Programs with a special focus to Relief and Repatriation; Food Help for Unassimilated Persons:

200,000 Food Parcels
Memorandum from President Roosevelt to Sec. of Treasury, Chairman of the American Nat'l Red Cross, Executive Director of the WRB

Letter to Mr. F.B. Catchell, Jr. from Robert W. Cavanaugh, State Department (attachment)

Memorandum to Mr. Hootkoff from WRB

Memorandum for the files re: Gearhardt, War Dept. 3/22/45


3/22/45 - Reply

Letter from Maj. Sommers, War Dept. enclosing copy of letter 4/6/45 to American Red Cross

Cable #2009 from Bern

Memorandum to Sec. Morgenthau from Gen. O'Dwyer

Memorandum to the files from Miss Hodel re: phone conversation with Major Sommers

Memorandum for the files from Miss Hodel

Cable #1392 (WRB 490) to Bern

Cable #2120 from Bern

Memorandum for the files from Miss Hodel re: phone conversations with Maj. Sommers, 4/10/45 & 4/11/45

Cable #1450 (WRB 497) to Bern

Letter to Gen. O'Dwyer from Maj. Sommers, War Dept. 4/13/45

Letter to American Red Cross from Gen. O'Dwyer

Cable #1453 (WRB 503) to Bern

Cable #1451 (copy) to Geneva sent by American Red Cross

Letter from Gen. O'Dwyer from American Red Cross

Letter from Gen. O'Dwyer to Mr. T.B. May of FEA

Cable #2421 from Bern (copy)

Letter to Col. A.E. House of SPH from Gen. O'Dwyer and reply

Letter to Gen. O'Dwyer from David Weintraub of UNRRA

Memorandum from Mr. McCorrast to Miss Hodel

Letter to Mr. O'Dwyer from Maurice Pate, Dir. of Relief to POW

Cable #1998 (WRB 534) to Bern

Letter 6/12/45 to David Weintraub and reply

Cable #1851 (copy 56) (copy)

Letter to Maurice Pate, Dir. of Relief to POW

Cable #2373 (WRB 540) to Bern

Cable #3692 from Bern

Cable #2420 (WRB 548) to Bern

Cablegram to American Legation Stockholm from Amcross

Cable #3733 from Bern

Letter to WRB from E.B. Cartmel, UNRRA

Letter from Mr. Pehle to H.M. Glasser

Cable #2465 (WRB 543) to Bern

Letter from American Red Cross to Gen. O'Dwyer

Cable #3694 (copy) from Bern

Letter from Gen. O'Dwyer to Karl Borders, UNRRA

Cable #3694 from London

Air Mail letter #453 to Harry D. White from Mr. H. Taylor, London (encl. #1 and #2)

Letter to Gen. O'Dwyer from J. McNaught, UNRRA

Letter to David Weintraub, UNRRA from M.L. Hoffman (encl.)

Letter to M.L. Hoffman from A. Chaine, UNRRA (attachment)

Letter to M.L. Hoffman from J. McNaught, UNRRA

Voucher on Form 1050 (attachments)

1. Letter of July 20, 1945 to Gen. O'Dwyer from H.M. Reedall

2. Memorandum to Gen. O'Dwyer from Royall Tyler, Oct. 29, 1945

3. Two copies of receipt dated Oct. 29, 1945, signed Royall Tyler

Letter to Mr. Catchell from Robert W. Cavanaugh

Memorandum for the files from Mr. Catchell (encl. Schedule of Collections - Number WRB-M-46-9)

Jan. 31, 1945  1

Feb. 12, 1945  2

Mar. 22, 1945  3

Mar. 23, 1945  4

Apr. 4, 1945  5

Apr. 5, 1945  6

Apr. 6, 1945  7

Apr. 6, 1945  8

Apr. 7, 1945  9

Apr. 9, 1945  10

Apr. 9, 1945  11

Apr. 10, 1945  12

Apr. 12, 1945  13

Apr. 16, 1945  14

Apr. 17, 1945  15

Apr. 18, 1945  16

Apr. 18, 1945  17

Apr. 20, 1945  18

Apr. 20, 1945  19

Apr. 28, 1945  20

May 20, 1945  21

May 20, 1945  22

May 30, 1945  23

Jun. 5, 1945  24

Jun. 6, 1945  25

Jun. 8, 1945  26

Jun. 29, 1945  27

Jul. 5, 1945  28

Jul. 10, 1945  29

Jul. 24, 1945  30

Jul. 28, 1945  31

Jul. 28, 1945  32

Jul. 27, 1945  33

Jul. 31, 1945  34

Aug. 3, 1945  35

Aug. 3, 1945  36

Aug. 6, 1945  37

Aug. 9, 1945  38

Aug. 10, 1945  39

Aug. 23, 1945  40

Aug. 30, 1945  41

Aug. 30, 1945  42

Aug. 30, 1945  43

Sept. 28, 1945  44

Oct. 12, 1945  45

Oct. 17, 1945  46

Dec. 10, 1945  47

Jan. 2, 1946  48

Feb. 28, 1946  49
Memorandum for The Files

Subject: Completion of Sale of 206,000 Food Parcels to U.S.A.

I was advised on February 5, 1946, by Mr. Carlson of the Lend-Lease Fiscal Division of the Office of Foreign Liquidation, Department of State, that a new and satisfactory receipt had been received from Mr. Tyler and that the War Refugee Board voucher would be placed in line for payment as soon as funds could be transferred from Treasury Cash to Disbursing Officer's Cash. This transfer was completed on February 21, and the voucher was forwarded to the Disbursing Office for payment on February 25. A check was received by this office on February 26, and was deposited to the appropriate receipt account on February 27, as per the attached copy of Schedule of Collections number 1ED-1L-46-9.

Frank B. Gatchell
Memorandum for The Files

FEB 28 1946

Subject: Completion of Sale of 206,000 Food Parcels to UNRRA

I was advised on February 5, 1946, by Mr. Carlson of the Lend Lease Fiscal Division of the Office of Foreign Liquidation, Department of State that a new and satisfactory receipt had been received from Mr. Tyler and that the War Refugee Board voucher would be placed in line for payment as soon as funds could be transferred from Treasury Cash to Disbursing Officer's Cash. This transfer was completed on February 21, and the voucher was forwarded to the Disbursing Officer for payment on February 25. A check was received by this office on February 26, and was deposited to the appropriate receipt account on February 27, as per the attached copy of Schedule of Collections number WRB-M-46-4.

[Signature]

Frank B. Catchell

[Handwritten note: FB Catchell 2/28/46]
**Schedule of Collections**

**War Refugee Board (In Liquidation by Foreign Funds Control) Treasury**

**Received by:** E. J. Brennan, Chief Disbursing Officer at Washington, D.C.

**Period:** February 1946

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Received</th>
<th>Bill No.</th>
<th>Department, Office of Foreign Liquidation (WFB)</th>
<th>Detail Description of Purpose for Which Collections Were Made</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Fund to be Credited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February 25, 1946</td>
<td>WFB-1</td>
<td>State Department, Office of Foreign Liquidation (WFB)</td>
<td>Payment for 205,000 standard food packages, stored by the War Refugee Board at Geneva, Switzerland and delivered to the UNHRA Representative in Switzerland, for use by that agency.</td>
<td>$690,100.00</td>
<td>11-6767.2 Deposits, Proceeds from Disposition of Surplus Property in Foreign Areas.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Check No.** 19,025,271

**PLEASE RECEIPT AND RETURN**

**Total:** $690,100.00

**Received:** , subject to collection. **Forwarded:** February 26, 1946

**By:** (Signed) Harold B. Nallard

**Title:** Administrative Assistant

**Certificate of Deposit No.:** 10-1946

**Treasurer's Office:** 3/1946

**FEB 27 1946**
In reply refer to:
FI-580-CWC

Frank B. Gatchell, Jr.
Budget and Planning Officer
War Refugee Board
811 District National Bank Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gatchell:

Reference is made to your reimbursement voucher, Bill No.
WRB-1, asking payment in the amount of $690,100.00 to the War
Refugee Board for Food Packages transferred to UNRRA by the Red
Cross in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Brownell of this office explained to Mr. McFarland of
UNRRA that the receipt signed by Royall Tyler, UNRRA representa-
tive in Geneva, was unsatisfactory. Mr. McFarland asked that this
office retain the voucher while he arranged by cable for a proper
receipt from Tyler.

This letter is to confirm the telephone conversation between
you and Mr. Carlson of this office in which it was agreed that
this office would retain the voucher until an acceptable receipt
is obtained. Mr. McFarland indicated that this would take about
four weeks. You will be advised immediately of any developments.

Yours very truly,

Robert W. Cavanaugh
Chief, Lend-Lease Fiscal Division

(Handwritten note: 1946 784)
Office of Foreign Liquidation

In reply refer to:
FI-580-CWC

JAN 21945

Frank B. Gatchell, Jr.
Budget and Planning Officer
War Refugee Board
511 District National Bank Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gatchell:

Reference is made to your reimbursement voucher, Bill No. B-66, asking payment in the amount of $691,100.00 to the War Refugee Board for Food Packages transferred to UNRRA by the Red Cross in Geneva, Switzerland.

Mr. Brown of this office explained to Mr. McFarland of UNRRA that the receipt signed by Royall Tyler, UNRRA representative in Geneva, was unsatisfactory. Mr. McFarland asked that this office retain the voucher while he arranged by cable for a proper receipt from Tyler.

