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

Food Packages for Unassimilated Persons, Vol. 4, Folder 1

Back to Front Filing
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.
February 7th, 1945.

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

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
Delegate.

enc1
November 16, 1944.

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, a/c.
February 10, 1945

The Executive Director

R. Aitken and Paul J. McNamara

For: Trucks for Intergovernment

1. The Interdepartmental 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 approved on military grounds. It objects to the program merely on the ground that it might set a precedent affecting the shipment of supplies to POW's.

It should be noted, therefore, that a request of the American Red Cross to permit the use of trucks to ship supplies to POW's in Northern Italy has been cleared by the War Department. The Department also 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 POW's and "assimilated" civilian internees, this would not be a sufficient reason to reject our program in favor of "unassimilated" detainees. Indeed, POW's and civilian internees are protected by the Geneva Convention which ensures a minimum standard of their treatment, with supplies normally being 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 POW's 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 our representative in Bern, there is progressive disintegration of German authorities to make rolling stock available to Internees. On the basis of the Geneva Convention and of reciprocity, the U.S. Government can apply pressure to secure continued of Red Cross parcel service to POW's and civilian internees. It lacks, however, any such leverage to obtain similar facilities for the isolated Red Cross program for detainees. Therefore, failure to provide the requested trucks threatens to stop completely this program, the one WRR 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.
Traffic conditions have also disintegrated in Germany, where military operations are on an exceedingly large scale.

3. Large stockpiles of Fue one available in Switzerland, so that occasional rail tie-ups don't seriously affect their distribution. Since NSB lacks large stockpiles, loss of a single shipment by rail threatens our entire program.

4. An added consideration is the well-known German policy of mass-execution of uncoordinated, especially of Jewish, detainees when unobserved by the presence of foreign observers. The use of Jewish trustees named by Interrogation personnel is therefore an important means of ensuring that those detainees are kept alive.

7. Should cases in Germany increase, such trustees named by Interrogation personnel can become the means of physically removing any detainees.
February 9, 1945

To: Mr. Dent
From: Mr. McCormack

APPROPRIATION (Bureau of the Budget)

TITLE: Foreign War Relief, 1941-1945
SYMBOL: 111/5008

ALLOCATIONS:

I SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

TITLE AND SYMBOL: 20-111/5008: 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
134,000.00 Overseas Transportation
$187,262.61 TOTAL
II. FARM FOOD ADMINISTRATION

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 Farm Food Administration to procure necessary agricultural supplies up to a value of $783,750.

EXPEDITIONS 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 $1.45) 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.

PMcCormackiar 2/10/45
FEB 8 1943

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

Attention: Mr. Robert LoPizzo

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
Memorandum

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

From: Florence Focol, 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 each 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. Hathorne, Assistant Chief, Purchase and Supply, United States Treasury Procurement Division, who is handling this transaction for the Refugee Board, and 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 Focol
(Signed) Florence Focol

McGormack 2/6/45
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

February 6, 1945

7 p.m.

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

TELEGRAPH must be paraphrased before being sent to anyone other than a Government agency.

AMBASSADOR
LONDON,

RE: Shipment of clothing in parcels from Sweden to Bergen-Belsen as proposed by Stockholm's 173, January 30 to London, repeated to Department as Stockholm's 364, has our approval in principle, from DEPARTMENT AND FAA FOR E-D, provided Interarea can give reasonable assurances that parcels will reach addressees and that satisfactory information regarding receipt of clothing parcels authorized in November 1944 (REFERENCE 9817, November 10) has been received. We question advisability of including Theresienstadt in view of increasing difficulties in connection with internal transportation in Germany and proximity of that camp to Eastern zone military operations. However, if Interarea 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 NIK agrees, inform Stockholm repeating to Washington.

GREG
Acting
(DEA)

740,07116 EN/1-3045
SEPTEMBER 2-3-45

Approved by Miss Geo, FEA

OS WAB
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 11-11-72
By R.H. Parks Date, SEP 21 1972
The cable below for McClelland is WRU 300.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Gerhard Riegner, SP Office, Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland from Arich Tartakower, World Jewish Congress:

NOTE Number 304 negotiated proper authorities concerning allocation of excess funds for distribution of Jewish internment camps after liberation such camps. No such plan known here besides more information needed about 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 can be profit War Refugee Board parcel scheme. Will compile list near future.

