

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

Food Packages for  
Unassimilated Persons,  
Vol. 5, Folder 1  
1-38

Back to front  
filing

000281

38

000282

2 War Ref Bd.  
(Gen. J. Sawyer)

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Havana  
DATED: March 23, 1948  
NUMBER: 1515  
X

**CONTROL COPY**

This message is being repeated as No. 1537 to Bern.  
With reference to Embassy's message No. 1400 dated March 23,  
(which was repeated as No. 1515 to Bern), questions of blockade policy  
characterized and related to proposed to distribute polish supplies for war  
materials to foreign consular officers, political delegates and others in  
Germany. These matters must be given consideration in  
cooperation with British Government and other interested agencies of  
U. S. Government. Embassy, Havana should be advised that the  
distribution of polish supplies for war prisoners in Germany should be  
limited to that type of person and to civilian interests placed in that  
category by special agreement.

WFM  
(initials)

SFP:EDM:pjg;r:EF  
Rexaphne:s  
DC/L:GP  
4-4-48

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

000283



57

000284

*Food Parcels*

MAR 28 1945

Dear Colonel Olmstead:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of today, one of the members of my staff telephoned your office and dictated our requirements to your secretary. This letter simply confirms these two conversations.

Each of the 300,000 War Refugee Board food parcels is to contain one each of the following items:

1 Biscuits, K2 (Pkg)	7 oz.	131,250 lbs.
2 Cheese (tin)	8 oz.	150,000 lbs.
3 Whole Powdered Milk (tin)	16 oz.	300,000 lbs.
4 Oleomargarene (tin)	16 oz.	300,000 lbs.
5 Salmon or Tuna (tin)	7 3/4 oz.	146,312 1/2 lbs.
6 Pork luncheon meat (tin)	12 oz.	225,000 lbs.
7 Chocolate Bar (pkg)	4 oz.	75,000 lbs.
8 Bar of Soap (pkg)	2 oz.	37,500 lbs.
9 Cube Sugar (pkg)	8 oz.	150,000 lbs.
10 Multi-Vitamin Capsules (pkg)		300,000 pkgs.

It is our understanding that item 1, biscuits, are unavailable except from Army Quartermaster stocks. For this reason, our contractor has indicated that he can supply us with a substitute item, de-hydrated soup, in approximately the same amount.

In order to get this program under way as speedily as possible, it is necessary that we be furnished by your office with the emergency allocations that will permit us to procure these items, as well as authorization from your office to obtain many of the items against government set-asides.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer  
William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

Col. Ralph Olmstead,  
Deputy Director,  
Office of Distribution,  
War Food Administration,  
Washington, D. C.

*JAT pfs*  
PJMCO:hd 3/28/45

*Original signed by  
General O'Dwyer personally.*

000285



36

000286

*Food Parcels*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
P.E.M.

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement.

RECEIVED CENTRAL SERVICES March 28, 1945

4 p.m.

March 28, 1945

*War Ref Bd.  
O'Sullivan*

US URGENT

DC/L  
LIAISON

AMLEGATION

**CONTROL COPY**

STOCKHOLM

566

The following for Olsen is WRB 349.

Repeated below is a portion of a telegram received from WRB's McClelland, Bern, re WRB's stockpile food parcels in Goteburg:

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

QUOTE On March 16 accordingly with my approval ICRC Geneva hired their Goteburg man authorizing him turnover 40,000 parcels to WJC. In interest of getting as many WRB parcels into Germany as rapidly as possible this appeared to me recommendable move of which I hope you approve. UNQUOTE

You are requested: (1) to make clear to WJC's Storch that these supplies are property of WRB; and (2) to make this transfer to either Swedish Red Cross or YMCA as opposed WJC since former are in a position to effect actual deliveries internees Bergen-Belsen.

WRB:MMV:KQ  
3/27/45

NOL

(GREN)  
(Acting)  
(GHW)

WE

SWF

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

000287

URGENT

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

Repeated below is a portion of a telegram received from WRB's  
McClelland, Bern, re WRB's stockpile food parcels in Goteburg:

1754  
E. J. M.  
"On March 16 accordingly with my approval ICRC Geneva  
wired their Goteberg man authorizing him turnover  
40,000 parcels to WJC. In interest of getting as  
many WRB parcels into Germany as rapidly as possible  
this appeared to me recommendable move of which I hope  
you approve."

You are requested: (1) to make clear to WJC's Storch that  
these supplies are property of WRB; and (2) to make this transfer  
to either Swedish Red Cross or YMCA as opposed WJC since former  
are in a position to effect actual deliveries interness Bergen-  
Belsen.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM NO. 340

12:20 p.m.  
March 27, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Colm, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Hutchison,  
McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files.

P. J. M.  
PJM:Gthd 5/26/45



000284

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

V.C-1872  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. ( )

Stockholm  
Dated March 28, 1945  
Rec'd 5 p.m.

Secretary of State  
Washington

**CONTROL COPY**

1172, March 28, 4 p.m.

According to report from IRC delegate in Gothenburg he has received 37336 cartons containing War Refugee Board food parcels. This is our 131 for WRB in reply to Department's 496, March 16, 4 p.m. Each carton contains 8 food parcels weighing 3 kilos. Shipments of these parcels have been as follows.

3600 cartons have been sent to concentration camp at Hamburg, Neuengamme.

1600 cartons have been sent to concentration camp at Ravensbrueck.

2200 cartons have been sent to Luebeck for distribution to prisoners of war in compensation for standard food parcels sent to Norwegian civilians.

In addition to the foregoing 6554 cartons containing kosher food parcels have, after authorization from Geneva, this past week been placed at disposal of local World Jewish Congress group for shipment to various concentration camps.

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

SEP 21 1972

Parcels

000290

-2- #1172, March 28, 4 p.m., from Stockholm

Parcels are being shipped as rapidly as possible  
but transportation problems remain a serious obstacle.

JOHNSON

DU

000291



000292

*Food Parcels*

MAR 28 1945

Dear Basil:

This will confirm the informal arrangement made with your Mr. Ryan in telephone conversations of March 21 and 22 to the effect that the American National Red Cross would make available to the War Refugee Board the facilities of its New York packing center for the packing of 300,000 three-kilo ~~food~~ parcels for the War Refugee Board and their shipment to the International Committee of the Red Cross.

The War Refugee Board has already received the necessary authorization for this shipment from the Joint Relief Sub-Committee of the Blockade.

Mr. Ryan further indicated that these parcels would be packed and shipped within 60 days of the delivery of the food items to the New York packing center.

Sincerely yours,

*W. B. Eiel*

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

PJM:C:FH:hd 3/27/45

000293



000294

APR 6 - 1945

Dear Mr. Grossman:

I have your letter of March 27, 1945. This is to advise you that the two lists under reference were transmitted to the Department of State under date of March 17, 1945, with the request that they be forwarded to Mr. Fritz Hollander, Postbox 7306, Stockholm, through the facilities of that Department rather than by cable.

The correction requested in your letter of March 28, 1945 is being cabled to Mr. Hollander.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodal

Florence Hodal  
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Kurt R. Grossman,  
Rescue Department,  
World Jewish Congress,  
1834 Broadway,  
New York 23, New York.

RPA  
RBHutchison: 4/4/45

000295

# WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL . . CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

330 WEST 42nd STREET

NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

March 27, 1945

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE: LONGACRE 5-2600

LONDON  
One Harley Street, W. 1

GENEVA  
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES  
Corrientes 2024-30

JERUSALEM  
Vaad Leumi, P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL  
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY  
Sonora 174-4

In reply refer to:  
No. 373

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

Attention: Mr. McCormick

Dear Sirs:

On March 13, - our number 353 - and on March 14, -  
our number 355 - we asked you to send cables containing  
the names of inmates of Bergen-Belsen to whom food parcels  
should be dispatched to

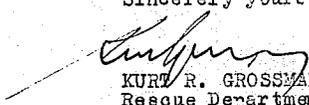
Mr. Fritz Hollander, Congress Committee,  
Postbox 7306, Stockholm

So far I have not as yet received your confirmation that  
these cables have been sent.

Will you please be good enough to look into this matter.

Thanking you for your anticipated cooperation,

Sincerely yours,

  
KURT R. GROSSMANN  
Rescue Department

KG:dd



000297

*7/2/72*  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

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

March 26, 1945

1 p.m.

1945 MAR 27 PM 4 32

*Mar Ref. Bd.  
O. Sawyer*

AMLEGATION

BERN

1221

The cable below is WRB 464.

Please deliver the following message to Saly Mayer,  
St. Gall, from M. A. Leavitt of American Jewish Joint  
Distribution Committee:

QUOTE Assume you familiar program McClelland secure  
trucks for intercross use bring food supplies internees  
camps. Can you locate purchase or rent up to 10 trucks  
for such purposes. Most urgent you assist McClelland as much  
as possible. UNQUOTE

CONTROL COPY

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

CREW  
(ACTING)  
(GLW)

WIS:MMV:MS  
3/26/45

WB

BWA

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

000298

CABLE TO ANLEGATION, BERN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Saly Mayer,  
St. Gall, from M. A. Leavitt of American Jewish Joint Distri-  
bution Committee:

QUOTE ASSUME YOU FAMILIAR PROGRAM MCCLELLAND SECURE  
TRUCKS FOR INTERCROSS USE BRING FOOD SUPPLIES INTERNEES  
CAMPS. CAN YOU LOCATE PURCHASE OR RENT UP TO 10 TRUCKS  
FOR SUCH PURPOSES. MOST URGENT YOU SECURE AS MANY  
TRUCKS AS POSSIBLE UNQUOTE

This is WRB Bern 464

*copy sent Joe 3/19/45*

4:50 p.m.  
March 19, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Cohn, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Hutchison,  
McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files.