This letter is to conform the telephone conversation between you and Mr. Carlson of this office in which it was agreed that this office would retain the voucher until an acceptable receipt is obtained. Mr. McFarland indicated that this would take about four weeks. You will be advised immediately of any developments.

Yours very truly,

Robert W. Cavanaugh, Chief
Lend-Lease Fiscal Division

CWCarnold:rgb
12/28/45

001 Lend-Lease Fiscal 1007 WGL
Mr. Cavanaugh Rm. 1022 WGL
Mr. Brown Rm. 1008 WGL
Mr. Stott * * *
Mr. Carlson * 1020 *
### VOUCHER FOR TRANSFERS BETWEEN APPROPRIATIONS AND/OR FUNDS (DISBURSEMENT)

**U.S. Department of State, Office of Foreign Liquidation**

**To U.S. Department of State, Office of Foreign Liquidation**

**Articles or Services**

- Reimbursement for 20,000 standard food packages stored by the War Refugee Board at Genova, Switzerland and delivered to Mr. David Tyler, UNRRA Representative in Switzerland, for use by that agency.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ORDER No.</th>
<th>DATE OF DELIVERY</th>
<th>ARTICLES OR SERVICES</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
<th>UNIT PRICE</th>
<th>AMOUNT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reimbursement for 20,000 standard food packages stored by the War Refugee Board at Genova, Switzerland and delivered to Mr. David Tyler, UNRRA Representative in Switzerland, for use by that agency.</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.75 per $1.00 each</td>
<td>$97,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total:** $97,500.00

---

**ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION (for completion by the billing officer)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
<th>TITLE OF APPROPRIATION OR FUND TO BE CREDITED</th>
<th>LIMITATION</th>
<th>APPROPRIATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E09111</td>
<td>200,000 for surplus liquidated property</td>
<td>Amount</td>
<td>$97,500.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**MEMORANDUM**

**ACCOUNTING CLASSIFICATION (for completion by the office billed)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SYMBOL</th>
<th>TITLE OF APPROPRIATION OR FUND TO BE CHARGED</th>
<th>LIMITATION</th>
<th>APPROPRIATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Allegation**

Paid by check drawn on Treasurer of the U.S., No. 

**Note:**

- Standard Form No. 1120—Revised
- Form prescribed by Comptroller General, U.S., October 1, 1943 (Gen. Reg 8, No. 29)
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
Bureau of Supplies
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

July 20, 1945

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Main Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

This letter is your authority to deliver to the duly accredited representative of UNRRA in Geneva 206,000 standard food packages now stored by the War Refugee Board at Geneva, Switzerland. The Foreign Economic Administration will pay for this food out of UNRRA funds at the price established by the War Refugee Board, viz., $3.35 each.

Your Geneva representative in making this transfer to UNRRA should obtain from the UNRRA representative eight copies of a receipt which the UNRRA representative should sign. Your representative should send one signed copy of the receipt to UNRRA, Washington, and one signed copy to the Movement and Records Staff, European Branch, FEA, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, Washington, D. C. Six copies should be sent to your main office. Your office here should provide the Appropriation Accounts Division of FEA with a Form 1080 in an original and four copies duly certified and supported by five signed copies of the receipt. The Appropriation Accounts Division will then process the Form 1080 and arrange for the transfer of funds to the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

M. M. Reddall
Colonel, U. S. Army
Director, Property Control Branch
c/o American Legation,  
Berne,  
October 29, 1945.

To: General William O'Dwyer, c/o Miss Florence Hodel,  
U.S. Treasury Department, Washington, D.C.

From: Royall Tyler, UNRRA Representative in Switzerland.

Following instructions from UNRRA London,  
I am sending you herewith enclosed eight signed copies of a receipt for parcels bought by UNRRA from the American Red Cross.


Royall Tyler.
I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I have been informed today by the International Red Cross that they are holding for me, as UNRRA Representative in Switzerland, and will turn over the same to me on demand:

206,000 standard food parcels
49,247 standard invalid food parcels.

Royall Tyler,
UNRRA Representative in Switzerland.


General William O'Dwyer,
c/o Miss Florence Hodel,
U.S. Treasury Department,
Washington 25, D.C.
I, the undersigned, hereby certify that I have been informed today by the International Red Cross that they are holding for me, as UNRRA Representative in Switzerland, and will turn over the same to me on demand:

206,000 standard food parcels
49,247 standard invalid food parcels.

Royall Tyler,
UNRRA Representative in Switzerland.


General William O'Dwyer,
c/o Miss Florence Model,
U.S. Treasury Department,
Washington 25, D.C.
Mr. M. L. Hoffman
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoffman:

This is in continuance of Mr. Cairns's letter to you of 12th October in which he indicated that we had twice requested our European Regional Office in London for information about the receipts for 206,000 prisoner of war packages purchased from the War Refugee Board. A cable received from that office today states the position "to be that no receipts yet signed because UNRRA has not taken title thus avoiding payment storage charges. This agreed by War Refugee Board Official Switzerland. Delay in shipment unavoidable and caused by problem transport from Switzerland to Yugoslavia."

We have arranged that as soon as the receipts are signed copies will be sent to us in Washington and these in turn will be transmitted to you.

Sincerely yours,

James McAnah
Acting Chief, Food Division

17th October 1945
Mr. M.L. Hoffman,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoffman,

I very much regret that your letter of 25th September to Mr. Weintraub has just been brought to my personal attention. As you will see from the attached copy of my cable to our London Office, I am at a loss to understand why there has been so much delay. I shall be leaving Washington to-morrow for a few weeks but I have asked Mr. James McAnsh, who will be acting in charge of the Food Division during my absence, to give this matter his personal attention and to communicate with you so soon as we receive a reply to the attached cable to London.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
A. Cairns
Director of Food Division

Attachment
CABLE

Addressed to: London

1. Reference
(a) Cairns's 29 September letter to Gaumnitz and enclosures re POW parcels;
(b) Levison's 25 August letter to Glasser with Dykstra's attached memorandum; and
(c) American Embassy cable 8864, Treasury Washington.

Hoffman Acting Director Liquidation of War Refugee Board wrote Weintraub 25 September requesting UNRRA forward eight signed copies receipt for parcels in order execute payment. Cable suggest explanation delay and when we may expect by air mail signed copies receipts.
Liquidation of War Refugee Board

Dear Mr. Weintraub:

Reference is made to the agreement made between the War Refugee Board and the UNRRA for the purchase by the latter of 206,000 standard prisoner of war parcels set forth in your letter to the Board of May 30, 1945. Payment for these packages has not yet been affected because of certain confusion which arose concerning the place of delivery.

The War Refugee Board was terminated by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department. In order that this matter may be straightened out as promptly as possible, it is requested that the UNRRA forward to the War Refugee Board eight signed copies (as requested by the FEA) of a receipt for the parcels. In this connection, a copy of a cable dated August 30, 1945, and of a letter and enclosures to Mr. Harold Glasser of the Treasury Department are enclosed for your information. These documents indicate that appropriate instructions have been issued by the UNRRA and that receipts were to have been forwarded promptly to your office.

I would appreciate having a prompt reply from you on this long delayed matter.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

M. L. Hoffman
Acting Director

Mr. David Weintraub,
Chief, Bureau of Supply,
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration,
Washington, D.C.

Enclosures.

FHld 9/25/45
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
European Regional Office
11, Portland Place, London, W.1,
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL

25th August, 1945

My dear Glasser,

Attached is a memorandum from Mr. Dykstra in connection with the W.R.B. parcels about which you were enquiring. It would appear that the receipts in question ought to be in our hands very shortly and we will forward them on to Washington just as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ G. D. Levison

Mr. Harold M. Glasser,
American Embassy
LONDON
To: Mr. Levinson

From: Waling Dykstra
(Chief of Food Branch)

Mr. Feonov handed to me to-day your note of August 22nd and asked me to go and see you. I learned from your Secretary that you are at the Council Session and are not expected back before 7 o'clock this evening.

As you wish to provide Mr. Glasser with the latest information in regard to the present position of the 206,000 W.R.B. parcels, I use this minute to let you know how the matter stands.

On August 16th we wired Mr. Tyler, our UNRRA representative in Berne, to take title to the 206,000 parcels and to send us by airmail the signed receipts which are required by the W.R.B.

The reason why this had not been accomplished earlier can be explained by the fact that we were informed in June about the purchase of these parcels in the same cable in which the purchase of 1,200,000 American Red Cross parcels was announced, leaving it to our option where we wanted to take title to the goods.

Discussions with Red Cross officials led to the assumption that the 206,000 W.R.B. parcels in Geneva could be substituted by 206,000 American Red Cross parcels in Gothenburg. As we had decided to take possession of the whole deal in Gothenburg if possible, we accepted the substitution idea.

Not before Mr. Cairns arrived here were we aware that the W.R.B. purchase stood entirely on itself and it took us a little while to separate the two purchases on the basis of the original agreements. This has now been done.

As soon as we obtain the receipts from Berne, we shall airmail same to our Head Office in Washington.

24th August 1945

/s/ Waling Dykstra
LYT-1646-J
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (0)

Lor
Dated August 30, 1945
Rec'd 10:55 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

8864, August 30, 1945, 7 p.m.

FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR PEBLE FROM

TAYLOR,

UNRRA informed us that its Swiss representative was directed August 16 to take title to War Refugee Board parcels in Geneva and to issue appropriate receipts. Delivery has now been taken and receipts will be forwarded promptly. We are advised that delay was due to fact that availability of War Refugee Board parcels and some Red Cross parcels in Sweden was announced in same cable from UNRRA. UNRRA representative and Red Cross in Geneva thought parcels were interchangeable and accepted delivery of parcels in Sweden. UNRRA has now however bought both lots.

WINANT

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of T.O. 160

By SEP 21 1972

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Code, 1-11-72
By R. L. Parker Date SEP 21 1972
30th August 1945

Brigadier General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director, War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

1. This is to acknowledge with thanks your letter of 23rd August, addressed to Mr. Borders, on the subject of Red Cross packages.

2. According to our latest information, received by cable from London, our London office is confirming the purchase of 206,000 standard Red Cross packages from the War Refugee Board. We are further informed that the parcels will be delivered to UNRRA in Geneva. This is in agreement with the message we understand you have received from your Berne representative.

3. We have cabled our London office twice, inquiring about receipts covering the packages, and they have promised to transmit the receipts to Washington without delay.

4. We shall keep you informed of further developments.

Sincerely yours,

J. McAnsh
Acting Chief, Food Division
United States of America
Treasury Department

Airmail
Office of the Treasury Representative

Air pouch
No. 153

Dear Mr. White:

Enclosed herewith are a letter from the Office of the Director-General of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in London, a copy of a memorandum from the Chief of Food Branch of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to the Director and a letter from Mr. Fehle to Mr. Glasser. These documents cover the sale of certain War Refugee Board food parcels which United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was supposed to buy in June. The letter and memorandum of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's representative fully explain the present situation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Wm. H. Taylor

Wm. H. Taylor
U. S. Treasury Representative

Mr. Harry D. White
Assistant Secretary
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration,
European Regional Office

Office of the Director-General.

25th August, 1945

Mr. Harold M. Glasser
American Embassy
London

My dear Glasser,

Attached is a memorandum from Mr. Dykstra in connection with the W.R.B. parcel about which you were inquiring. It would appear that the receipts in question ought to be in our hands very shortly and we will forward them on to Washington just as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ G. L. Levinson

G. L. Levinson

Encl. #1 to ltr. #453 from Taylor
Reference

Copies to: Mr. Feonov.
           Mr. Gammits.
           Mr. Gains.

To: Mr. Levison.

From: Waling Dijkstra,
      (Chief of Food Branch).

Mr. Feonov handed to me to-day your note of August 22nd and asked me to go and see you. I learned from your Secretary that you are at the Council Session and are not expected back before 7 o'clock this evening.

As you wish to provide Mr. Glasser with the latest information in regard to the present position of the 206,000 R.B. parcels, I use this minute to let you know how the matter stands.

On August 16th we wired Mr. Tyler, our UNRRA representative in Berne, to take title to the 206,000 parcels and to send us by airmail the signed receipts which are required by the W.R.B.

The reason why this had not been accomplished earlier can be explained by the fact that we were informed in June about the purchase of these parcels in the same cable in which the purchase of 1,200,000 American Red Cross parcels was announced, leaving it to our option where we wanted to take title to the goods.

Discussions with Red Cross officials lead to the assumption that the 206,000 W.R.B. parcels in Geneva could be substituted by 206,000 American Red Cross parcels in Gothenburg. As we had decided to take possession of the whole deal in Gothenburg if possible, we accepted the substitution idea.

But before Mr. Gains arrived here we were aware that the W.R.B. purchase stood entirely on itself and it took us a little while to separate the two purchases on the basis of the original agreements. This has now been done.

As soon as we obtain the receipts from Berne, we shall airmail same to our Head Office in Washington.

24th August 1945.

/s/ Waling Dijkstra

Enc. fl to tr. #453 from Taylor
Dear Harold:

I would appreciate it very much if you would take up with the appropriate UNRRA officials the following matter for the War Refugees Board:

In June of this year, the War Refugee Board, with the approval of the Surplus Property Board, made arrangements for the disposal to UNRRA of 206,000 standard prisoner of war food parcels in Switzerland which the Board had purchased from the War Department and which the Board had been unable to distribute to German concentration camps before VE-Day. It took over five weeks for the matter to be processed through FRA which advised the Board that, before arrangements could be made for the transfer of funds (the price is $3.35 a package, or a total of $690,000), the Board must obtain eight copies of a receipt, all of which must be signed by the UNRRA representative taking delivery of the packages from the War Refugee Board.

The Board immediately instructed its representative in Switzerland to effect the transfer in Switzerland to the UNRRA representative there and to obtain the necessary receipts for forwarding to Washington. He cabled back immediately to the effect that he had just been advised by the American Red Cross representative in Bern that UNRRA had taken delivery of the 206,000 food parcels in Gothenburg, Sweden. A check-up with UNRRA and Red Cross in Washington revealed that neither had any information concerning the matter. However, UNRRA Washington checked with UNRRA London and was advised that the 206,000 parcels of war food parcels had been received in Sweden. Mr. McGrailaid, the Board's representative in Bern, Switzerland, upon further checking found that UNRRA London had dispatched a man named Eplikata to take delivery of the 206,000 parcels of war food parcels from the American Red Cross stock in Sweden.

Mail #2 to ltr. #153 from Taylor
The Board is now confronted with the problem of obtaining the eight signed receipts from the appropriate UNRRA representative. Could you obtain from UNRRA such a receipt stating that 206,000 standard prisoner of war food parcels were received on a certain date from the War Refugee Board and arrange to have all eight copies of the receipt sent to me. I understand that Mr. Cairns and Miss Keenleyside of the Washington UNRRA staff who handled the matter in Washington are now in London. They may be able to be of some help.

Since the Board expects to be completely liquidated by September first, this matter is quite urgent.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle

Mr. Harold M. Glasser,
3 United States Embassy,
Air mail
Office of the Treasury
Representative

To Mr. White:

Enclosed herewith are a letter from the Office of the Director-General of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration in London, a copy of a memorandum from the Chief of Food Branch of United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to the Director and a letter from Mr. Peake to Mr. Glasser. These documents cover the sale of certain War Refugee Board food parcels which United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration was supposed to buy in June. The letter and memorandum of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration's representative fully explain the present situation.

Sincerely,

/s/ Wm. H. Taylor

Wm. H. Taylor
U. S. Treasury Representative

Mr. Harry W. White
Assistant Secretary
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION,
European Regional Office
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

25th August, 1945

My dear Glasser,

Attached is a memorandum from Mr. Cykastra in connection with the V.E.B. parcels about which you were inquiring. It would appear that the receipts in question ought to be in our hands very shortly and we will forward them on to Washington just as quickly as possible.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ G. L. Levison

G. L. Levison

Mr. Harold M. Glasser
American Embassy
LONDON

Kael, fl to Ltr. 7433 from Taylor
Reference

Copies to: Mr. Posenov.
Mr. Cahenks.
Mr. Cahmens.

To: Mr. Lavinson,

From: Valuing Dystra,
(Chief of Food Branch).

Mr. Posenov handed me today your note of August 22nd
and asked me to go and see you. I learned from your Secretary
that you are at the Council Session and are not expected back
before 7 o'clock this evening.

As you wish to provide Mr. Glasser with the latest
information in regard to the present position of the 205,000
W.R.B. parcels, I use this minute to let you know how the matter
stands.

On August 16th we wired Mr. Tyler, our UNRRA representative
in Rome, to take title to the 205,000 parcels and to send us
by air mail the signed receipts which are required by the W.R.B.

The reason why this had not been accomplished earlier can
be explained by the fact that we were informed in June about the
purchase of these parcels in the same cable in which the purchase
of 1,800,000 American Red Cross parcels was announced, leaving
it to our option where we wanted to take title to the goods.

Discussions with Red Cross officials lead to the assumption
that the 205,000 W.R.B. parcels in Genoa could be substituted by
205,000 American Red Cross parcels in Gothenburg. As we had
decided to take possession of the whole deal in Gothenburg if
possible, we accepted the substitution idea.

But before Mr. Cahmens arrived here we were aware that the
W.R.B. purchase stood entirely on itself and it took us a little
while to separate the two purchases on the basis of the original
agreements. This has now been done.

As soon as we obtain the receipts from Rome, we shall air mail
them to our head office in Washington.

24th August 1945.

/s/ Valuing Dystra

Enc. 41 to ltr. 452 from Taylor
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON

August 3, 1945

Dear Harold:

I would appreciate it very much if you would take up with the appropriate UNRRA officials the following matter for the War Refugee Board:

In June of this year, the War Refugee Board, with the approval of the Surplus Property Board, made arrangements for the disposal to UNRRA of 206,000 standard prisoner of war food parcels in Switzerland which the Board had purchased from the War Department and which the Board had been unable to distribute to German concentration camps before VE-Day. It took over five weeks for the matter to be processed through FRA which advised the Board that, before arrangements could be made for the transfer of funds (the price is $3.35 a package, or a total of $690,000), the Board must obtain eight copies of a receipt, all of which must be signed by the UNRRA representative taking delivery of the packages from the War Refugee Board.