Cabled also Kubitski and Hollander, Stockholm send you such lists which you transmit McClelland. In meantime transmit all names you have to him.

SPECIFIC

WRU: HAVING
2/8/45

WE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept, Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Basker Date SEP 21 1972
January 23rd, 1945

In reply refer to #309

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 Siegner:

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

From: Arieh Tzartower

Number 304 negotiated proper authorities concerning allocation Emergency 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 any profit War Refugee Board 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 Z. Grossman
Rescue Department
Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Fritz Holland, Congress Committee Postbox 7306, Stockholm from Dr. Arich Tatarskiy of World Jewish Congress:

"QUOTEX Kindly have food parcels forwarded following Bergen-belsen inmates: Baumgarten, Marion, Thomas; Cohen, Aaron, Analia; Hess, Nathan, Martha; de Jong, Enzy (nee Meyer), Noos; de Jongh, Klara & Son, Maxilian; Klam, Rosa, Ursula; Koller, Hanne & 2 daughters, Edith." UNQUOTE
CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLESEN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Please deliver following message to Frits Hollander, Congress Committee Postbox 7926, Stockholm from Dr. Arieh Tartakower of World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Kindly have food parcels forwarded following Bergen-Belsen inmates: Baumgartner, Marion; Thomas; Cohen, Aaron; Amendt House, Nathan, Marie; de Jongh, Henry (nee Meyer), Moses; de Jongh, Klara & Son, Maximilian; Kliau, Hessa, Ursula; Kruger, Minna & 2 daughters, Edith. UNQUOTE

This is WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 307

12:30 P.M.,
February 2, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Alkin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston, Model, McCormick, Ofmeyer, Pulen

Chabiniak 2/1/45
In reply refer to: No. 316

January 31, 1945

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer, Executive Director
War Refugees 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 food parcels forwarded following Bergen-Belsen inmates: Baumgarten, Marion, Thomas; Cohen, Aaron, Amalia; Hesse, Nathan, Marta; de Jong, Emmy (nee Meyer), Noor; de Jongh, Klara & Son, Maxmillian; Klaas, Rosa, Ursula; Moller, Minna & 2 daughters, Edith."

Thank you for giving this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

E.H. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement. (100)

Secretary of State

Washington.

744, February 2, 1 p.m.

FOR WB FROM MOBLELL.MD

In line with Legation's 413, January 20, exchanges 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.

Exchanges 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 soon.

BB: exchangers

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By H. B. Parks Date, SEP 21 1972
-2- 7744, February 2, 1 p.m. from Bern

50 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 for 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 456, January 22, would be of greatest value.

HUMBLE

JT
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,
S United States Legation,
Bern, Switzerland.

Enclosures.

Barfield 2/2/45
The cable below is WNB 134.

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

NOTE: Isaac Ederheim and Dutch Committee Switzerland cabled Netherlands Committee here that Sally Mayer refuses to provide International Red Cross with funds for food parcels to interned Jewish persons on list which being used by War Refugee Board for parcels from Sweden but they state quicker send parcels from Switzerland. Inform Sally Mayer and cable report. UNQUOTE.
CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, LISBON, FROM WAR RELIEF BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Robert Filpul, Lisbon,

from H. A. Leavitt, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee

QUOTE:  JOHN MOOSHEIM AND HUTCH COHARRI, SWITZERLAND
          CABLED SWITZERLAND COMMITTEE HERE THAT MAR HATZI REFUTES
          PROVIDES INTERNATIONAL RIBBON WITHI EMBOSSES FOR FOOD PARCELS
          TO IMMIGRANTS. STOP THEY CLAIM THEY HAVE 3500 PERSONS THEIR
          LIST WHICH IS BEING USED BY MAR HATZI BOARD FOR PARCELS FROM
          SWITZERLAND AND THAT STATE QUICHER RIBBON PARCELS FROM SWITZERLAND
          STOP INFORM MAR HATZI AND ONLY REPORT UNCLAIMED.

THIS IS MAR LISBON CABLE NO. 124.