FH:hd 3/19/45

*Details  
by Leavitt*

000299



000300

*Hand Parcel*

March 26, 1945

Secretary Morgenthau

Miss Hodel

For your information

I send you herewith copies of two cables which we have just received from Mr. McClelland indicating that the bottleneck on the delivery of our food packages is beginning to be broken. The following items are of particular interest:

1. 1,170 War Refugee Board parcels and other relief supplies were to go forward on March 23 by railway cars from Switzerland to the concentration camp at Theresienstadt.
2. 4,900 War Refugee Board parcels are expected to leave Switzerland shortly on railway cars destined for Vienna.
3. 10,800 War Refugee Board parcels left Goteberg, Sweden, on March 16 for the women's concentration camp at Ravensbrueck (near Berlin).
4. 9,600 War Refugee Board parcels left Goteberg, Sweden, on March 17 for the concentration camp Waengamme near Hamburg.
5. Six 12 ton trucks have been rented by Mr. McClelland from private concerns in Switzerland and will be available next week to start transporting War Refugee Board supplies.

(Signed) Miss Hodel

# 1740 from Bern

# 1754 from Bern connected to 1765

*JH*

FH:nd 3/26/45

000301

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM  
DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

RS-554

1945 MAR 24 AM 10 52

Bern

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

Dated March 24, 1945

Rec'd 9:35 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

1765x

~~1764~~, March 24, 11 a.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCGLELLAND

Department's 1083 March 16

Concerning onshipment of our 224,328 WRB parcels  
at Gotoborg ICRC recently informed me that on March 16,  
two railroad cars containing 5,400 WRB parcels each  
left Gotoborg for women's concentration camp at  
Ravensbrueck and on March 17 two more railroad cars  
left for Hamburg-Nuengamme concentration camp con-  
taining 4,800 packages each. This makes total of  
20,400 parcels which have gone forward lately.

When Kubowitzki of World Jewish Congress was in  
Switzerland early in March he informed me that Storch  
WJC man in Stockholm was requesting funds to purchase  
additional foodstuffs in Sweden to send to Jewish in-  
ternees in Germany having been able forward his original  
stock to Bergen-Belsen and Theresienstadt. Since we had  
a large

-2-#1754, March 24, 11 a.m. from Bern

a large unused stock of WRB parcels in Goteborg which was not moving it seemed unnecessary to me that WJC should have to purchase still more food. I therefore offered Kubowitzki to release 40,000 WRB "K" parcels to WJC in Sweden for delivery to Jewish detainees particularly in Bergen-Belsen through the satisfactory shipping channels which Storch seemed to have worked out with Swedish YMCA. On March 16 accordingly with my approval ICRC Geneva wired their Goteborg man authorizing him turnover 40,000 parcels to WJC. In interest of getting as many WRB parcels into Germany as rapidly as possible this appeared to me recommendable move of which I hope you approve.

HARRISON

JMB

000303

05 MAR 25 AM 10 41

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

EK-466 Bern  
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement  
[redacted] W) Dated March 23, 1945  
Rec'd 9:50 p.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

1740, March 23, 6 p.m.

X  
FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

Department's 1090, WRB'S 455 March 16.

Efforts to secure trucks here and move WRB parcels from Switzerland in collaboration with ICRC'S Division of Special Assistance (DSA) for unassimilated persons are now meeting with small success.

Six twelve-ton trucks are being rented from private concern and will be available next week to transport relief supplies including WRB supplies to Buchenwald and Vienna area exclusively for civil detainees.

We were also able assist Sternbuch of Union Rabbis rent four trucks commercially which will leave next days for Bergen Belsen with Jewish Easter bread and other relief supplies.

Price such trucks is very high--one franc eighty per milometer plus stiff insurance charges but we felt it worthwhile.

As reported in Legation's 1687, March 21 YMCA has

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

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

000304

-2-#1740, March 23, 6 p.m., from Bern.

ceded twelve wood burning trucks now in Germany to ICRC DSA. These trucks have not been located in confusion but they ought begin turn up next week.

French Government has sent 100 new three-ton Renault trucks to Geneva for ICRC'S use. French are quite willing that eight or ten if not more be used exclusively for deliveries to their civil detainees if fuel can be made available. French, however, can send little or no fuel themselves and present SHAEF deliveries are solely for shipments to POWS.

On March 23 or 24 one railway car containing 1170 WRB parcels and other relief supplies from Union Rabbits and JDC will go forward to Theresienstadt and two other cars containing 4,900 WRB parcels plus JDC material will be shipped to Vienna area. We sincerely hope they will get through.

More trucks can be rented in Switzerland if tires can be obtained; and I shall, of course, discuss this possibility with SHAEF. I understand that AMCROSS plans ship tires to Toulon for Switzerland on next boat. Could you not squeeze in a few WRB tires for ICRC--DSA?

HARRISON

BB

000303



000306

*Food Parcels*

March 24, 1945

Secretary Morgenthau

Miss Hodel

For your information

Since General O'Dwyer's conference with you on Thursday, March 22, when he reported to you concerning his efforts to obtain an allocation of prisoner of war stocks for War Refugee operations, General O'Dwyer has decided not to press on this point at least until there are no more War Refugee Board parcels in Switzerland. Mr. Ryan of the American Red Cross, whom Mr. Basil O'Connell asked to call the General on this matter, is strongly opposed to any allocation to the War Refugee Board from prisoner of war stocks in Switzerland.

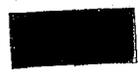
Meanwhile, the General is pressing for completion of the packaging and shipping of an additional 600,000 food packages from this country which has been approved by the Blockade authorities. It is hoped that under present plans, these additional packages will begin to be shipped from the United States in about 60 days.

(Signed) Florence Hodel

FH:hd 3/24/45

*Actually approved in file*

000301



000300

Food Packages

PROCUREMENT DIVISION

FROM: MR. LE FEVRE'S OFFICE

TO: Miss Hodel

*The attached is  
returned as  
per our telephone  
conversation*

*Rosell*  
(Signed)

DATE

2/25/45

(46517)

000309

*F. Files*

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



OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MAR 24 1945

Attention: Mr. LeFevre

Dear John:

Pursuant to conversations between members of my staff and members of your staff at Procurement Division, the War Refugee Board respectfully requests that Treasury Procurement Division negotiate contracts with the three firm bidders in connection with the War Refugee Board's three-kilo packages, currently being handled by your office, at the rate of 100,000 parcels to each contractor.

Since speed in delivery is the motivating factor in this change, Treasury Procurement is likewise requested to eliminate, if desirable in the interest of speed, the 150,000 tins of kosher meats which were originally to have been a part of a corresponding number of parcels.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William O'Dwyer".

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

Mr. John W. Pehle,  
Assistant to the Secretary,  
Treasury Procurement Division,  
Washington, D. C.

000310



000311

*Food Packages*  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

*Winkler Bd.*  
*O. Storch*

RS-554

1945 MAR 25 AM 10 52  
Bern

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

Dated March 24, 1945

Rec'd 9:35 a.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

*1765*  
*1754*, March 24, 11 a.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Department's 1083 March 16

Concerning onshipment of our 224,328 WRB parcels  
at Goteborg ICRC recently informed me that on March 16,  
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left for Hamburg-Nuengamme concentration camp con-  
taining 4,800 packages each. This makes total of  
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Switzerland early in March he informed me that Storch  
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additional foodstuffs in Sweden to send to Jewish in-  
ternes in Germany having been able forward his original  
stock to Bergen-Belsen and Theresienstadt. Since we had  
a large

**CONTROL COPY**

000312

-2-1754, March 24, 11 a.m. from Born

a large unused stock of WRB parcels in Gotoborg which was not moving it seemed unnecessary to me that WJC should have to purchase still more food. I therefore offered Kubowitzki to release 40,000 WRB "K" parcels to WJC in Sweden for delivery to Jewish detainees particularly in Bergen-Belson through the satisfactory shipping channels which Storch seemed to have worked out with Swedish YMCA. On March 16 accordingly with my approval ICRC Geneva wired their Gotoborg man authorizing him turnover 40,000 parcels to WJC. In interest of getting as many WRB parcels into Germany as rapidly as possible this appeared to me recommendable move of which I hope you approve.

HARRISON

JMB

000313

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

*Switzerland (new program)*

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

CORRECTION

March 24, 1945

*Wm. R. B. Jager*

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

**CONTROL COPY**

Telegram 1754, March 24, 11 a.m., from Bern reading  
"FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND Department's 1083, March 16"  
should be numbered 1765 according to advice from Bern.

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES

GAD

000314



000315

*Food Packages*

MAR 24 1945

**Attention: Mr. LaFerre**

Dear John:

Pursuant to conversations between members of my staff and members of your staff at Procurement Division, the War Refugee Board respectfully requests that Treasury Procurement Division negotiate contracts with the three firm bidders in connection with the War Refugee Board's three-kilo packages, currently being handled by your office, at the rate of 100,000 parcels to each contractor.

Since speed in delivery is the motivating factor in this change, Treasury Procurement is likewise requested to eliminate, if desirable in the interest of speed, the 150,000 tins of kosher meats which were originally to have been a part of a corresponding number of parcels.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

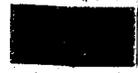
**William O'Dwyer**  
Executive Director

Mr. John W. Fehle,  
Assistant to the Secretary,  
Treasury Procurement Division,  
Washington, D. C.

*PJW*

PJMcG:hd 3/24/45

000316



000317

March 24, 1945

Secretary Morgenthau

Miss Hodel

For your information

The attached cable has just been received from Mr. McClelland reporting on Burekhardt's visit with the German authorities.

The main points in the Burekhardt report are as follows:

1. International Red Cross delegates will be permitted to be stationed in major camps for Schutzhaeftlinge (political deportees) and prisoners of war to supervise relief distributions;
2. The Germans are willing to allow deliveries of relief by truck to political deportees irrespective of nationality or race;
3. The Germans have agreed in principle to allow evacuation of women, children, elderly and ill people irrespective of religion or race;
4. International Red Cross is planning to utilize returning prisoner of war relief trucks for evacuations.