The Board immediately instructed its representative in Switzerland to effect the transfer in Switzerland to the UNRRA representative there and to obtain the necessary receipts for forwarding to Washington. He cabled back immediately to the effect that he had just been advised by the American Red Cross representative in Bern that UNRRA had taken delivery of the 206,000 food parcels in Gotteborg, Sweden. A check-up with UNRRA and Red Cross in Washington revealed that neither had any information concerning the matter. However, UNRRA Washington checked with UNRRA London and was advised that the 206,000 prisoner of war food parcels had been received in Sweden. Mr. McKeiland, the Board's representative in Bern, Switzerland, upon further checking found that UNRRA London had dispatched a man named Dykstra to take delivery of the 206,000 prisoner of war food parcels from the American Red Cross stock in Sweden.

Xref, 42 to ltr. 4453 from Taylor
The Board is now confronted with the problem of obtaining the eight signed receipts from the appropriate UHRA representative. Could you obtain from UHRA such a receipt stating that 206,000 standard prisoner of war food parcels were received on a certain date from the War Refuge Board and arrange to have all eight copies of the receipt sent to me. I understand that Mr. Cairns and Miss Keenleyside of the Washington UHRA staff who handled the matter in Washington are now in London. They may be able to be of some help.

Since the Board expects to be completely liquidated by September first, this matter is quite urgent.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle

Mr. Harold M. Glasser,
5 United States Embassy,
SECRETARY OF STATE,
Washington.

8864, August 30, 1945, 7 p.m.

FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR PERLIE FROM

TAYLOR.

UNRRA informed us that its Swiss representative was directed August 16 to take title to War Refugee Board parcels in Geneva and to issue appropriate receipts. Delivery has now been taken and receipts will be forwarded promptly. We are advised that delay was due to fact that availability of War Refugee Board parcels and some Red Cross parcels in Sweden was announced in same cable from UNRRA. UNRRA representative and Red Cross in Geneva thought parcels were interchangeable and accepted delivery of parcels in Sweden. UNRRA has now however bought both lots.

WINANT

DM 9/4/45

Mears, Glasser, Delaney, Bronz (3), Hoffman (2), Miss O'Brien, E. Hobard, Gunter, Miss Hodel

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of T.O. 160

By SEP 84 1972
London

Dated August 30, 1945

Secretary of State,
Washington.

August 30, 1945, 7 p.m.

FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY FOR PERSONS FROM TAYLOR.

UNRRA informed us that its Swiss representative was directed August 16 to take title to War Refugee Board parcels in Geneva and to issue appropriate receipts. Delivery has now been taken and receipts will be forwarded promptly. We are advised that delay was due to fact that availability of War Refugee Board parcels and some Red Cross parcels in Sweden was announced in same cable from UNRRA. UNRRA representative and Red Cross in Geneva thought parcels were interchangeable and accepted delivery of parcels in Sweden. UNRRA has now however bought both lots.

BR

WINANT

SECRET

cc: 9/4/45 Meears, Glasser, Delaney, Brons (3), Hoffman (2), Miss O'Brien, E. Hubbard, Gunter, Miss Hodel

DECLASSIFIED
By Authority of T.O. 140

By SEP Date SEP 21, 1972
Dear Mr. Borders:

Reference is made to the agreement reached between the Board and the UNRRA for the purchase by the latter of 206,000 prisoner of war parcels as set forth in Mr. Weintraub's letter to the Board of May 30, 1945, and to which your letter of June 29, 1945, referred. Payment for these packages has not been effected to date in view of certain confusion which has arisen with respect to the place of delivery.

I enclose for your information a copy of a letter which the Board has received from the American Red Cross indicating that the packages in question have been placed at the disposal of the UNRRA in Gotepberg, Sweden. Following the receipt of this letter, the Board received the following message from its representative in Bern, Switzerland, under date of August 15th:

"For your information, UNRRA London has now requested UNRRA representative Switzerland to investigate possibilities for accepting delivery in Switzerland instead of Goteberg of 206,000 WRB food parcels. We shall keep you advised of developments, meanwhile assume you are pursuing matter with UNRRA London."

The Foreign Economic Administration, as you will see from the enclosed copy of a letter the Board received under date of July 20th, requires eight copies of a receipt signed by the appropriate UNRRA representative, before arranging for the necessary transfer of funds.

The War Refugee Board has no objection to the delivery taking place in Goteberg, Sweden, if the UNRRA so desires.
However, since the Board will be terminated on September 15th, it is urgent that the matter be straightened out as soon as possible and that the requisite signed receipts be furnished the Board so that transfer of the funds involved may be processed before the Board's termination.

I would appreciate your advising me as soon as possible of UNRRA's decision concerning place of delivery and as to when the Board may expect to receive the requisite receipts.

Very truly yours,

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

Mr. Karl Borders,
Acting Chief, Bureau of Supply,
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation
Administration,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosures.

H:hd 8/22/45
Dear Mr. Borders:

Reference is made to the agreement reached between the Board and the UNRRA for the purchase by the latter of 206,000 prisoner of war parcels as set forth in Mr. Winitz's letter to the Board of May 30, 1945, and to which your letter of June 29, 1945, referred. Payment for these packages has not been effected to date in view of certain confusion which has arisen with respect to the place of delivery.

I enclose for your information a copy of a letter which the Board has received from the American Red Cross indicating that the packages in question have been placed at the disposal of the UNRRA in Goteberg, Sweden. Following the receipt of this letter, the Board received the following message from its representative in Bern, Switzerland, under date of August 15th:

"For your information, UNRRA London has now requested UNRRA representative Switzerland to investigate possibilities for accepting delivery in Switzerland in lieu of Goteberg of 206,000 WRP food parcels. We shall keep you advised of developments, meanwhile assume you are pursuing matter with UNRRA London."

The Foreign Economic Administration, as you will see from the enclosed copy of a letter the Board received under date of July 20th, requires eight copies of a receipt signed by the appropriate UNRRA representative, before arranging for the necessary transfer of funds.

The War Refugees Board has no objection to the delivery taking place in Goteberg, Sweden, if the UNRRA so desires.
However, since the Board will be terminated on September 15th, it is urgent that the matter be straightened out as soon as possible and that the requisite signed receipts be furnished the Board so that transfer of the funds involved may be processed before the Board's termination.

I would appreciate your advising me as soon as possible of UNRRA's decision concerning place of delivery and as to when the Board may expect to receive the requisite receipts.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Acting Chief, Bureau of Supply,
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosures.

Mr. Karl Borders,
Acting Chief, Bureau of Supply,
United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration,
Washington, D. C.

Filed 8/22/45
Reference WEB 544 August 8, arrangements have been made for overland movement from Switzerland to Taranto Italy about August 20 of 700 Palestine certificate holders ex Bergen-Belsen and Theresienstadt proceeding to Palestine. Should this movement take place as planned I shall be able to return to Washington shortly thereafter and shall be guided by your instructions.

For your information UNRRA London has now requested UNRRA representative Switzerland to investigate possibilities for accepting delivery in Switzerland instead of Göteborg of 206,000 WEB food parcels (see Department's 2410 WEB 542 July 28 and Bern's 2733 July 30). We shall keep you advised of developments, meanwhile assume you are pursuing matter with UNRRA London.

HARRISON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date: SEP 21 1972
August 9, 1945

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

Dear General O'Dwyer:

Referring to the transaction of the 206,000 standard American Red Cross food packages which were purchased by the War Refugee Board in Switzerland from the American Army, we understand that you have in turn resold these same packages to UNRRA.

UNRRA has informed us that they would like to take delivery of exactly this same number of packages at Goteborg, Sweden, and relinquish the 206,000 packages now earmarked for their account in Switzerland. Therefore, this is to advise you that we have already placed at the disposal of UNRRA 206,000 standard American Red Cross food packages at Goteborg, Sweden.

Yours truly,

Maurice Pate
Director
Relief to Prisoners of War
OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING

AUG

CENTRAL SERVICES

TELEGRAPH SECTION

DEPARTMENT

OUTGOING

TELEGRAM

AUG

CENTRAL SERVICES

TELEGRAPH SECTION

AUG

933

Arrangement.

DEPARTMENT

OUTGOING

TELEGRAM

AUG

CENTRAL SERVICES

TELEGRAPH SECTION

AUG

933

Announcement

DENN

2465

The following for Ketaki is UNE 642.

Reference article 3783, July 30. UNRRA Washington

has been advised by UNRRA London that arrangements with

Aries in Gothenburg included 200,000 kg parcels in

substitution for Geneva lot. We will attempt to obtain

necessary receipts from UNRRA London.

GRAY

(Acting)

(Acting)
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR, BERN, FOR MCCLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Reference your 3733, July 30. UNRRA Washington has been advised by UNRRA London that arrangements with Amcross in Gothenburg included 206,000 POW parcels in substitution for Geneva lot. We will attempt to obtain necessary receipts from UNRRA London.

This is WSB Bern No. 543

August 6, 1945
10:10 a.m.

FH:bd 8/3/45
Dear Harold:

I would appreciate it very much if you would take up with the appropriate UNRRA officials the following matter for the War Refugee Board:

In June of this year, the War Refugee Board, with the approval of the Surplus Property Board, made arrangements for the disposal to UNRRA of 206,000 standard prisoner of war food parcels in Switzerland which the Board had purchased from the War Department and which the Board had been unable to distribute to German concentration camps before VE-Day. It took over five weeks for the matter to be processed through FEA which advised the Board that, before arrangements could be made for the transfer of funds (the price is $3.35 a package, or a total of $690,000), the Board must obtain eight copies of a receipt, all of which must be signed by the UNRRA representative taking delivery of the packages from the War Refugee Board.