4:00 p.m., January 31, 1945

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

Village, 1/31/45

BEST AVAILABLE 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 parcels via Goteborg previously reported held up at Warnemünde went forward to concentration camps early in January.

HÜDLE

JP

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

[Signature]

[Stamp: 1/30/45]
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. 6½ 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 items, 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 vendor by whom the finished parcels shall be produced.

Specifications

- Biscuits, K 2: In accordance with Quartermaster Corps tentative specifications No. QPD 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 paraffin. Keys will not be required and the can
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, 1.5 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 (Wiley) 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 enamelized. 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 FBDC 20, 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 AF-A(F)-13809.

Chocolate Bar: Each chocolate bar shall be prepared from the following ingredients only, in proportion by weight as follows:
Chocolate, plain, mildly dutched, adjusted to 5½%
cocoa fat
Sugar: granulated
Milk solids, nonfat, dry, powdered, previously
designated as Milk, dry powdered skimmed
Added cocoa fat
Vanillin
Ethyl Vanillin

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, 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 pro-
visions 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.

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

With-Vitamin Capsules: Shall be packed 16 tablets to the package,
each tablet to contain not less than the following:
Vitamin A 2300 units
- B D 200 units
- Bl 724 mg.
- B2 (Thiamin) 1 mg.
Niacin Amic 1 mg.
Riboflavin 1.5 mg.

Packaging Information

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 cable.

Packaging 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 waterproofing described as:

02419
Kraft Asphalt Kraft 30-30-30
Gluing:

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 R02 (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 Card:

Each of the individual food parcels shall contain receipt card printed identical with the attached sample.
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, 1945, shall be available to the Secretary of the Treasury up to a value of $4,125,000 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 the War Refugee Board and 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
In reply refer to No. 317

January 31, 1946

Dear General:

With reference to my letter of January 29th, I am enclosing hereewith 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,

[Signature]

[Address]

[Date]
The following for Olsen in WRB SOL.

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 Henn in London on the same matter and specifically requested that WRB funds be used for the proposed expansion.

Acting

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972
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 WJC funds be used for the proposed expansion.

THIS IS WJB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 301.
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-5.

With respect to the biscuits, the purchase of this item was made in accordance with Quartermaster Corps tentative specifications No. QM 176-A, Type II, Crackers, whole wheat, square (inner containers: 4" x 2-5/8" 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 FSC 10, Item 1600c. We do not have a copy of these specifications in our files but any meat canner will recognize 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, 808 Lyndale Avenue, North, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Contract AW-(P)-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,

[Signature]

H. W. Prentice  
Program Liaison

Enclosures (6)
Fish delivered shall meet the requirements of Federal Specifications for canned salmon PP-S-71a, dated July 29, 1942, sections B to F, inclusive, provided that except for Hens and Chinook Sections E-1 of such Specifications shall be revised for the purpose of this contract to delete 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 0.25 but deeper plate, all parts of such cans manufactured from such plates shall be inside and outside enamelled. 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 0.Q.M.G. S.P.R.B. 400.1141.
Multi-Vitamin Capsules

Multi-Vitamin Capsules 16 tablets per strip, each tablet contains:
- Vitamin A 2500 units
- D 500 units
- C 37 1/2 mg
- B1 (Thiamin) 1 mg
- B2 (Riboflavin) 1.5 mg
- Niacin Acid 10 mg

Parke-Davis
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.
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Telegraph Office. (Delete 8:45 p.m., Agency. (Delete 0))

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 60 tons clothing in 2 1/2 kilogram parcels to Jewish Internes (my 364 January 30, 6 p.m. repeats this message to Department) in German concentration camps at the Remscheid 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 597 October 18, 9 p.m. to Legation sent Department as London's 8807 and Department's 2111 October 20, 6 p.m. to Legation repeated London as Department's 8720.

British and Legation recommend approval and would appreciate early decision.

JOHNSON
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept., London, 11-72
By R. H. Paul Date SEP 21 1972
In reply refer to No. 314

January 29, 1946

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
The cable below for Olsen is WRB 297.