McClelland suggests that the War Refugee Board's most effective contribution to this double program of relief and evacuation will be (a) obtaining trucks and tires, and (b) organizing the evacuation from Switzerland of those refugees who are non-repatriable in Europe.

(Signed) Florence Hodel

FH:hd 3/24/45

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern  
TO: Secretary of State  
DATED: March 8, 1945  
NUMBER: 1480  
X

The following message, [REDACTED] from McClelland for VRB.

To Nachum Goldmann of World Jewish Congress, from Riegner, Geneva.

On the third of March, pursuing negotiations in the name of the Congress Kubowitzki discussed rescue problems with Carl Burckhardt, President ICRC, and with Von Steiger, President Swiss Confederation. For the purpose of discussing the release of civil detainees with Himmler, among other matters, Burckhardt announced his intention of leaving Germany within a few days. A member of the Swiss Legation in Berlin has been instructed to undertake parallel intercession also, by the Swiss Federal Council. Assurance was given by Von Steiger that any transports that might arrive from Germany would be admitted by Switzerland. The Germans had now agreed to repatriation of certain national groups of civil detainees, Burckhardt informed us.

For sending relief to camps in Germany Anglo-Saxon authorities have agreed to make available trucks to ICRC, but they insisted that they be used for prisoners of war only, civil detainees being excluded. It is the belief of ICRC that it will be possible to conclude arrangements for the use of such trucks returning empty for the transplantation of released persons to Switzerland, however. It is requested that you make urgent intercession with competent Allied authorities value of trucks for the relief of detained civilians. Please approach the Swedish Red Cross and, for the evacuation from Northern Germany, send a steamer to Luebeck also. It is requested that you cable me in this matter.

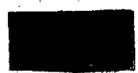
HARRISON

DC/L:LCW 3-9-45

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Arzin, Cohn, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Hutchison, McCormack, O'Dwyer.

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

000310



7 0 0 3 2 0

2 - War Ref. Bd.  
(O'Keefe)

Released for Distribution April 3

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Paris  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: March 23, 1945  
NUMBER: 1406

**CONTROL COPY**

As scheduled the meeting between Frenay, a representative of the International Red Cross, Duff Cooper, and myself for the purpose of discussing relief of Allied and French prisoners of war in Germany took place. An urgent plea was made by Frenay for immediate relief for all forced laborers, deportees and foreign prisoners. However, Frenay was confused between plans for relief after the collapse of Germany and relief to be afforded under present circumstances before hostilities cease.

However, the proposals of Frenay may be divided into two categories as follows: (a) those relating to the present period and (b) relief after hostilities cease.

With reference to (a) he recommended that all French, British and American food packages and medical supplies be placed in one common pool in Switzerland to be used in Germany for all foreign forced laborers, political deportees and Allied prisoners of war, without regard to their status or nationality; that all gasoline, tires and trucks furnished by those three governments be placed in a common pool and that in addition to the present 300 trucks 500 more be allocated. Subsequently I have been in consultation with the International Red Cross representative who

believes that

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

000321

believes that the proposal of Frenay as such is not workable, but requests that authorization be given the International Red Cross to utilize gasoline and trucks furnished either by the Government of the United States and the Government of the United Kingdom or by SHAEF for the emergency relief not only of all Allied prisoners of war Russians included, for which authorization is understood to be available at present but also for the emergency relief of Allied civilian internees and deportees on the march or in camps, in addition. Some trucks have already been furnished by the French. Report from IRC states that condition of these people is tragic and that common humanity requires that if columns of starving men and women are passed on the roads by the truck convoys, some assistance be given these Allied nationals. Instructions of the Department in reference to the points brought up by the IRC representative are solicited urgently.

Reference (B), post hostilities period, several suggestions as follows were made by Frenay:

(1) He suggested that each French Department constitute a supply of trucks and food stocks which would proceed from the French frontier into Germany immediately following the collapse of Germany to deliver supplies of foodstuffs to deportees and foreign prisoners, carrying deportees and French prisoners of war to France, these trucks would then return.

(2) The French suggested at the same time that the Allies use large numbers of bombardment airplanes which would be available for the purpose of parachuting packages of foodstuffs to deportees  
and Allied

and Allied prisoners of war in Germany along the roads.

(3) It is proposed by the French that suggestion be made to the Government of Switzerland that they send military trucks and supplies of food into Germany from the south and that for the purpose of supplying deportees and Allied prisoners of war Sweden send stocks and ships from the north. The problem of supplying deportees and prisoners immediately after collapse of Germany, I pointed out, was primarily a problem of the Allied military authorities and that the military agency charged with dealing with displaced people was G-5. While he was in touch with various G-5 officers Frenay stated he felt nevertheless that plans which had been drawn up might not be adequate for dealing with that question. For discussing the matter of safety and protection of the lives of prisoners of war and deportees in the period after the collapse of Germany he has requested an additional conference. I shall request that at the next meeting a representative of G-5 SHAEF attend for discussion of the proposals of Frenay regarding the second period above indicated.

Frenay, in my opinion, is holding these meetings because he is locally under heavy fire from the resistance groups, the Socialists and the Communists on account of the failure to do more for French deportees and prisoners. Apparently he is not completely informed as to the situation, he tends to confuse the issues and he desires to make the problems of prisoners and displaced people one single problem without regard to the difficulties inherent in the supply for such large numbers of people. Possibly  
by drawing

0 0 0 3 2 3

by drawing us into the conversations he hopes to shift to our shoulders the responsibility for the failure of his Ministry to take what the French people consider adequate measures. This situation is loaded with political dynamite in view of the fact that there is hardly a family in France that does not have a deportee or a prisoner in Germany.

The foregoing message as No. 135 has been repeated to Bern.

CAFFERY

*LCR*  
DC/L:LCW:CVT

4-3-45

000324



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000325

March 22, 1945

Treasury Procurement  
50 Church Street  
New York, New York

Gentlemen:

In accordance with our conversation at your office, I am enclosing, in duplicate, a summary of availability of ingredients and packing materials needed for 300,000 food relief parcels.

The over-all picture seems fairly optimistic and the few difficult items such as cheese, oleomargarine, and fish are by no means hopeless. Large quantities of these products are purchased by Red Cross and Government, and it is my thought that the War Refugee Board could arrange shipments for the comparably small quantity needed for this order.

Such purchases could be handled either as outright purchases by the Prince Company, or if Red Cross or the Government agency would prefer replacement in kind, this also could be arranged.

I am in daily contact with prospective suppliers and hope to be able to secure a good portion of the as yet uncertain items.

Respectfully yours,  
THE PRINCE COMPANY  
/s/ S. PRINCE

000320

Summary of Availability of Ingredients and Packing Materials Needed  
for 300,000 Food Relief Parcels

Biscuits - Biscuits are unobtainable. Mr. McCormack advised substitution will be necessary during conversation at the Treasury Procurement office. The suggested substitute item is dehydrated soup. We are in a position to obtain approximately 60,000 units weighing 6 3/4 ounces and manufactured by the Tetley Tea Company, and 240,000 6-ounce units packed in tins manufactured by the Capitol Packing Corporation. The Tetley assortment will consist of 3 2 1/2 ounce units and the Capitol assortment will consist of one or two 3-ounce tins. The price of the 3-ounce tins is .0725 each.

Cheese - 8 ounce tins are being packed by three companies--Swift, Kraft, and Shefford Cheese Company. The Swift Company and the Kraft Company are completely oversold with direct army contracts for the balance of this year. The Shefford Cheese Company are now packing 12,000,000 pounds for F.S.C.C. Mr. Wurtz, Vice-President of the Borden Company, suggested that we apply to W.F.A. who would be in a position to assign the quantity needed from any of the cheese packers who are today working on this item under a W.F.A. directive.

Whole Powdered Milk - Kraft has arranged to supply us with the entire quantity. Any allocations that are needed will not require special Government assistance.

Oleomargarine - This item is one of the most critical. Swift and Standard Brands both have direct Army contracts which will run them through 1945. Although Swift has definitely rejected this business, Standard Brands is making a special effort and is trying to arrange for production. I have phoned Mr. McCormack to visit Mr. R. G. Spears, who is in charge of the oleo product for Standard Brands at the Carlton Hotel, Washington, D. C., and perhaps through the added influence of War Refugee Board they may supply us. The Miami Margarine Company is packing this one pound tin and selling its entire output to the F.S.C.C., which is then supplied to Red Cross. They believe that we can purchase the 300,000 tins needed from F.S.C.C.

Salmon or Tuna - These items are unobtainable. Mr. McCormack advised substitution will be necessary during conversation at the Treasury Procurement Office. The substitute items he suggested consisted of two tins of sardines and he felt confident he could obtain from Government set-asides.

Meat - Kosher - The Kosher meat will be furnished by Fineberg, who will require the usual export priorities necessary for replacement of tin. We do not believe that this will require unusual Government aid.

Meat - Non-Kosher - The Swift Company is willing to supply the entire quantity, and we do not believe that they will require unusual Government aid.

Chocolate - The sample 4-ounce bar contained in the package submitted to us by the Treasury Procurement Office, manufactured by the Walter Baker Company, Dorchester, Massachusetts. This firm is at present packing these bars for the Red Cross and the U.S. Army. They will accept our order for the entire quantity

000327

but will not be in a position to make their first delivery to us until May 23. The amount needed for this order is very small in comparison to the shipments the Walter Baker Company is making to Red Cross, and it is our thought that Red Cross may cooperate in permitting the chocolate company to supply us with 100,000 4-ounce bars out of their allotment. The chocolate company will replace this quantity on May 23 and will be able to supply us with the balance of 200,000 bars within the time scheduled in the contract.

Soap - P & G will accept our order for the entire quantity of 2-ounce cakes of Ivory soap. They will require War Food Administration exemption certificate.

Multi-Vitamin Capsules - The Vitamin Corporation of America are prepared to supply this item exactly as specified, namely 16 tablets containing all specified ingredients, packed in cardboard container.