The Board immediately instructed its representative in Switzerland to effect the transfer in Switzerland to the UNRRA representative there and to obtain the necessary receipts for forwarding to Washington. He cabled back immediately to the effect that he had just been advised by the American Red Cross representative in Bern that UNRRA had taken delivery of the 206,000 food parcels in Gotenberg, Sweden. A check-up with UNRRA London and Red Cross in Washington revealed that neither had any information concerning the matter. However, UNRRA London checked with UNRRA London and was advised that the 206,000 prisoner of war food parcels had been received in Sweden. Mr. McClelland, the Board's representative in Bern, Switzerland, upon further checking found that UNRRA London had dispatched a man named Dykstra to take delivery of the 206,000 prisoner of war food parcels from the American Red Cross stock in Sweden.
The Board is now confronted with the problem of obtaining the eight signed receipts from the appropriate UNRRA representative. Could you obtain from UNRRA such a receipt stating that 206,000 standard prisoner of war food parcels were received on a certain date from the War Refugee Board and arrange to have all eight copies of the receipt sent to me. I understand that Mr. Cairns and Miss Keenleyside of the Washington UNRRA staff who handled the matter in Washington are now in London. They may be able to be of some help.

Since the Board expects to be completely liquidated by September first, this matter is quite urgent.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle

Mr. Harold M. Glasser,
United States Embassy,
2nd August 1945

Miss Hodel,
War Refugee Board,
Main Treasury Building,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Hodel,

Confirming our telephone conversation and in accordance with Miss Keenleyside's request I am quoting below the text of a cable from our European Regional Office regarding Red Cross packages:

"Arrangements with American Red Cross in Gothenburg included 206,000, therein substitution for Geneva lot. American Red Cross Delegate Geneva so informed by Red Cross London office. Doubtful whether can take possession Geneva lot or any other additional lot since Tate informed Dykstra July 23 in Stockholm that all packages except 1,609,859 in Gothenburg are now Army property. UNRRA Berne cables July 23 accordingly that remaining Swiss stocks are now in hands War Department Washington."

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

E.B. Carter
Food Division
Secretary of State,
Washington

US URGENT
3733, July 30, 8 p.m.
FOR O'DWYER OF WRB FROM NOCLELLAND
Department's 2410 WRB's 542 July 28

Am informed by Amcross that UNRRA London
dispatched man named Dykstra to Gothenburg
July to take delivery on WRB's 206,000 POW food parcels
from Amcross stocks there. Whiler of Amcross
Stockholm and Deblonay and Ehrenhold of IGCR
Gothenburg have all been instructed to release these
parcels to UNRRA. No confirmation has been received
by Amcross Paris whether actual delivery these
parcels has yet taken place. Recommend you immediately
contact UNRRA London.

JMS

HARRISON

\[Handwritten notes:\]

UNRRA got 206,000 parcels from London that 206,000 Negroes
were held in Gothenburg, and 206,000 parcels belongs to
Navy - 206,000 parcels in London - 206,000 parcels in London.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parke Date, SEP 21 1972
COPY OF INCOMING CABLEGRAM

AMERICAN RED CROSS
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
NIGHT LETTER RATE

To: AMERICAN (LEGATION)
STOCKHOLM (SWEDEN)
For American - Whisler

DATE: July 27, 1945


Your 155. Unit price UNERA packages SFP $3.10, SIFP $3.30, Al $3.90 plus 60 cents transportation each cases. Repeated to Dunning.

cc Regular Routing
and
Mr. Geo. Smith
Mrs. Horochow
Miss Brooks
Miss Metcalf
Miss Shotton

American UNQUOTE
To: H.G. (SECRET)  
SCHMIDT (SECRET)  
For message - Thistle

AMERICAN RED CROSS  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
HARTFORD, CONN

Date: July 31, 1946

CABLES CC 155, BR 275. Change transportation cost lance and
85% from 60 cents per unit to 25 cents.

A00000 \QUOTE

Leon
FL-57-1-6

-- Regular Routing
and
Mr. Geo Smith
Capt. Hoshia
Mr. Brown
Miss Uptown
Miss Shotton
Both U.S. and American Red Cross Washington have no information concerning delivery of UDB 200,000 food parcels to UDBA in Gothenburg, Sweden. Suggest you immediately telephone Danning or fate of American in Paris for full information and advice.

(Signature)

(FEIN, Acting)

URB:11W:ANCE 34G
7/28/48

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

23 JULY 1972

2:04 P.M.

U.S. URGENT

DIVISION

ANALYSIS

DENN

2410

The following for McClelland is URB 642.

Reference your no. 3002 July 16.

Both UDBA and American Red Cross Washington have no information concerning delivery of UDB 200,000 food parcels to UDBA in Gothenburg, Sweden. Suggest you immediately telephone Danning or fate of American in Paris for full information and advice.

(SEIN)

(Acting)

URB:11WANCE 34G
7/28/48

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

CABLE TO AMLELAND, BERN, FOR MOLELLAND FROM WILLIAM O'DEYER
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Reference your No. 3692 of July 26. Both UNRRA and
American Red Cross, Washington, have no information concern­
ing delivery of WRBs 206,000 POW food parcels to UNRRA in
Gotenberg, Sweden. Suggest you immediately telephone Dunning
or Faye of Amorosa in Paris for full information and advise
Board.

This is WRB Bern No. 542

July 28, 1945
12:30 p.m.

(circulate to war's office on phone)

Fifth 7/28/45
SECRETARY OF STATE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

July 25, 1945

US URGENT
3692, July 26, 5 P.M.

FOR O'DWyer of WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

Department's 2378, WRB'S 540, July 24.

Across Geneva informs me that according to report from Dunning of Across Paris UNRRA took delivery 206,000
POW food parcels about two weeks ago in Gothenburg, Sweden.

Tyler of UNRRA here is attempting check this. Meanwhile
recommend you consult UNRRA Washington.

HARRISON

RB

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

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-31-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEp 31 1972
US URGENT
LC/L
LIASON
CONTROL COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OUTGOING TELEGRAM
DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

US URGENT
LC/L
LIASON
CONTROL COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OUTGOING TELEGRAM
DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

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OUTGOING TELEGRAM
DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

US URGENT
LC/L
LIASON
CONTROL COPY

ALLEGATION

BERN
2378

The following for McClelland from O'Dyer is URU 520

You are hereby authorized immediately to transfer the 200,000 standard U.S. prisoner of war food parcels which Board purchased from U. S. War Department to the only accredited representative of UWA in Geneva, Switzerland. In making the transfer you should obtain eight (repeat eight) copies of a receipt of such packages from the UWA representative the should sign each of the eight copies.

The eight signed copies of such receipt should be sent immediately to Board in Washington in order to arrange for necessary transfer of funds as soon as possible.

CABER
(Acting)

URU: Advance 7/24/46

DRCLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-22
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21, 1972.

000907
US URGENT

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR, BERN, FOR McLELLAND FROM O'DOHERTY, WAR REFUGEE BOARD

You are hereby authorized immediately to transfer the 206,000 standard U.S. prisoner of war food parcels which Board purchased from U. S. War Department to the duly accredited representative of UNRRA in Geneva, Switzerland. In making the transfer you should obtain eight (repeat eight) copies of a receipt of such packages from the UNRRA representative who should sign each of the eight copies.

The eight signed copies of such receipt should be sent immediately to Board in Washington in order to arrange for necessary transfer of funds as soon as possible.

This is WRB Bern No. 540

5:00 p.m.
July 23, 1945

[Handwritten note: 7/23/45]
Attention: Mr. Delmar B. Haverkamp

Dear Mr. Pate:

This is in reply to your letter of June 6, 1945, concerning disposition by the War Refugee Board to URRRA of the 206,000 standard prisoner of war parcels purchased from the War Department in April 1945.

We have now received a communication from URRRA, in which that agency, as the purchaser of these parcels, agrees to be bound with respect to the disposition of these 206,000 parcels after the manner of their letter to you of June 7.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Maurice Pate,
Director, Relief to Prisoners of War,
American National Red Cross,
Washington 15, D. C.
SECRETARY OF STATE
Washington
1931, fifth
FOR MOSES LEAVITT, AJDC, NEW YORK CITY FROM RESNIK, AJDC, MILAN 56.

There are at least 206,000 prisoner of war parcels that were previously available to the War Refugee Board, apart from parcels especially prepared for this agency. Believe it desirable to explore possibilities obtaining at least 40,000 of those parcels for our use in Austrian camps and general distribution. Understand parcels can be obtained in vicinity. Urgent that speedy action be taken.

KIRK
29 June 1945

Mr. William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
Executive Office of the President
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. O'Dwyer,

1. We wish to apologize for the delay in answering your letter of 12 June concerning the 206,000 standard prisoner of war packages which UNRRA has purchased from the War Refugee Board.

2. We are attaching a copy of our letter of 7th June to Mr. Haverkamp of the American Red Cross which outlines our agreement with that organization. You will note that this agreement covers the packages that we have procured from your Board as well as those procured from the Foreign Economic Administration and the American Red Cross.