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

"Please kindly have food parcels forwarded following Bergenbelsen inmates: Block, Sally, Hans; Van Easo, Henri, Rebeka; Fischelberg, Fela, Wolf, Leopold, Min; Hecht, Bruno, Alice (nee Fabian), Richard, Edith (nee Stempel); Facks, Erich, Rosie; Kurz, Blara and two children; Pressisso, Moritz Weinrich, Flora, Hans (or Josef), Salomon, Emet Leopold; Kopf-Faur, Lothar; Rosenthal, Minna, Eduard, Erna, Peter; Sachs, Gertrud (nee Bernstein); Schoenbueck, Hans, Trude, Ellen, Inge, Sara; Weigert, Rudolf; Zweibel, Nissen, Cyla Heichl, Singer, Leon, Rebecca. UNQUOTE.

GREW
(Acting)
(GLW)
Cable to American Legation, Stockholm, for Olsen, from Wray Board.

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

QUOTE Kindly have following parcels forwarded full of following inmates:

DIEGO, SALLY, HANS; VAN ISSO, HENRI, RENIKA;
FISCHBACH, FELI, WULF, LEOPOLD, MIN; HECHT, HENRI, ALICE
(HEN PABAN); RICHARD, ETHEL (nee SIMPER); FAPTS, E TICH, ROSE;
Kurz, KLIVIA AND TWO CHILDREN; FISCHBACH, HORLITZ HEINRICH, FLORA,
HANS (or JOSEF), SACHON, ERNST LEOPOLD; ZOHRA, LOTARD;
ROSENTHAL, MIRIA, EDWARD, KUMA, YIKA; SARAH, GERSHUT (nee BERNSTEIN);
SCHENROC, HANS, TSCHE, ELLEN, LINDA, KLAUS, LIEB, RUDOLF;
ZWEITZER, FISHER, OLE RECHL; BLALER, LIE, ALICE.

UNQUOTE

THIS IS WES STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 397.

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

Miss Chauncy (for the Society) Ackerman, Akin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois,
Gaston, Model, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Fies.
January 19, 1945

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 7305, Stockholm
From: Dr. Arieh Tartakower

Kindly have food parcels forwarded following Bergen-Belsen inmates: Bleck, Sally, Hans; van Ema, Henri, Rebechka; Fliechelberg, Fele, Wolf, Leopold, Max; Hecht, Bruno, Alix (nee Fabian), Richard, Matl (nee Stempel); Facks, Erich, Rosa; Kurz, Clara & 2 children; Pressiesen, Moritz, Heinrich, Flora, Hans (or Jonas); Salomon, Ernst, Leopold; Sкоп-Pear, Lothar; Rosenthal, Minna, Eduard, Erna, Peter; Socha, Bertram (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,

[Signature]

KURT GROSSMAN
Rescue Department
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 deadline 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,

[Signature]

J. W. Pahle
Executive Director

Mr. Arnold Feinberg,
Feinberg Kosher Sausage Company,
809—817 Lyndale Avenue North,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.
January 23, 1945.

War Refugee Board,
Room 4413 U. S. Trans. 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 canned hams 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.

Arnold Feinberg

Feinberg's Sons Kosher Foods
Arnold Feinberg
Department of State

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement.

DEPARTMENT OF

STATE

INCOMING

TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF

CENTRAL SERVICES

TELEGRAPH SECTION

SN-1055

Dated January 22, 1945

Re'd 6:14 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

January 22, 1945

FOR JRB FROM MCCINLAND.

In view rapid deterioration internal rail transport in Germany I am becoming increasingly concerned about dwindling possibilities of getting our JRB 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. However, 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 to seven ton trucks be made available to us which could in turn be lent to ICRC Division of Special Services for delivery JRB parcels to accessible camps.

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

 Recently

By H. 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 Landau Brahmsch in Eastern Bavaria. This camp housed some fifteen thousand internes eighty per cent Jewish deportees. Commander was unusually accommodating 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 Ecker and includes a German SS named Kruse, who is specifically in charge of all Hungarian Jewish deportees in Austria and is 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 immediately work.