Sugar - The American Sugar Refinery and all other manufacturers of tablet or cube sugar are 100% sold to the Government. Mr. Gering of the American Sugar Refinery advised that we may purchase 18 ounce package directly from C.C.C.

Cartons and Shipping Containers. - Mr. McCormack has arranged for the National Container Corporation to supply the entire quantity of both items. We ought to receive instructions from the Treasury Procurement as to the type of priority application.

Water Proof Paper - Water proof paper needed for shipping containers will be supplied by the Kuhmarker Waxed Paper Company and will be in exact accordance with specifications.

Receipt cards will be supplied by Joseph Zuckerman and will be made of first quality tag stock equal or better to the sample card.

Strapping - Labels and material for strapping will be supplied by a commercial export packer. Only routine Government aid will be required in obtaining this very critical material. In accordance with an arrangement made by Mr. McCormack of the War Refugee Board, we have been assured by Red Cross that they will permit us to borrow a sufficient amount of straps and seals to complete this order. In the event that this Red Cross aid is necessary, we are to replace the amount borrowed at a later date.

000328



000329



000330

*Food Parcels*

*2 World Bank  
O'Leary*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, London  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: March 22, 1945 (received March 23)  
NUMBER: 2965



**CONTROL COPY**

The following message was sent to Stockholm for the Legation and Olsen as No. 270 and is reported to the Department for WRB, FEA and the Department.

Cable March 17, No. 2070 from WRB, FEA and the Department recommending an expansion in parcel program from Sweden for persons detained in Bergen Belsen has been received by the Embassy. It is proposed to ship 200,000 kronor worth of food, 300,000 kronor medical supplies and 500,000 kronor clothing. It is not clear to the Embassy how much of this will originate in the United States and how much in Sweden but it is assumed that at least the food is an indigenous product of Sweden. Furthermore MEW and the Embassy are not clear as to the relations i.e. between this proposal and request for 100 tons of foodstuffs which the British Legation referred to MEW (CC 183 of March 4) and JSC application V/921 for 15 tons of foodstuffs which the British Legation also referred.

It is stated in the cable from the Department that the distribution would be handled in the same way as the existing scheme for food parcels. It is understood by the Embassy from references cited that the Department intends that the parcels would be sent on the responsibility of some reliable independent organization such as Swedish Red Cross or Intercross that receipts would be requested and spot checked and that later shipments would depend on early lots

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

000331

being distributed satisfactorily. From information MEW received from British Legation (reporting to the Department in the Embassy's despatch of March 14, No. 21671) the Embassy understands that the most customary method of forwarding parcels recently has been by commercial channels i.e., J Wootbaar and A/B Bankompaniet. It is felt by both MEW and EWD as indicated in the Embassy's despatch, that some independent organization such as Swedish Red Cross or Inter-cross should be prepared to take the responsibility for any scheme to which approval is given. Legation's relief sub-committee is prepared to approve further shipments provided this condition can be met and some check on receipts can be made. Information from the Department as to whether it concurs in the opinion that some reliable independent body should participate and information from Stockholm regarding the total amount of further authorizations now requested would be appreciated by EWD before giving final approval.

WINANT

IDB  
DC/L:IDB:CVT  
3-26-45

000330



000333

Food Parcels

NEW YORK TIMES  
Tuesday, March 20, 1945

### FRANCE PRODS ALLIES ON AID TO PRISONERS

By Wireline to The New York Times.

PARIS, March 18—Henry Frenay, French Minister of Prisoners of War and Deportees, during a two-hour meeting this afternoon with Jefferson Caffery, United States Ambassador, and Alfred Duff Cooper, British Ambassador, submitted proposals for getting food to French and other prisoners of war still in Germany and helping those already liberated.

His proposals included the parachuting of food to prisoners of war camps and the sending of Allied trucks to Sweden and then to Lüneburg in Germany to help in the emergency distribution of Red Cross food parcels that has already begun from Switzerland. He asked more Allied help in setting up prisoner reception centers near the front.

Like a man whistling in the dark, the French popular press has been saying that Frenchmen now being liberated by the Americans in Germany are fine chaps, as good as ever, and full of pep and humor. Officials in the know, however, tell a different tale.

"Five years of insufficient food and humiliation are a long time," they say, "and these men are 'diminished' physically and mentally."

One in ten is tubercular, one in twenty has venereal disease and their mental condition is also below par, these observers declare. Yet they are the lifeblood of France.

This explains some of the deep concern felt by M. Frenay and many others in France. His Ministry is facing growing criticism over the inadequacy of its activities, especially from communist-allied National Workers of Prisoners and Deportees, which is foremost among many political groups vying for favor of returning prisoners of war.

from parcels sent from  
military authorities  
in Geneva, Switzerland

000334



000335

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

PEM

180 BR 21 11 4 54

PIAIN

March 20, 1945

ALLEGATION

BERN

1130, Twentieth

The cable below for McClelland is WRB 459.

Please deliver the following message to Isaac Sternbach,  
Hijefs, Montreux, from the Vaad Hatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE Informed trucks carrying food and medication for  
prisoners of war in Germany may be available on return trips  
for transports refugees to Switzerland. We request you  
appeal to International Red Cross and consult McClelland.

UNQUOTE

GREW  
(Acting)  
(GREW)

WRB:MMV:KG  
3/20/45

WE

BWP

115X

000336



80

000337

LFH  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (██████████)

March 19, 1945

5 p. m.

US URGENT

AMLEGATION

Bern  
1121  
FOR HARRISON

As no word has been received from McClelland since  
March 8 it is assumed that he has gone to Paris.

In order to enable the Board to be prepared for the  
situation which may develop in Switzerland, it is requested  
that you reply at once to the following questions:

- (1) Have any trucks been acquired for delivery of War  
Refugee Board food parcels in enemy territory?
- (2) What are the prospects of evacuating detainees  
from enemy territory to Switzerland?
- (3) Will Intercross use returning POW relief trucks  
for evacuation of detainees in Switzerland?

The above is WRB 465.

H. CHESON  
(Acting)  
(GLW)

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

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

000330



000339

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

March 17, 1945

2 p.m.

*Quoted Ref 361  
O - Denver*

Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. ( )

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

MAR 19 1945

DC/L  
LIAISON OFFICE

**CONTROL COPY**

AMLEGATION

STOCKHOLM  
502

The following for Johnson and Olsen from War Refugee Board  
is WRB 326.

Re our 173, January 31, and your 676, February 22. There is  
reported below for your information text of our cable to London  
requesting blockade authorization for on shipment from Sweden of  
medical supplies, clothing, and food parcels with over-all amount  
of 1,000,000 kroner:

QUOTE Expansion of parcel program from Sweden for  
destinances in Bergenbelsen desirable at this time and recom-  
mended by Amlegation and WRB representative Stockholm. Pro-  
posal covers on shipments from Sweden of 300,000 kroner  
medical supplies, 500,000 kroner clothing, and 200,000 kroner  
(24,000 parcels) food from Sweden.

Distribution would be handled after the manner of the  
currently approved food parcel program from Sweden. Reference  
is made to Department's 945 of February 7, your 1559,  
your 1897, February 23,  
February 12, and earlier exchange on this subject.

Department, FEA, and WRB request urgent approval from  
Joint Relief Subcommittee so that procurement and shipment  
can be begun at the earliest possible moment. If they agree, please

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

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

000340

-2-#502, March 17, 2 p.m., to Stockholm.

please inform Stockholm direct, repeating to Washington.

UNQUOTE

For your information the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee here has indicated to the Board that it will underwrite the cost of this program.

ACHESON  
Acting  
(CLW)

UNB:MMV:KG  
3/18/45

NOE

BC

SWK

FLA

000341

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Re our 173, January 31, and your 676, February 22. There is repeated below for your information text of our cable to London requesting Blockade authorization for on shipment from Sweden of medical supplies, clothing, and food parcels with over-all amount of 1,000,000 kroner:

QUOTE Expansion of parcel program from Sweden for detainees in Bergenbelsen desirable at this time and recommended by Amembassy and WRB representative Stockholm. Proposal covers on shipments from Sweden of 300,000 kroner medical supplies, 500,000 kroner clothing, and 200,000 kroner (24,000 parcels) food from Sweden.

Distribution would be handled after the manner of the currently approved food parcel program from Sweden. Reference is made to Department's 945 of February 7 and your 1559, February 13, and earlier exchange on this subject.

Department, FEA, and WRB request urgent approval from Joint Relief Subcommittee so that procurement and shipment can be begun at the earliest possible moment. If MEW agrees, please inform Stockholm direct, repeating to Washington. UNQUOTE

For your information the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee here has indicated to the board that it will underwrite the cost of this program.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 326

9:30 a.m.  
March 13, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Akzin, Cohn, DuPois, Gaston, Hodel, Hutchison, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files

*PM*  
P McCormack:ar 3/10/45 *Jed*

000342



18

x

000343

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

RECEIVED TELEGRAM March 17,

Distribution of this message by special arrangement. (W)

6 p.m.

1945 MAR 19 PM 2 42

*Mar Rep. Zel,  
O. Sauer*

AMEMBASSY

DC/L  
LIAISON

**CONTROL COPY**

LONDON

2070

The following for Winant and Stone from Department, FEA and War Refugee Board is WRB 57.

Expansion of parcel program from Sweden for detainees in Bergenbelsen desirable at this time and recommended by delegation and WRB representative Stockholm. Proposal covers on shipments from Sweden of 300,000 kroner medical supplies, 500,000 kroner clothing, and 200,000 kroner (24,000 parcels) food from Sweden.

Distribution would be handled after the manner of the currently approved food parcel program from Sweden. Reference is made to Department's OAS of February 7 your 1859, February 13, your 1897, February 23, and earlier exchange on this subject.

Department, FEA, and WRB request urgent approval from Joint Relief Subcommittee so that procurement and shipment can be begun at the earliest possible moment. If JRRS agrees, please inform Stockholm direct, repeating to Washington.