3. As this agreement gives assurance on each of the points mentioned in your letter, we hope that this will be satisfactory.

Yours sincerely,

Karl Borders
Acting Chief
Bureau of Supply

attachment
7 June 1945

Mr. Delmar S. Havercamp
Relief to Prisoners of War
American Red Cross
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Havercamp,

With reference to the American Red Cross prisoner of war parcels which we are procuring from the Foreign Economic Administration, the War Refugees Board, the American Red Cross or any other source, I write to confirm the substance of the oral understanding reached between the American Red Cross and UNRRA at a meeting held in your office on 23rd May and in subsequent conversations with representatives of our Food Division, to wit:

(a) UNRRA will remove the foods from the cartons and dispose of the cartons and the receipt cards inside the packages, also in so far as practicable, any Red Cross markings on the cigarettes, in a manner which will ensure the obliteration of the Red Cross names and emblems;

(b) UNRRA will distribute the packages free of charge;

(c) with the possible exception of part of the contents which UNRRA may wish to distribute, under the supervision of its Mission concerned, to certain destitute families, UNRRA agrees to use the contents of the packages primarily in camps, assembly centres for displaced persons, hospitals, and child welfare clinics;

(d) the distribution of all contents of the package will be supervised by representatives of UNRRA in the field and we are confident that our missions will be able to devise ways and means to preclude any leakage into the black market as we, like you, would deplore any such leakage; and

(e) UNRRA will be glad to consult with representatives of the American Red Cross in Washington, and in the
field as well, regarding methods of distribution which are consistent with UNRRA's policy of distributing commodities without any discrimination to the areas and people within areas in the greatest need. UNRRA will inform the Red Cross of the countries to which the packages or their contents are to be shipped.

Yours sincerely,

David Weintraub
Chief, Bureau of Supply
Dear Mr. Weintraub:

The War Refugee Board is in receipt of a letter from the American National Red Cross with respect to the sale to UNRRA by the War Refugee Board of approximately 206,000 standard prisoner of war parcels which the Board owned in Switzerland.

The American Red Cross has expressed concern over (a) the ultimate disposition of these parcels or their contents, (b) the safeguarding of the name and symbol of both the American Red Cross and the International Red Cross which appears on the inner and outer cartons, and (c) the possibility that these supplies might reach European "black markets."

The American Red Cross has requested the Board to ensure that, in the sale of these relief supplies, we exact from the purchaser the greatest measure of care to prevent these parcels or their contents from falling into the hands of unauthorized persons and further to provide suitable protection to cartons bearing names, symbols and labels of the American Red Cross and the International Red Cross until opportunity is presented for their complete destruction.

For your information, when the Board acquired these parcels from the War Department, it was agreed that the Board would arrange for repackaging the parcels before their delivery to civilian detainees in German concentration camps.

In view of the request received from the American Red Cross, it will be appreciated if you will confirm in writing to the Board that UNRRA agrees to meet the requirements specified by the American Red Cross.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) WILLIAM O'DEYER

WILLIAM O'DEYER
Executive Director

Mr. David Weintraub,
Chief of the Bureau of Supply,
United Nations Relief & Rehabilitation,
Washington, D.C.

FMC 62-66
6/23/45
June 9, 1945

Reference No. 2065, of June 6.

Board is arranging for sale of its surplus 206,000 FSW parcels to UNRRA. Accordingly, please advise that none (repeat none) of these 206,000 parcels be turned over to Intercross. Detailed instructions concerning transfer to UNRRA will be sent to you shortly.

Board is pleased to know that balance of 26,702 three-bar letters Board parcels will soon be exhausted. Please express appreciation of Board to Intercross.

Do not misunderstand your reference to 20,000 gallons of gasoline (plus Lubricants). Are they now available in Switzerland released by the Board.
The text on the page reads:

"Reference your No. 7983 of June 6.

Board is arranging for sale of its surplus 300,000 FBW parcels in Switzerland to U.S.A. Accordingly, please advise Interlocus that none (I repeat none) of these 300,000 parcels may be turned over to Interlocus. Detailed instructions concerning transfer to U.S.A will be sent to you shortly.

Board is pleased to know that balance of 34,700 three-kilo Red Cross Board parcels will soon be exhausted. Please express appreciation of Board to Interlocus.

We do not understand your reference to 20,000 gallons of gasoline (plus lubricants). Are they now available in Switzerland and owned by the Board.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 534

2:30 p.m.
June 8, 1945

Miss Ripple (for the Sec'y), Cohn, Hodel, Hutchison, McCormack, Files.

[Signature]

June 8/45"
June 6, 1945

General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Main Treasury Building
15th & Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Paul McCormack

Dear General O'Dwyer:

We are advised that a limited number of prisoner of war food packages which we packed and processed for you, and which were to be distributed through the International Red Cross Committee, are, because of the cessation of hostilities in Europe and the release of prisoners of war from enemy hands, no longer needed for the purposes originally intended and are to be disposed of by you to UNRRA for relief work in Europe.

Having had such an intimate connection with the entire prisoner of war food package program from its inception, we naturally have a continuing concern over the ultimate disposition of packages originally packed and processed by us. This concern is heightened by the fact that the outside containers and the inside bulk containers all bear the markings and labels of the American Red Cross and the International Red Cross Committee, the distributing agency for all prisoner of war packages in Europe. The provisions of the Treaty of Geneva, as well as those of our own Congressional Charter, emphasize the protection which is to be accorded the Red Cross name and emblem and the restrictions placed on the use of the emblem and name in transactions of a commercial nature. Our own longstanding policy of providing services and relief without charge emphasizes this basic principle.

Reports reaching us from Europe indicate that supplies intended for relief have, at times, fallen into the hands of those engaged in "black market" operations. It can also be assumed that failure to guard such supplies with the utmost care will encourage pilferage in areas where the food shortage is so acute. In order that our organization, as well as the International Red Cross, may not be embarrassed by the handling of prisoner of war packages bearing the name and emblem of our organization and the label of the International Red Cross Committee, we request your assurance that, in disposing of your prisoner of war packages no longer needed for the feeding of prisoners of war, you will observe and exact from your recipient or purchaser the greatest measure of care to prevent these packages or their contents from falling into the hands of unauthorized persons, and provide that the cartons in which the contents are assembled and upon which the name and emblem of our organization and the label of the International Red Cross Committee appears, be carefully protected until the first opportunity is presented for complete destruction of the same, in the light of transportation necessities involved.
This subject has been informally discussed with representatives of UNRRA, and we have received assurances of cooperation in a letter dated June , copy attached. However, as your organization is the owner of the packages in question, these assurances should more properly in the first instance come from you. Once the packages leave our hands or any channels over which we have supervisory control, as in the case of sale by you and diversion of the packages into channels where we have no supervisory control, the primary responsibility for the proper protection and distribution of the food packages is yours.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice Pate
Director
Relief to Prisoners of War

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

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

Dear Mr. Haverkamp:

With reference to the American Red Cross prisoner of war parcels which we are procuring from the Foreign Economic Administration, the War Refugee Board, the American Red Cross or any other source, I write to confirm the substance of the oral understanding reached between the American Red Cross and UNRRA at a meeting held in your office on 23rd May and in subsequent conversations with representatives of our Food Division, to wit:

(a) UNRRA will remove the foods from the cartons and dispose of the cartons and the receipt cards inside the packages; also, in so far as practicable, any Red Cross markings on the cigarettes, in a manner which will ensure the obliteration of the Red Cross names and emblems;

(b) UNRRA will distribute the packages free of charge;

(c) with the possible exception of part of the contents which UNRRA may wish to distribute, under the supervision of its Mission concerned, to certain destitute families, UNRRA agrees to use the contents of the packages primarily in camps, assembly centres for displaced persons, hospitals, and child welfare clinics;

(d) the distribution of all contents of the packages will be supervised by Representatives of UNRRA in the field and we are confident that our Missions will be able to devise ways and means to preclude any leakage into the black market as we, like you, would greatly deplore any such leakage; and

(e) UNRRA will be glad to consult with representatives of the American Red Cross in Washington, and in the
Field as well, regarding methods of distribution which are consistent with UNRRA's policy of distributing commodities without any discrimination to the areas and people within areas in the greatest need. UNRRA will inform the Red Cross of the countries to which the packages of their contents are to be shipped.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) David Weintraub
Chief, Bureau of Supply
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE June 5, 1945

to Miss Hodel
from Mr. McCormack

As per our telephone conversation of yesterday, I telephoned Mr. Appleby of FEA regarding the status of the purchase by that agency for UNRRA of the WRB stockpile of parcels in Switzerland.

Mr. Appleby informed me that he had the matter on his desk and he expected to discuss it with the Budget Section today. He further explained that in normal procurement for UNRRA, FEA did their buying through the Procurement Division of Treasury, which Division normally charged them a 1.5% service charge for buying, apparently to cover administrative expenses. Mr. Appleby said that he thought Budget Division at FEA were attempting to work out a formula whereby this 1.5% charge would be eliminated in this particular transaction, inasmuch as the commodity to be purchased was already abroad. He said that he recognized our interest in speed and said that UNRRA, too, was interested in securing supplies as rapidly as possible and that he would call us within the next day or so to tell us that all of the mechanics attendant upon the purchase had been completed. He said that this would likely come to us in the form of a letter that would serve as a notice of intent to obligate FEA at the upset price already agreed upon.
30th May 1945

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

Dear Mr. O'Dwyer,

1. This is to confirm the agreement reached today between Miss Rodell of your staff and representatives of our Food Division under which we will procure from your Board between 206,000 and 207,000 standard Red Cross prisoner of war packages in store Geneva, Switzerland, at a total cost of $762,200.