This situation was first mentioned in Legation 7575 November 16, 1944, and was discussed at length about two weeks ago with Dr. Tullec, ICRC delegate in Vienna.
January 22, 1:00 p.m. from Bern

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 disor-
organized 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 ad-
vantage of offering for superior control possibilities
as to safe reception by intended beneficiaries than
obtainable via German railroads when it is frequently
most difficult to receive freight cars which may be held
up for weeks and even months on sidings completely
unknown to ICRC as recently occurred in Vernemunde 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

Huddie
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 concentrations 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 overall responsibility for this project.

1/21/45
Delivered by hand to the Secretary, Dir of Budget
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 $885,000,000 made available by the Congress through the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act, 1941, and the Third Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Act, 1942, all 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.

[Redacted] WMGPHd 1/18/45
Title II 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 or 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. 9021, dated January 11, 1942. See also Executive Order No. 9021, dated December 27, 1941, the terms of which are incorporated by reference into Executive Order No. 9023.
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.

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

J.W.P.
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

PHild 1/18/45
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
Executive Officer
JAN 16 1946

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,

Florence Nadel
Special Assistant to the Executive Director

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

PM 2/16/45
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 a favorable reply from you with respect to the amount of the unobligated balance of the Foreign War Relief Appropriation allocated to Treasury Procurement.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Special Assistant, Executive Director
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 142,355 WRA food parcels out of the second lot which arrived at Göteborg on the SS SAIPE. 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.

Very sincerely yours,

John W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D.C.
Tableau de distribution des colis du "War Refugee Board"

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Office Memorandum - UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

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

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.
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 62,672 War Refugee food packages

Overseas transportation $54,785.28

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

Sincerely yours,

D. E. Nevekamp
Relief to Prisoners of War
Secretary of State

Washington

216, January 12, Noon

FOR UNRPROKOLLAND

Legation's 8415, December 29

According recent information from their delegation in Germany ICRC states retention our first load 15,002 LRB parcels at Hammettendorf is part of general standstill all parcels including those for POWs transshipped during last two months from Gooteborg via Luhebeck. German PO 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 hold up moving and received January 10 unconfirmed report that three cars containing our parcels had gone forward on January 4.

News of shipment remaining 6072 LRB parcels to Toulon contained your 4401, December 30 most welcome as we may have more luck getting them into Germany from south.
Z-9216, January 12, Noon, from Breslau

South.

In packing future parcels please include individual receipt cards in about 60% of all "K" parcels as exact addresses 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.

Hudek

WTD
In reply refer to No. 303

Hon. John W. Peble
War Refugee Board
Treasary Building
Washington, D.C.

Att: Dr. Benjamin Akzin

Dear Mr. Peble:

As per our conversation to-day, I am enclosing hereewith 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,

[Signature]

Kurt S. Grossman
Rescue Department

Enc.
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 Neillut 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 Max Neumann for whom you requested parcel labels in your letter dated 7 November 1944, and which were issued to Mr. Felix Neumann, 646 West 180 St., N.Y., New York on 14 November 1944.

Another like case is that of Dr. and Mrs. Renno Boff and Mrs. Rosa Berger, for whom parcel labels have been issued to Dr. Jakob Berger, 1185 Shakespeare Avenue, New York 56, New York.

On 9 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. Francisca 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, 131 West 73rd 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.
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. Breese,
Colonel, C.M.P., Director
Prisoner of War Information Bureau.
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 Refugees 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 deepside 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 FRA for an emergency food allocation to the private vendor, and will file the necessary application for an FRA export license.

4. The War Refugee Board and Treasury Procurement will arrange for the necessary priorities from WPA 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 CFA the necessary ration certificates to cover any rationed food items.
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 $30 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.
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 OPA 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.
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 30¢ 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.
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Consul, Johannesburg
DATED: January 4, 1942

CONTROL COPY

From War Refugees 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, 1374 Broadway, New York:

Swedish Committee President Chief Rabbi Ehrenpreis obtained through Swedish channels facilities send food parcels to Jewish concentration camps in 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 H. H. Parks Date SEP-21 1977
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 Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
Nathan Goldmann, World Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, New York:

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

1:30 p.m. January 2, 1945
Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Akin, Cohn, Drury, Dubois, Gaston, Hoel,
Marks, McCormack, Pohle, Phelps
Editor 1/14
In reply refer to No. 297

December 27, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pohle:

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 $25,000 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 B. BRESLAI
Rescue Department