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

ACHESON  
(Acting)  
(GIN)

WRB:BNV:RG  
3/13/45

DC

NGE

SWP

FEA

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

000344

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR WINANT AND STONE, FROM DEPARTMENT, FEA, AND WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Expansion of parcel program from Sweden for detainees in Bergenbelsen desirable at this time and recommended by Embassy and WRB representative Stockholm. Proposal covers on shipments from Sweden of 300,000 kroner medical supplies, 500,000 kroner clothing, and 200,000 kroner (24,000 parcels) food from Sweden.

Distribution would be handled after the manner of the currently approved food parcel program from Sweden. Reference is made to Department's 945 of February 7 and your 1559, February 13, and earlier exchange on this subject.

Department, FEA, and WRB request urgent approval from Joint Relief Subcommittee so that procurement and shipment can be begun at the earliest possible moment. If MEM agrees, please inform Stockholm direct, repeating to Washington.

THIS IS WRB LONDON CABLE NO. 57

9:30 a.m.  
March 13, 1945

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

*PJM*  
PJMccormack:ar 3/10/45 *JK*

000345



000346

Command 104, 72 March 16  
to America's front lines

Preliminary reports first lorry convoys and first blocked train indicate operation completely successful. All lorries northern convoy reached destination without incident. One lorry full medicines delivered Stalag 3a. 4 lorries are remaining Lubeck arrange to effect distribution from Lubeck while 2 lorries returned from that area bringing entire Jerry cans. On southern convoy 1 lorry broke down en route and its supplies were left at Stalag 7b. All other lorries proceeded to region Eger Carlsbad, Prag, Pilsen, where distribution was made to estimated 18,000 Ampows and Britpows. Also some Belgium and French on march. Blocked train left Buchs March arrived Moosburg March 8, 6 a.m. Again unloading immediately left Moosburg March 10, 3:45 a.m. Returned Buchs March 11, 9:30 a.m. While at Moosburg trains placed under double guard German sentries and Allied NCO unloading operations proceeded 3 shifts French, British and Ampows. Delegate reports Ampows showed little willingness work and pilfered considerably so that their use had to be discontinued. At present practically no storage space remaining Moosburg as barracks not occupied by Pows have been taken over for German troops on march and bombed out German civilians. 8 lorries remained Moosburg to effect distribution from reserves carried by blocked train. 2nd blocked train 50 cars were supposed return Moosburg this week but difficulties have arisen with German authorities concerning reserves at that camp. Train is loaded similarly to first and now at Buchs awaiting departure which depends on negotiations being conducted in Germany this weekend by Rigg. As Moosburg unavailable Intercross hopes that your authorization establish reserve depot central southern Germany either in available

000347

local warehouse space or by forwarding from Switzerland transportable wooden barracks. 2 barracks capacity 200 tons each could leave Switzerland within 3 days but estimated 10 additional required which will take 4 to 6 weeks to forward and ~~xxx~~ erect. 2nd convoy lorries going forward in 4 columns 12 lorries each departed: March 17, 18, 19 bwp. Experience first column has shown each convoy should consist small groups as moving columns of prisoners are generally found on secondary roads. Intercross delegate proceeding first column by first day in order to ascertain movement prisoners who are at times difficult to locate. Each Amcross lorry carrying approximately 6 tons food, medical supplies, soap and boot repair material while Cancross lorries carrying approximately 3 tons similar articles. Experience first convoy shows inadvisable utilize trailers because of heavy load in lorry as well as hindering maneuverability which highly necessary owing state of roads. 2nd blocked train will carry one tank car gasoline if storage space available at destination. Excluding blocked trains and lorries during February 430 freight cars went forward to camps from Switzerland plus 164 freight cars also lorries totaling 2,273 tons from Lubeck plus 5 freight cars totaling 78 tons from Goteberg. March 1 to March 12 44 freight cars forwarded from Switzerland to camps plus until March 10. 74 freight cars totaling 1,208 tons plus 7 tons by lorry from Lubeck. As at March 10 stock Lubeck 4,480 tons. Goteberg 21,600 tons not including Salvo. Intercross received yesterday following telegram from Marti concerning supply northern area lorries will supply all camps Wehrkreises II, III, IV, IX, X, VI, XI. From Lubeck. Can we execute equal distribution parcels to all internationals except Italians and Russians. Pool is ideal. Repeat Dunning.

000340



16

000349

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

IR.P  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (S)

RECEIVED March 16, 1945

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
1945 MAR 17 PM 2 01

*War Ref Bd*  
*o Sawyer*

AMLEGATION

DC/L  
LIAISON

**CONTROL COPY**

BHNN  
1033  
x

The following is for McClelland from War Refugee Board.

Re our 4001 of November 25, 1944. *WRB 454*

There is repeated below for your information the text

of a cable to the Board's representative in Stockholm.

NOTE The Board requests from you at the earliest possible moment a report on the status of the on-shipment of the 224,328 three-kilo WRB food parcels which were shipped to Gothenburg the latter half of November. It is suggested that you check with either Glen Whisler, ARC representative, Stockholm, or ICRC delegate, and report your findings immediately to the Board. UNQUOTE

If you have any information with respect to the on-shipment of supplies from Gothenburg, it will be appreciate.

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

STETTINUS

(S)

SWR

HRB:MLV:RG  
3/16/45

RECEIVED  
DIRECTION D.C.  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

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

000350

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCGRELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND, FROM WAR  
REFUGEE BOARD

Re our 4001 of November 26, 1944.

There is repeated below for your information the text of a cable  
to the Board's representative in Stockholm.

QUOTE The Board requests from you at the earliest possible  
moment a report on the status of the on-shipment of the 224,328  
three-kilo WRB food parcels which were shipped to Gothenburg the  
latter half of November. It is suggested that you check with  
either Glen Whisler, ARC representative, Stockholm, or ICRC dele-  
gate, and report your findings immediately to the Board. UNQUOTE

If you have any information with respect to the on-shipment of  
supplies from Gothenburg, it will be appreciated.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 454

X

4:45 p.m.  
March 14, 1945

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

*PM*  
PMcCormack:agr 3-14-45

000351

November 25, 1944

Midnight

AMLEGATION

BERN  
4001

The following for McClelland is WRB 291.

Ancross shipping on SS Saivo to Gothenburg within next ten days 37,388 cases containing 224,328 three-kilo WRB food parcels for consignment to Intercross for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps. Shipment to Swedish port being made due to lack of shipping facilities Marseille. All three-kilo parcels, in accordance with Intercross instructions, are unmarked cartons. Outer shipping cartons (each containing 6 three-kilo parcels) are marked on each of two ends as follows: To International Red Cross Committee, at the top; lower left: Weight 43 lbs; lower right: Cubic Feet: 1.32. In the center portion of each of the two ends and on two sides will appear a circle substituted for the Red Cross emblem (at Ancross suggestion). That portion of the shipment containing a Kosher meat product (39,324 three-kilo parcels packed in 6,554 shipping cartons) will be distinguished by the letter "K" appearing in the center of the four circles. Parcels so packed do not contain receipt cards and are for distribution by Intercross as outlined in paragraph 4, your 6263, September 21. Balance of 30,834 shipping cartons containing 183,004 three-kilo parcels includes receipt card as per wirephoto, September 22. All parcels contain items mentioned our 5859, September 6. Remaining 60,672 three-kilo parcels will go forward sometime in December.

For your information, the Board has secured authorization from MEW to make provision for the shipment of an additional 300,000 three-kilo parcels to go forward beginning the latter half of December.

The foregoing has been repeated to Stockholm.

MEW has approved and Ancross is prepared to ship for world Jewish Congress here a total of 10,000 pounds of clothing for distribution to unassimilated persons in Bergenbelsen and other camps. Shipment will be made to Gothenburg sometime in December when shipping space becomes available. However, Ancross has asked Board to obtain assurance from Intercross that Intercross is prepared to receive and distribute this clothing. You are requested to obtain such assurance and advise Board.

Reference Bergenbelsen and point No. 3 your 6265 September 2, Board would appreciate definition of "number A internees in Bergenbelsen Germany."

STETTINIUS  
ACTING

WRB:MMV:KG  
11/24/44

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

000352



000353

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

PEM  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (b)(7) 19 PM 2 43

MARCH 16, 1945  
4 p.m.  
*W. R. O. 33*  
*O. Jensen*

DC/L  
LIAISON

ALLEGATION

CONTROL COPY

STOCKHOLM  
496

The following is for Olsen from War Refugee Board.

Re our 2372 of November 25, 1944. WR 0 33

The Board requests from you at the earliest possible moment a report on the status of the on-shipment of the 224,328 three-kilo WRB food parcels which were shipped to Gothenburg the latter half of November. It is suggested that you check with either Glen Whicler, ARC representative, Stockholm, or ICRC delegate, and report your findings immediately to the Board.

STETTINUS  
(GIV)

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

KRB:REV:RG  
3/16/46

FOE

CVF

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

000354

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Re cur 2372 of November 25, 1944.

The Board requests from you at the earliest possible moment a report on the status of the on-shipment of the 224,328 three-kilo WRB food parcels which were shipped to Gothenburg the latter half of November. It is suggested that you check with either Glen Whisler, ARC representative, Stockholm, or ICRC delegate, and report your findings immediately to the Board.

THIS IS WEB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 332  
X

4:45 p.m.  
March 14, 1945

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

*PM*  
PM McCormack:agr 3-14-45

000356

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: AMERICAN LEGATION, STOCKHOLM  
DATED: November 25, 1944  
NUMBER: 2372

The following is a text of a cable to Bern which is repeated for your information.