2. We are preparing today for submission to the Foreign Economic Administration a requisition under the terms of which that Administration will procure these packages from your Board and pay to Miscellaneous Receipts the sum of $762,200.

3. We are making this purchase despite the fact that we feel that the price charged to you by the War Department is excessive in that the price of the packages in the United States is $3.10 each, which indicates a price of approximately 60¢ for transporting them to Geneva, which cost of transport appears inordinately high in relation to the current freight and overland transport charges. Nevertheless, it is our understanding that you are not free agents to negotiate with us a price which would reflect current transport charges.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

David Heintzau
Chief, Bureau of Supply
May 30, 1945

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

My dear General O'Dwyer:

Reference is made to your letter of May 30, 1945, in which you indicate that the War Refugee Board proposes to dispose of approximately 206,000 food parcels in Geneva, Switzerland, to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration under Temporary Regulation A of the Surplus Property Board provided that the Surplus Property Board interposes no objection.

This is to advise you that the Surplus Property Board interposes no objection to the consummation of this transaction as outlined.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

A. E. House
Administrator
Dear General O'Dwyer:

Reference is made to your letter of May 30, 1945, in which you indicate that the War Refugees Board proposes to dispose of approximately 285,000 food parcels in Geneva, Switzerland, to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration under Temporary Regulation A of the Surplus Property Board provided that the Surplus Property Board interposes no objection.

This is to advise you that the Surplus Property Board interposes no objection to the consummation of this transaction as outlined.

Sincerely yours,
May 30, 1945

Col. A. E. House,
Administrator,
Surplus Property Board,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Colonel House: 

The War Refugee Board, established under Executive Order No. 9417 of January 22, 1944, is in the process of winding up all of its operations. The Board owns approximately 200,000 standard prisoner of war parcels in Geneva, Switzerland, which it purchased from the United States War Department for distribution to civilian detainees in German concentration camps. These packages could not be distributed before the cessation of hostilities in Europe and are accordingly surplus property of the War Refugee Board.

The Board desires to dispose of these parcels, under Regulation A of the Surplus Property Board, to the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration at basically the same unit cost which the Board paid the War Department. The War Refugee Board will consummate this transaction provided that the Surplus Property Board interposes no objection.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) William O’Dwyer

William O’Dwyer
Executive Director
SECRETARY OF STATE, Washington, D.C.

PRIORITY

April 25, 1945

For O'Dwyer of WRB from Katzki and McClelland

At meeting held April 23, ICRC made preliminary decision discontinue all shipments of food parcels from Switzerland to Germany. German territory NE of Swiss border has now become military operations zone which from technical point of view makes it impossible for moment to send either trucks or block trains via this route. Principal ICRC dispatching point for German bound shipments is at Kreuzlingen, now definitely excluded as point of departure. ICRC's present decision was also motivated by danger to life and limb incurred by personnel travelling through such zones of military operations as well as danger of plundering for which committee felt it could no longer assume responsibility certain of their personnel already having been injured through bombardment and aerial attack. As a result of this decision several convoys transporting WRB parcels and other supplies destined
-2- 2421, April 25, 11 a.m., from Bern

destined for concentration camps have been held at Kreuzlingen and Geneva pending developments in the transport situation.

We urged ICRC to explore all possibilities for dispatching trucks by other routes than those heretofore used but now inaccessible. At a conference with Burckhardt on April 24 he informed us that single other possible route through Buchs-Fechkirch-Landest and from thence northward is under consideration. As this road runs directly through Reduit and in addition may be impassible due to snow at Arlberg Pass this possibility requires further exploration. We are meanwhile actively pursuing matter of WRB parcel shipments with ICRC in order take advantage of any opportunity relief supplies to civil detainees which may remain.

With reference to Department's 1493, WRB's 503 April 18; Amcross representative in Geneva has now received instructions from Washington to release to WRB in Switzerland 206,000 POW parcels purchased by board from War Department for our program. Should developments make it impossible for ICRC to continue controlled deliveries of parcels to civil detainees in Germany it may be necessary to reconsider use to which these new WRB parcels
-3- 2421, April 25, 11 a.m., from Bern

WRB parcels will be put.

ICRC has informed us that because of limited facilities and backlog of other repackaging requirements they will not be able to begin repackaging these WRB parcels for at least three weeks. This will prove period to observe developments. Meanwhile we would welcome any suggestions you might wish to make.

Since March 23, ICRC has shipped from WRB stocks in Switzerland approximately 16,790 parcels destined for Theresienstadt, Vienna area and camp of Landsberg Am Lech. In addition substantial relief supplies furnished ICRC's DSA by JDC, union OSE and Sternbuch's organization have been shipped also largely as a result of fuel obtained through board's efforts.

In view of confused transport situation in Germany ICRC has not yet been able inform us how much of this will arrive at its destination.

HARRISON
Dear Mr. May:

The War Refugee Board has just purchased from the War Department 206,000 United States prisoner of war food parcels stocked in Switzerland for delivery by the International Red Cross to civilian detainees in German concentration camps.

This letter will confirm to you that the parcels in question are regarded by the Board as a substitution for the 200,000 parcels which were to be shipped from the United States in accordance with blockade authorization contained in cable No. 10022 from London, dated November 16, 1944.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. W. B. May,
Blockade Section,
Area Operations Division,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Washington, D. C.

APR 20 1945
This message is for DD, the Department and AA.

As set forth in Department's 9419 of the tenth of November and WRB 31, the Relief Sub-Committee approves
shipment of further 300,000 three kilo parcels. In approving
consignment, Miss representative, drew attention to the present
shortage of transportation to Geneva from Marseille and
stated he presumed that these parcels would be scheduled
so that they did not conflict with essential Prisoner of War
supplies' shipment.

GALLIAN

DOING

11-17-44

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Akin, Cohn, Krury,
Dubin, Friedman, Stearns, Rodell, Lesser, Marks, Hannon, McCormack, Fehle,
Files.
Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter of April 17th. In accordance with arrangements worked out with your office, and with the War Department, a telegram has already been sent to our representative in Geneva, authorizing him to carry out the transfer of 206,000 prisoners of war food parcels to the Geneva representative of the War Refugee Board. In this telegram were incorporated the conditions specified by the War Department in Major Sommers' letter of April 13th.

We are glad to have had the opportunity to work with you in this project.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Chairman

General William O'Dwyer
The War Refugee Board
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D.C.
April 26, 1946

TO: War Refugee Board
    Paul J. McCormack

FROM: WRB = M.M.Vance.

Enclosed is copy of the cable sent by American Red Cross which you requested.
AMCONSUL
GENEVA (SWITZERLAND)
161
For Amcross

QUOTE SW 1226. War Department has sold to War Refugee Board 206,000 POW food parcels now Switzerland intended for AmPOWs. Please authorize Intercross transfer to War Refugee Board representative Switzerland 206,000 POW food parcels from American Reserve for disposition in accordance with following conditions:
(1) Such food parcels will be distributed solely in concentration camps in accordance with existing practices supervised by Intercross (2) All such food parcels will be repackaged in containers not bearing any reference to United States Army or to POWs before being introduced into or distributed in Germany. War Department reports this transfer cleared with State Department, Foreign Economic Administration and War Food Administration. Understand McClelland WRB representative Switzerland is completing arrangements for repackaging in Switzerland.

Amcross UNQUOTE

Richard F. Allen
Vice Chairman
Insular and Foreign Operations
For Amcross

QUOTE SW 1226. War Department has sold to War Refugee Board 206,000 POW food parcels now Switzerland intended for AmPOWs. Please authorize Intercross transfer to War Refugee Board representative Switzerland 206,000 POW food parcels from American Reserve for disposition in accordance with following conditions:

(1) Such food parcels will be distributed solely in concentration camps in accordance with existing practices supervised by Intercross (2) All such food parcels will be repackaged in containers not bearing any reference to United States Army or to POWS before being introduced into or distributed in Germany. War Department reports this transfer cleared with State Department, Foreign Economic Administration and War Food Administration. Understand McClelland WRB representative Switzerland is completing arrangements for repackaging in Switzerland.

Amcross UNQUOTE

Richard F. Allen
Vice Chairman
Insular and Foreign Operations
1493
The following for McClelland is URG 603.

Transfer of 206,000 United States prisoner of war parcels to War Refugee Board from War Department has now been effected. War Department has requested American Red Cross to hold these parcels for the War Refugee Board and to dispose of them in accordance with directions of War Refugee Board, subject to following conditions:

(a) That such food parcels will be distributed solely in concentration camps supervised by the International Red Cross Committee in accordance with existing practices;

(b) That all such food parcels will be repackaged in containers not bearing any reference to the United States Army or to prisoners of war before being introduced into, or distributed in, Germany. UNCLASSIFIED

The Board has requested access to make available the 206,000 parcels to you as War Refugee Board representative.

You are instructed to arrange at once for repackaging in accordance with the conditions specified by the War Department.

