board and Treasury Procurement will arrange to secure from OPA the necessary ration certificates to cover any rationed food items.

000208

6. The American National Red Cross will arrange for the shipping of the parcels from Philadelphia to Europe and will bill Treasury Procurement for this service at a cost of approximately 50¢ to 60¢ per package, provision for which cost is computed in the amount to be allocated to Treasury Procurement.

If Treasury Procurement agrees to the foregoing plan, the War Refugee Board will undertake at once to obtain the President's authorization for the allocation of funds necessary to finance this program.

JH.

000203

January 5, 1944

Mr. Pehle

Miss Hodel

Subject: WRB Food Parcel Program

Upon receipt of approval from the British and American blockade authorities for the extension of the War Refugee Board food parcel program, the Board asked the American National Red Cross to undertake the packing and shipping of an additional 300,000 three-kilo food parcels in the same manner in which it had handled the Board's first project of 285,000 parcels. While we have been advised by Mr. Basil O'Connor, Chairman of the American National Red Cross, that because their present commitments exceed their normal capacity to pack they are unable to make a commitment for our program as far as packing is concerned, he suggests that we make arrangements for the commercial packing of these 300,000 parcels and that his organization will be glad to ship them for us.

The following plan whereby packages may be obtained commercially is submitted to you for approval and the concurrence of Treasury Procurement:

1. The War Refugee Board will obtain authorization from the President permitting the Bureau of the Budget to allocate $1,125,000 to Treasury Procurement from the congressional appropriation for foreign war relief.

2. Treasury Procurement will contract with a private vendor for the purchase of 300,000 three-kilo food parcels delivered at dockside Philadelphia to the American National Red Cross who will arrange for their trans-shipment to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

3. The War Refugee Board will arrange with the Blockade Division of FEA for an emergency food allocation to the private vendor, and will file the necessary application for an FEA export license.

4. The War Refugee Board and Treasury Procurement will arrange for the necessary priorities from WPB to enable the private vendor to procure cartons and strapping for these parcels.

5. The War Refugee Board and Treasury Procurement will arrange to secure from OPA the necessary ration certificates to cover any rationed food items.

0002 08

6. The American National Red Cross will arrange for the shipping of the parcels from Philadelphia to Europe and will bill Treasury Procurement for this service at a cost of approximately 50¢ to 60¢ per package, provision for which cost is computed in the amount to be allocated to Treasury Procurement.

If Treasury Procurement agrees to the foregoing plan, the War Refugee Board will undertake at once to obtain the President's authorization for the allocation of funds necessary to finance this program.

PJ McC:FH:hd 1/5/45

000211

000212

Send PKGS for unidentified persons

2 w/ar Ref Bd. (Pehle)

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

TO: American Consul, Johannesburg

DATED: January 4, 1945

NUMBER: 9
x

CONTROL COPY

From War Refugee Board.

Please deliver following message to Secretary, South African Jewish War Appeal, Shakespeare House, Johannesburg, from Drs. Stephen S. Wise, Nahum Goldmann, World Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, New York:

Swedish Committee President Chief Rabbi Ehrenpreis obtained through Swedish channels facilities send food parcels Jewish Concentration camps Europe. Scheme requires initial amount 25,000 pounds first parcels already dispatched. Urgently request your community contribute 5,000 pounds this essential relief project. Cable.

STETTINIUS

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

000213

CABLE TO AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver following message to Secretary, South African Jewish War Appeal, Shakespeare House, Johannesburg, from Drs. Stephen S. Wise, Nahum Goldmann, World Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, New York:

QUOTE SWEDISH COMMITTEE PRESIDENT CHIEF RABBI EHRENPREIS OBTAINED THROUGH SWEDISH CHANNELS FACILITIES SEND FOOD PARCELS JEWISH CONCENTRATION CAMPS EUROPE. SCHEME REQUIRES INITIAL AMOUNT 25,000 POUNDS FIRST PARCELS ALREADY DISPATCHED. URGENTLY REQUEST YOUR COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTE 5,000 POUNDS THIS ESSENTIAL RELIEF PROJECT. CABLE UNQUOTE

1:30 p.m.
January 2, 1945

Copy sent WTC 1/3/45 RD

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Files

RD:PJM 1/2/45

00214

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1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-4

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

In reply refer to
No. 297

December 27, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I would be very much obliged to you if you would have the following message transmitted through the facilities of the State Department.

"To: Secretary, South African Jewish War Appeal
Shakespeare House, Johannesburg, South Africa

From: Drs. Stephen S. Wise, Nahum Goldmann,
World Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, N.Y.C.

Swedish Committee President Chief Rabbi Ehrenpreis obtained for first time through Swedish Government facilities send food parcels Jewish concentration camps Europe stop Scheme requires initial amount 25000 pounds first parcels already dispatched stop Urgently request your community contribute 5,000 pounds this essential relief project cable."

I would appreciate your giving this matter your kind attention since it is in the interest of the inmates of Bergen Belsen.

Very truly yours,

KURT R. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department

KRG:bm

000215