Ancross shipping on S.S. Saivo to Gothenburg within next ten days 37,388 cases containing 224,328 three-kilo WRB food parcels for consignment to Intercross for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps. Shipment to Swedish port being made due to lack of shipping facilities Marseille. All three-kilo parcels, in accordance with Intercross instructions, are unmarked cartons. Outer shipping cartons (each containing 6 three-kilo parcels) are marked on each of two ends as follows: To International Red Cross Committee, at the top; lower left: Weight 43 lbs; lower right: Cubic feet: 1.32. In the center portion of each of the two ends and on two sides will appear a circle substituted for the Red Cross emblem (at Ancross suggestion). That portion of the shipment containing a Kosher meat product (39,324 three-kilo parcels packed in 6,554 shipping cartons) will be distinguished by the letter "K" appearing in the center of the four circles. Parcels so packed do not contain receipt cards and are for distribution by Intercross as outlined in paragraph 4, your 6263, September 21. Balance of 30,834 shipping cartons containing 185,004 three-kilo parcels includes receipt card as per wirephoto, September 22. All parcels contain items mentioned our 5859, September 6. Remaining 60,672 three-kilo parcels will go forward sometime in December. For your information, Board has secured authorization from MEW to make provision for the shipment of an additional 300,000 three-kilo parcels to go forward beginning the latter half of December.

MEW has approved and Ancross is prepared to ship for World Jewish Congress here 10,000 pounds of clothing for Intercross distribution to unassimilated persons Bergenbolson and other camps. Shipment will be made sometime in December when space becomes available. Will you informally clear this matter with appropriate Swedish officials with a view to obtaining their approval for the offloading of this shipment at Gothenburg.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72  
By R. H. Paris Date

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 254.

SEP 21 1972

STETTINIUS  
(Acting)

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Alkin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston Hodel, Lesser, Marks, Mannon, McCorkack,

000356



000357

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
*Send message for Bureau Dept.*

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

*WRB Ry PA (810)*

TO

1945 MAR 16 PM 4 37

PLAIN

March 15, 1945

LIASON

AMLEGATION

STOCKHOLM

492, Fiftoonth

*WRB 325*

Please deliver the following message to Hiel Storch,

POB 7506, Stockholm, from Kurt R. Grossman, through War

Refugee Board:

QUOTE Bergenbelsen arrivals report inmates Bergenbelsen danger of starvation foodparcels of greatest importance but very few arrive. Advise you take action to obtain safe delivery to addressees. Inform whether you repeat sending parcels addresses we send. UNQUOTE

STETTINIUS (GHV)

WRB:HEV:KG  
3/14/45

NCE

SWP

000358

CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, STOCKHOLM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Hilda Storch, POB 7306,  
Stockholm, from Kurt R. Grossman:

QUOTE RESUME/ELSEN ARRIVALS REPORT IMMATES RESUME/ELSEN  
DANGER OF STARVATION FOODPARCELS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE  
BUT VERY FEW ARRIVE. ADVISE YOU TAKE ACTION TO OBTAIN  
SAFE DELIVERY TO ADDRESSES STOP INFORM WHETHER YOU  
REPEAT SENDING PARCELS ADDRESSES WE SEND. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 325

x

*Copy sent to W.J.C. 3/10/45*

3:30 p.m.  
March 10, 1945

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

*RBH*  
MAR 10 3/10/45

*original signed  
by Miss  
Hodel*

7 0 0 3 5 4

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS  
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

CABLES: CONGRESS, New York  
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1901

LONDON  
55 New Cavendish St, W 1

GENEVA  
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES  
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM  
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL  
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY  
Sonora 1744

In reply refer to:  
No. 345

March 7, 1945

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

Dear General O'Dwyer:

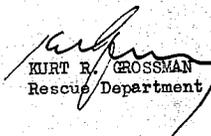
May I ask you to be good enough to have the following  
message transmitted through the facilities of the De-  
partment of State:

"To: Hilel Storch, POB 7306, Stockholm, Sweden  
From: Kurt R. Grossman

Bergenbelsen arrivals report inmates Bergenbelsen  
danger of starvation food parcels of greatest im-  
portance but very few arrive. Advise you take  
action to obtain safe delivery to addressees stop  
Inform whether you repeat sending parcels addressees  
we send."

Thank you for giving this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

  
KURT R. GROSSMAN  
Rescue Department

KRG:bm

000360

10

000361

7. 1 700 Pkgs.  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

1945 MAR 16 AM 11 49

*W. R. B. (C/O)*

LIAISON

PLAIN

March 15, 1945

PEM

**CONTROL COPY**

ALLEGATION

BERN  
1062

Please request McClelland deliver the following message to Leon Kubowitzki, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, from Kurt Grossman, through War Refugee Board: WRB 444  
JUCEL Bergenbelsen arrivals report starvation danger for inmates there. Food parcels essential their existence, though many reported not to arrive. Suggested IRC Washington secure delivery guarantee German Government. UN JUCEL

STETTINIUS  
(CHV)

MAR 15 1945  
RECEIVED  
REFUGEE BOARD  
WASHINGTON D.C.

URB:GIV:KQ  
3/14/45

RE

SMP

000362

CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, BERN, FOR MCCLELLAND, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Leon Kobovitch, 37 Quai  
Wilson, Geneva, from Kurt Grossman:

QUOTE BERGHEIM ARRIVALS REPORT STARVATION DANGER FOR  
IMMATES THERE. FOOD PARCELS ESSENTIAL THEIR EXISTENCE,  
THOUGH MANY REPORTED NOT TO ARRIVE. SUGGESTED IRO WASHINGTON  
SECURE DELIVERY GUARANTEE GERMAN GOVERNMENT. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 444

x

*copy sent to WJC 3/10/45*

4:40 p.m.  
March 10, 1945

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

*REH: 3/8/45*

000363

**WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS**  
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON  
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA  
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES  
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM  
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL  
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY  
Sonora 1744

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

In reply refer to:  
No. 347

March 7, 1945

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

Dear General O'Dwyer:

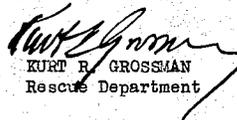
Would you please be good enough to have the following message transmitted through the facilities of the Department of State:

"To: Leon Kubowitzki, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva  
From: Kurt Grossman

Bergenbelsen arrivals report starvation danger for inmates there. Food parcels essential their existence, though many reported not to arrive. Suggested IRC Washington secure delivery guarantee German Government."

Thank you for giving this matter your prompt attention.

Sincerely yours,

  
KURT R. GROSSMAN  
Rescue Department

000364



000365

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

5,020,822  
1,410,000  

---

3,610,822

DATE March 15, 1945

TO Miss Hodel  
  
FROM Mr. McCormack

Unobligated balances of the congressionally appropriated funds for Foreign War Relief are as follows:

Treasury Department (Procurement Div.)	\$5,020,822
Agriculture Department (War Food Adm.)	\$1,500,000
War Department (Surgeon General)	675,000
	<hr/> \$7,195,822

*Committee of*  
\$5,020,822  

---

30,171.16

You can readily see that an additional "earmarking" for the Board by Bureau of the Budget of \$1,125,000 to cover costs involved in procurement of 300,000 additional parcels will not exhaust these balances.

However, since American Red Cross expressed some concern about our most recent tapping of this fund, it might be prudent if either you or General O'Dwyer informally cleared this additional use of these funds with Basil O'Connor. At the same time, it is suggested that assurances be obtained from Mr. O'Connor that Red Cross will perform with respect to shipping as they have in the past. (Mr. Pate has informally assured me that he can accommodate us up to 1,000 tons per month without putting undue strain on existing ARC facilities.) When this has been done, it will be possible for us to write the type of letter that we initially wrote to Red Cross along the lines:- "It is my understanding that ---."

I will take no direct steps with Budget concerning actual obligation in this case until I hear from you.

*RJM*

000366

March 15, 1945

Miss Hodel

Mr. McCormack

Unobligated balances of the congressionally appropriated funds for Foreign War Relief are as follows:

Treasury Department (Procurement Div.)	\$5,020,822
Agriculture Department (War Food Adm.)	\$1,500,000
War Department (Surgeon General)	675,000
	<u>\$7,195,822</u>

You can readily see that an additional "earmarking" for the Board by Bureau of the Budget of \$1,125,000 to cover costs involved in procurement of 300,000 additional parcels will not exhaust these balances.

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I will take no direct steps with Budget concerning actual obligation in this case until I hear from you.

*Wan*  
PJMccormack:ar 3/15/45

000367



000368

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

KJR

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

PLAIN

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

March 14, 1945

1945 MAR 15 PM 2 51

*u ar Ref Bd  
Co' Remy*

DC  
LIAISON

**CONTROL COPY**

AMLEGATION

STOCKHOLM  
478, Fourteenth

The cable below for Olsen is WRB 324.

Please deliver the following message to Fritz Hollander,  
Congress Committee, Postbox 7306, Stockholm, from Kurt Grossman,  
World Jewish Congress:

UNQUOTE Kindly have food parcels forwarded immediately follow-  
ing Bergenbelsen inmates: Bernstein, Mrs. Henriette; Biologowski,  
Wolf, wife and child; Conn, Dr. Hilda; Benedict (orphans barrack);  
Guttstein, Sonja, mother, father; Bloch, Dr.; Dessau, Dr. Sam, wife  
(nee Golde) child; Druyf, Abraham, Margeretha (nee Schelvis),  
Arnold, Lilly (nee van Embden); Floersheim, Ilse (nee Koeller),  
Michael; Hirschfeldt, Kurt, Betty (nee Zann); Knoller, Aribert,  
Gertrude, Simon, Berta; Levy, Leonard; Lion, Mrs. Bertrice  
(nee Strassburger); Loewenberg, Lucio, Schonberg, Ernst, Gertrud,  
Tomi; Schenkolewsky, Isaac, Clara, Miriam, Moses; van Tijn, Benjamin,  
Behje (nee Czoslinski); de Vries, Aaron, Reine (nee Spier). UNQUOTE

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
RECEIVED  
MAR 15 1945

WRB:MMV:KG  
3/12/45

000369

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON AND OLSEN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Frits Hollander, Congress Committee, Postbox 7306, Stockholm, from Kurt Grossman, World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE Kindly have foodparcels forwarded immediately following Bergenbelsen inmates: Bernstein, Mrs. Henriette; Biologlowaki, Wolf, wife and child; Cohn, Dr. Hilda; Benedict (orphans barrack); Guttatein, Sonja, mother, father; Bloch, Dr.; Dessau, Dr. Sam, wife (nee Golde) child; Druyf, Abraham, Margaretha (nee Schelvis), Arnold, Milly (nee van Eubden); Floersheim, Ilse (nee Noeller), Michael; Hirschfeldt, Kurt, Betty (nee Zann); Knoller, Aribert, Gertrude, Simon, Berta; Levy, Leonard; Lion, Mrs. Beatrice (nee Strassburger); Loewenberg, Lucie, Schaunberg, Ernst, Gertrud, Tomi; Schenkolewsky, Isaac, Clara, Miriam, Moses; van Tijn, Benjamin, Behje (nee Czoslinski); de Vries, Aaron, Reina (nee Spier). UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 324

1:30 p.m.  
March 10, 1945

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

BAKzin:ar 3/9/45

Ba

000370

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS  
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON  
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA  
37 Quai Wilson  
BUENOS AIRES  
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM  
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL  
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY  
Sonora 1744

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1901

In reply refer to:  
No. 346

March 7, 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: Kurt Grossman *World Jewish Congress*

Kindly have foodparcels forwarded immediately follow-  
ing Bergensbelsen inmates: Bernstein, Mrs. Henriette;  
Biologowski, Wolf, wife and child; Cohn, Dr. Hilda;  
Benedict (orphans barrack); Guttstein, Sonja, mother  
father; Bloch, Dr.; Dessau, Dr. Sam, wife (nee Golds)  
child; Dreyf, Abraham, Margaretha (nee Schelvis),  
Arnold, Milly (nee van Embden); Floersheim, Ilse (nee  
Mosler), Michael; Hirschfeldt, Kurt, Betty (nee Zann);  
Knoller, Aribert, Gertrude, Simon, Berta; Levy, Leonard;  
Lion, Mrs. Beatrice (nee Strassburger); Loewenberg, Lucie;  
Schaunberg, Ernst, Gertrud, Tomi; Schenkolewsky, Isaac,  
Clara, Miriam, Moses; van Tijn, Benjamin, Behje (nee Czoz-  
linski); de Vries, Aaron, Reina (nee Spier).

Thank you for giving this matter your prompt attention.

Sincerely yours,

*Kurt Grossman*  
KURT H. GROSSMAN  
Rescue Department

KRG:bm

10

000372

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE  
March 13, 1945

TO : Miss Model  
FROM : Mr. McCormack and Mr. White  
*du*

On March 12, 1945, Mr. White and Mr. McCormack met with Messrs. Otie M. Reid, Assistant Director of Supplies, War Food Administration, and Mr. H. W. Prentiss, Program Liaison, and two other members of their staff, with a view to securing assurances from War Food Administration that they would assist our efforts to secure restricted supplies in the Board's food parcel program.

As has been pointed out in the past, orally, War Food Administration is somewhat miffed over their failure to be the procurement agency in connection with the Board's program. After much discussion of the obstacles standing in the way of performance, Mr. Prentiss was instructed by Mr. Reid to prepare a memorandum for Lt. Col. Ralph W. Olmstead, Deputy Director, Office of Distribution, War Food Administration. This memorandum is to point up the possible methods that might be employed by War Food Administration on behalf of the Board, in order that so-called tight items of food will be made readily available to the vendor who will do our packing.

Our three-kilo parcels will contain one each of the following items:

Biscuits, K 2 pkg.	7 oz.
Cheese (tin)	8 oz.
Whole Powdered Milk (tin)	16 oz.
Oleomargarine (tin)	16 oz.
Salmon or Tuna (tin)	7 3/4 oz.
Meat (tin) <i>50% of weight</i>	12 oz.
Chocolate Bar pkg.	4 oz.
Bar of Soap pkg.	2 oz.
Multi Vitamin Capsules pkg.	--
Sugar (cubes) pkg.	8 oz.

It is recommended that General O'Dwyer call Colonel Olmstead as soon as possible to point out the urgency of the Board's program, together with the fact that the President himself has signed the directive which makes the program possible, in order to insure completely War Food Administration cooperation.

000373

March 13, 1945

: Miss Hodel  
: Mr. McCormack and Mr. White

/ On March 12, 1945, Mr. White and Mr. McCormack met with Messrs. Otis M. Reid, Assistant Director of Supplies, War Food Administration, and Mr. H. W. Prentiss, Program Liaison, and two other members of their staff, with a view to securing assurances from War Food Administration that they would assist our efforts to secure restricted supplies in the Board's food parcel program.

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Salmon or Tuna (tin)	7 3/4 oz.
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Chocolate Bar pkg.	4 oz.
Bar of Soap pkg.	2 oz.
Multi Vitamin Capsules pkg.	--
Sugar (cubes) pkg.	8 oz.

It is recommended that General O'Dwyer call Colonel Olmstead as soon as possible to point out the urgency of the Board's program, together with the fact that the President himself has signed the directive which makes the program possible, in order to insure completely War Food Administration cooperation.

PJMcCormack:DWhite:agr 3-13-45

P. J. M.

du

000374

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000375

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

LC-502 1945 MAR 12 PM 1 53  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (W)

Paris

Dated March 10, 1945

Rec'd 10:08 p.m., 11th

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

1152, March 10, 10 p.m.

Following is a close paraphrase of a message  
accepted from Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress,  
for transmission to the Department for the letter's  
decision regarding onward conveyance in whole  
or in part to the War Refugee Board for Doctors Wise  
and Golman, 1834, Broadway, New York City.

Since arrival Geneva, endeavored obtain immediate  
direct talks between appropriate German authorities,  
Swiss Government and International Red Cross regarding  
grand scale release and repatriation of civilian  
detainees and feeding action until their release. I  
was received by Von Steiger, President of the Confeder-  
ation, and Isaw Burkhardt two times. I conferred  
with numerous personalities and brought about simultaneous  
representations to the various National Red Cross  
delegations. I can advise you in confidence that  
Burkhardt, despite his appointment as Swiss Minister  
to France,

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

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

000376

-2-#1152, March 10, 10 p.m., from Paris

to France, is proceeding soon to confer with Himmler. As protecting power Swiss Minister, Berl, is simultaneously asking for interview with Himmler. I have assurances of Burkhardt and Steiger that the number of refugees admitted into Switzerland will not be limited. Germany has agreed in principle, I understand, to repatriate unemployed civilian populations according to nationalities and that first nationality has already been agreed upon. Burkhardt expects, with regard to German Jews, to get them out as International Red Cross proteges. It is at Luebeck that civilians in northern areas are to be concentrated and the sending of a ship requested of the Swedish Red Cross. From the southern regions evacuation is expected to be done partly by Allied Army trucks on returning from carrying food to war prisoners. SHAEP unfortunately prohibits using trucks for carrying food to other than war prisoners. Uninterrupted contact of War Refugee Board and our European offices is required on this situation.

Before releasing this message see secret OSS Paris January 20, 1945, Germany political report from Switzerland No. B1398 S/8. If not immediately available contact Hauck, office of Strategic Services, Washington.

CAPPERY

MJF

000377

8

000378

Food Packages

APR 14 1945

Mr. Conrad K. Osterman  
Food Rationing Officer  
Office of Price Administration  
5601 Connecticut Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Osterman:

Returned herewith are ration checks as follows:

Sugar	Check #949	150,000 pounds
Margarine	Check #1070	1,500,000 points
Cheese	Check #1071	1,800,000 points
Pork Luncheon		
Meat	Check #1072	675,000 points
Kosher Corned		
Beef	Check #1073	393,750 points

Due to developments abroad, the War Refugee Board found it unnecessary to procure these products domestically and, therefore, has no further use for these certificates. The Board wishes to express its appreciation to you for the prompt manner in which you handled our request.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] Florence Hodel  
Florence Hodel  
Assistant Executive Director

Enclosures

*PJ*  
PJM McCormack:ar 4/11/45

000379

OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION  
5601 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

March 7, 1945

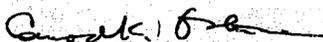
Miss Florence Hodel  
Assistant Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

Pursuant to your several applications, we inclose  
herewith ration checks as follows:

Sugar	Check #949	150,000 pounds
Margarine	Check #1070	1,500,000 points
Cheese	Check #1071	1,800,000 points
Pork Luncheon Meat	Check #1072	675,000 points
Kosher Corned Beef	Check #1073	393,750 points

Very truly yours,

  
Conrad K. Osterman  
Food Rationing Officer

Incl.

000380



000381

*Food Packages*

*File  
War Ref 73d  
O. Sawyer*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, London  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: March 7, 1945  
NUMBER: 2354  
X

**CONTROL COPY**

The following is for WRB, FEA and Department.

With reference to Department's message No. 1554 of March 1, provided INOC will accept responsibility for distribution and if these consignments do not prejudice distribution and transportation of parcels for prisoners of war, relief sub-committee approves shipment of 300,000 more food parcels by War Refugee Board.

WINANT

DC/L:GPW

3-8-45

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

000382

CORRECTION OF  
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

*marked Bd.  
O. Sawyer*

FROM: American Embassy, London  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: March 7, 1945  
NUMBER: 2353

**CONTROL COPY**

This message was distributed to you March 8 as No. 2354.  
Please note the correct number is 2353 and change your copies accordingly.

DC/L:GFW  
3-10-45

000383



000384

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON  
55 New Cavendish St, W 1

GENEVA  
37 Quai Wilson  
BUENOS AIRES  
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM  
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL  
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY  
Sonora 1744

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

In reply refer to:  
No. 344

March 6, 1945

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

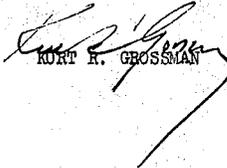
Attention: Mr. P. McCormick

Dear Sirs:

I am taking the liberty of sending you a copy of the letter I have sent today to Dr. Marc Peter of the International Red Cross, since I know you will be interested in the information it contains.

May I ask you to be good enough to act along the lines of my suggestions to Dr. Peter.

Sincerely yours,

  
KURT R. GROSSMAN

000985

March 6, 1945

Dr. Marc Peter, Delegate  
International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva  
Delegation to the U.S.A.  
1645 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 9, D. C.

Dear Dr. Peter:

The arrivals from the transit camp Bergen Belsen (Germany) informed us that the people there are in danger of dying of starvation. Food parcels, they told us, are one of the most important means of rescuing their lives.

At the same time we were informed, however, that the food parcels sent very rarely arrive. The arrivals from Bergen Belsen stated that out of every ten parcels sent, no more than three to five actually reach their destination. Of course, the parcels which do arrive, may mean the difference between the life or death of the inmate to whom it is addressed; so important are these parcels to their very existence.

I am drawing your attention to this matter which is of utmost urgency in the hope that you will take up the following suggestions:

- 1- Increase the number of food parcels being sent to Bergen Belsen.
- 2- Secure a guarantee from the German Government for the safe and speedy delivery of these parcels to the inmate of Bergen Belsen.

Thank you for giving this matter your most urgent attention.

Sincerely yours,

KRG:bm

KURT R. GROSSMAN  
Rescue Department

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000387

MAR 5 - 1945

Dear Mr. Osterman:

As per your telephone conversation with one of the members of the War Refugee Board, enclosed please find five copies of your form R-315 covering those rationed items which will be represented in the 300,000 food parcels that the War Refugee Board will ship to the International Red Cross.

It will be appreciated if you will arrange to make the necessary certificates available to the Board at the earliest possible moment.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel  
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Conrad K. Osterman,  
Office of Price Administration,  
Food Division,  
5501 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C.

Enclosures.

FJM McCormack:agr 3-2-45 Jd

000388

4

000389

*Pass for unassimilated persons*  
DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

**INCOMING  
TELEGRAM**

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

MES-1519  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. *(W)*

Bern  
Dated March 2, 1945  
Rec'd. 9:13 a.m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

1345, March 2, 11 a.m.

FOR DEPARTMENT AND WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Department's 819, February 23 and Legation's 1217,  
February 24.

Following is preliminary answer to your 819.

From recent conversations with ICRC it can be definitely stated that it is not now necessary to ask Swiss Government to make food supplies for relief shipment to Germany available to ICRC.

60,000 - 2½ kilo WRB parcels have just reached Geneva from Toulon. This makes 150 tons of relief parcels.

ICRC's Division of Special Assistance which specializes in relief to unassimilated groups has adequate supplies on hand for all French and Belgian "Schutzhaeflinge" in Germany.

ICRC has at least 80,000 tons of POW relief supplies warehoused in Switzerland at present moment, an amount considerably in excess of what can actually be shipped into Germany during coming months under prevailing transport conditions unless several hundred trucks become available.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

A FEW By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972

1945 MAR 4 PM 11 08  
LINSER

000390

-2- #1345, March 2, 11 a.m., from Bern

A few days ago ICRA discussed exhaustively with competent Swiss authorities particularly from Swiss Army availability of motor trucks in Switzerland for ICRC shipments into Germany. These conversations revealed that total number trucks available to Swiss Army is only about 1,500, of which some 357 are already laid up for lack of suitable tires. Swiss Army has accordingly already been forced requisition private vehicle. As further example Swiss experienced greatest difficulty in equipping with tires twelve heavy duty trucks and trailer which were used some months ago to move Swiss food stuffs from Spanish border across France.

There is therefore very little prospect of Swiss being able furnish ICRC with trucks and certainly not unless tires are first supplied from outside.

For prisoners of war ICRC plan to send across Swiss border into Germany two initial convoys of ten trucks each. One convoy will go to Luebeck carrying mainly gas and oil to supply six trucks placed at disposal ICRC Berlin delegation by German authorities. These six trucks are now performing invaluable service delivering parcels to Allied POWS on roads and in assembly center that region. Second convoy will proceed to Munich area loaded with POW parcels.

It is not

000391

-3- #1345, March 2, 11 a.m., from Bern

It is not anticipated that Germans will make any difficulties for entry these two convoys which will leave on or about March 2.

I understand that if these first two convoys get off successfully SHAEF in France will agree to supply ICRC with further stocks of fuel to be brought up from Marseille in tank cars. If therefore adequate supply of fuel is available to ICRC it is assumed that truck delivery of POW parcels into Germany will be rapidly stepped up until majority of 100 Amcross and Canadian Red Cross trucks available to ICRC in Switzerland are in use. In this event Amcross Washington might find it possible to release four or five of these trucks to ICRC for carrying parcels to unassimilated groups in Germany.

Should sufficient trucks become available to move 150 tons of WRB Toulon parcels into Germany within next few weeks question of further supplies can arise. You might, therefore, also discuss with Amcross question of their releasing from unused POW stocks in Switzerland 60 to 80 thousand parcels for WRB program. At this point it is not anticipated that Germans will object to use of five kilo parcels for unassimilated persons since there is no longer any question of using German postal service.

Limited

000392

-4- #1345, March 2, 11 a.m., from Bern

Limited amounts of certain essential medicines are available for purchase in Switzerland; and larger amounts could probably be secured against guarantees of replacements.

There is no (repeat no) clothing worth mentioning obtainable in Switzerland unless it be from Amcross or other POW supplies concerning volume of which I am not informed. Any clothing parcels shipped into Germany will therefore have to come from outside.

ICRC is in principle quite willing undertake delivery relief supplies to any category of accessible "Schutzhaftlinge" provided committee is supplied with necessary transport equipment.

I have taken up question of ICRC organizing and effectuating removal of physically unfit detainees from Germany to Switzerland. I entertain, however, some doubt concerning feasibility this program. Outside of Musy affair, Nazis have displayed no willingness to release civil detainees unsuited for labor in general although such an eventuality is not excluded. I have asked Burkhardt of ICRC to bear this important request in mind in course of negotiations with Himmler and other German authorities which is hoped he will be able undertake in near future. I will inform board as soon as possible concerning this point.

Regarding \_\_\_\_\_

000393

-5- #1345, March 2, 11 a.m., from Bern.

Regarding Switzerland's acceptance of such additional groups of refugees as might be extricated by ICRC under this program this will be made subject of special conversations with Swiss authorities. It is my feeling that such discussions will have to be supported by concrete assurances of evacuation within a given time as well as granting of rapid import facilities to Switzerland for necessary supplemental food stuffs. Latter point will be discussed with Currie Mission.

HARRISON

BB

000394



000395



-2- #1346, March 2, noon from Bern

reported having worked at sewing German army uniforms and at making heavy wooden cases for machinery and like. Again at Bergenbelsen some categories of internees work while others do not.

At this time however a great many SH are inactive in terribly crowded assembly camps having been evacuated from previous camps and jobs in east.

In any special relief program for SH undertaken at this moment ICRC plans deliver parcels insofar as practically possible only to ill and exhausted SH.

National groups mentioned in Legation's 1056 February 16, comprise Jews of respective nationalities.

HARRISON

RR

000397



000398

DEPARTMENT

OF Distribution of goods  
STATE Reading only by special  
arrangement.

OUTGOING

TELEGRAM

March 1, 1945

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

RECEIVED  
DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES

*W. R. P. 751*

1945 MAR 3 PM 4 31

*O. Sawyer*

AMEMBASSY

LONDON

1554

DC/L  
LIAISON

For Winant from Department, FEA and WRB as WRB 50.

Reference Department's 6035, July 31, 9419, November 10,  
and your 6279, August 6, 10022 of November 16.

In view of the extreme urgency of extending additional  
aid to unassimilated persons in enemy-controlled concentration  
camps and in view of recently received reports from InterCross  
that more widespread distribution can be effectuated under terms  
of Berle-Foot Agreement, the Department, FEA and WRB recommend  
the shipment from this country by the War Refugee Board of an  
300,000 packages of three kilos each  
additional ~~shipment~~ of foodstuffs for distribution by the  
International Red Cross. It is requested that this matter be  
referred urgently to the Relief Sub-Committee for Blockade  
authorization to proceed with this program at the earliest pos-  
sible date.

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

GRJCV  
(Acting)  
(GLM)

WRB:MMV:KG  
2/26/45

BC

SWP

FEA

**CONTROL COPY**

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

000399

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR WINANT AND MANN FROM DEPARTMENT, FEA AND WRB

Reference Department's 6035, July 31, 9419, November 10, and your 6279, August 5, 10022 of November 16.

In view of the extreme urgency of extending additional aid to un-assimilated persons in enemy-controlled concentration camps and in view of recently received reports from InterCross that more widespread distribution can be effectuated under terms of Berle-Foot agreement, the Department, FEA and WRB recommend the shipment from this country by the War Refugee Board of an additional 350 tons of foodstuffs for distribution by the International Red Cross. This recommendation is endorsed by the Department, FEA and WRB, and we jointly and urgently request that this matter be referred to the Relief Sub-Committee for Blockade authorization to proceed with this program at the earliest possible date.

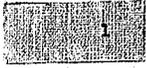
THIS IS WRB LONDON CABLE NO. 50.

4:15 p.m.  
February 23, 1945

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

*RM* *JH*  
RJM:Khd 2/23/45

000400



000401

March 3, 1945

: Mr. Pehle

: Miss Hodel

It has been decided to eliminate the package of cigarettes from the 300,000 three-kilo parcels which Treasury Procurement Division is currently making arrangements to purchase for the Board.

(Signed) Florence Hodel

/agr 3-3-45

000402

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE Mar. 1, 1945

TO Miss Hodel  
FROM J. W. Pehle

If it has been determined not to include cigarettes  
in food parcels to be acquired for the War Refugee Board I would  
appreciate your so advising me for the record.

JWP

000403