Please advise (1) when American packages available to you,

DECLASSIFIED
State Dep. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 21 1972
you, (2) when repackaging has commenced, and (3) when Intercross starts sending these parcels to German concentration camps.

Please report weekly to board the number of Board parcels which have gone forward and the number remaining in Switzerland.

STHEINIUS

(OIII)
U.S. URGENT

CABLE TO HARRISON, BERN, FOR MCCLELLAND FROM WILLIAM O'DAYER,
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Transfer of 206,000 United States prisoner of war parcels to War Refugee Board from War Department has now been effected. War Department has requested American Red Cross to hold these parcels for the War Refugee Board and to dispose of them in accordance with directions of War Refugee Board, subject to following conditions:

"(a) That such food parcels will be distributed solely in concentration camps supervised by the International Red Cross Committee in accordance with existing practices;

"(b) That all such food parcels will be repackaged in containers not bearing any reference to the United States Army or to prisoners of war before being introduced into, or distributed in, Germany."

Board has requested American Red Cross to make available the 206,000 parcels to you as War Refugee Board representative.

You are instructed to arrange at once for repackaging in accordance with the conditions specified by the War Department.

Please advise (1) when American Red Cross makes packages available to you, (2) when repackaging has commenced, and (3) when International Red Cross starts sending these parcels to German concentration camps. Please report weekly to Board the number of Board parcels which have gone forward and the number remaining in Switzerland.

THIS IS WAR REEF CABLE NO. 503

10:45 a.m.
April 17, 1945

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

Filed 4/17/45
Dear Basil:

In connection with the 206,000 United States prisoner of war food parcels purchased by the War Refugee Board from the War Department, the Board has been advised by the War Department that the American Red Cross has been requested to hold these 206,000 food parcels for the Board and to dispose of them in accordance with the directions of the Board.

It will be appreciated if the American Red Cross will instruct its representative in Geneva to make these 206,000 parcels available to Roswell McClelland, the War Refugee Board’s representative in Bern, Switzerland. Mr. McClelland will arrange for repackaging in accordance with the conditions specified by the War Department and for subsequent delivery by the International Red Cross to internees in German concentration camps.

The cooperation of the American Red Cross in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Mr. Basil O’Connor,
Chairman,
American National Red Cross,
Washington, D. C.
Dear Major Sommers:

I have received your letter of April 13, 1945, enclosing four copies of Form 1080, Voucher for Adjustments between Appropriations and/or Funds, in the amount of $752,200, covering the 206,000 prisoner of war food packages which the War Department has agreed to sell the War Refugee Board.

This is to advise you that the certificate on Form 1080 has been executed and processed for payment. The Treasury Department Division of Disbursement has advised the Board that the check will be mailed to the War Department today.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Major Davidson Sommers,
Assistant Executive,
Office of the Assistant Secretary,
The War Department,
Washington, D. C.

Received 4/16/45

[Signature]
Brigadier General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director, War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General:

There are enclosed four copies of Form 1080, Voucher for Adjustments between Appropriations and/or Funds, in the amount of $762,200, covering the 265,000 food packages in Switzerland referred to in Colonel Gerhardt's letter to you of March 30, 1945.

It is understood that the transfer of these food parcels to you is made on the following conditions:

(a) That such food parcels will be distributed solely in concentration camps supervised by the International Red Cross Committee in accordance with existing practices.

(b) That all such food parcels will be repackaged in containers not bearing any reference to the United States Army or to prisoners of war before being introduced into, or distributed in, Germany.

If you will have the certificate on the enclosed Form 1080 executed and processed for payment, and advise me accordingly, that will constitute a record of the transfer and I will promptly forward to the Red Cross a letter in the form attached hereto.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DAVIDSON SOMMERS
Major, Air Corps
Assistant Executive

Enclosures:
- Form 1080 - 4 cys.
- Drft. ltr. to Red Cross fm. OASW
13 April 1945

Mr. Philip Ryan, Director
Civilian Relief, Insular and Foreign Operations
American Red Cross
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ryan:

Referring to a letter dated March 30, 1945, from Colonel Gerhardt to General O'Dwyer, a copy of which was furnished to you, and to my letter to you of April 5, 1945, advising you that the War Refugee Board had accepted the War Department offer to transfer to it 206,000 food parcels belonging to the War Department and in the hands of the Red Cross in Switzerland for distribution to American prisoners of war, you are requested to hold 206,000 of such food parcels for the War Refugee Board and to dispose of them in accordance with the directions of the War Refugee Board, subject to the following conditions:

(a) That such food parcels will be distributed solely in concentration camps supervised by the International Red Cross Committee in accordance with existing practices.

(b) That all such food parcels will be repackaged in containers not bearing any reference to the United States Army or to prisoners of war before being introduced into, or distributed in, Germany.

Representatives of the State Department, the Foreign Economic Administration, and the War Food Administration have indicated that their organizations have no objection to this transfer.

Sincerely,

DAVIDSON SOMERS
Major, Air Corps
Assistant Executive

(UNSIGNED DRAFT)  COPY FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD
Urgent

Cross from O'Dyer to H.B. Department's No. 1592 of April 9 (URB No. 490).

It is clear that there is no alternative but to repackage in Switzerland 136,000 American Red Cross prisoner
parcels being purchased by War Refugee Board. Accordingly, you are instructed to arrange for rebacking, using
your discretion as to size and type of containers.

Advise immediately as to what action you take.

Instructions to American representative in Geneva to

turn over those parcels to War Refugee Board may be expected
soon.

For security reasons the

text of this message must

be closely guarded.

STATTINUS
(Gran)

9/12/48

NO

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

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT: No. 490

It is clear that there is no alternative but to repackage
in Switzerland 206,000 American Red Cross prisoner of war parcels
being purchased by War Refugee Board. Accordingly, you are in-
structed to arrange for repackageing, using your discretion as to
size and type of containers.

Advise immediately as to what action you take.

Instructions to Amoross representative in Geneva to turn over
these parcels to War Refugee Board may be expected soon.

THIS IS WAR BERN CABLE NO. 497

4:30 p.m. April 11, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Cohn, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Hutchison,
McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files.
April 10, 1945


Maj. Sumers telephoned today to advise the Board that
he had cleared with War Food Administration the matter of
the transfer of the 306,000 prisoner of war parcels to the
War Refugee Board. War Food has no objection to this di-
version.

Maj. Sumers stated that the Red Cross was insisting
upon certain statements from the War Department before
agreeing to the final transfer of these parcels. Specific-
ally, Red Cross was asking the War Department to make
assurances that the reserve for prisoners of war in Geneva
would not be impaired by this diversion and that the matter
be cleared with and approved by all interested govern-
ment agencies. Maj. Sumers stated that the War Department did
not intend to write a letter containing these statements to
the American Red Cross because the War Department felt that,
since it owned the packages, it had a right to undertake the
arrangements with the War Refugee Board. On the question of
repackaging, Maj. Sumers stated that he was of the opinion
that some blacking out of the symbols and labels would not be
sufficient. The reason for this is that the Germans would
then be encouraged to take prisoner of war packages destined
for American and Allied prisoners of war, black out the
symbols and labels and distribute the packages to German
civilians. The real interest of the army here is to "keep
the currency clean." Maj. Sumers stated that there was no
objection whatsoever to repackaging in cartons of the same
size as prisoner of war packages. He added that, if the
War Refugee Board insisted on a more blacking out of Red
Cross symbols and labels, the matter would have to be raised
and cleared with General Marshall himself.

April 11, 1945

I called Maj. Sumers today to clear with him the text
of a cable being sent to McClelland instructing him to make
arrangements for the repackaging in Switzerland of the
prisoner of war parcels being purchased by the War Refugee
The letter from the War Department to the Red Cross will not be sent until the transfer of funds takes place and that the War Department will not make the transfer until payment for the services has been made. The War Department will, accordingly, send Form No. 1386 to the Board requesting:

F. Model
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency.

Dated April 10, 1945
Rec'd 6:37 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

US URGENT
2120, April 10, 11 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM DECIELEND

Division Special assistance of ICRC informs me (Department's 1392, WRB's 490, April 9 and our 2039, April 6) it will be materially possible (containers are obtainable) to repackage these POW parcels in Switzerland if this is considered absolutely necessary by our War Department but it will be a time-consuming and expensive process. Repackaging could begin in four to five days at a rhythm of from two to three thousand parcels per day and at minimum cost of one Swiss franc per parcel. Working space to repackage more than three thousand parcels per day is exceedingly difficult to obtain immediately.

Output of three thousand parcels per day would be sufficient.
2120, April 10, 11 p.m., from Bern

Sufficient utilize trucks likely to be available to our program but insufficient to make use of railroad car space we should receive within next ten days on ICRC blocked trains to depot at Ravensburg.

If ICRC can satisfactorily demonstrate (if War Department considers this technically possible) that identity of origin these parcels can be destroyed, will it permit War Department to waive repackaging condition?

HARRISON

LNS
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

OUTGOING

TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES

1905 APR 11 AM 01

DC/L
LIAISON

CONTROL COPY

By R. H. Parks

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter: 1-11-72

SEP 21 1972

Department has agreed to mail 200,000 United States dollars as a prisoner of war parcels now in Switzerland, on condition that these parcels are re-packed before delivery by Intercession and that they will be delivered only to concentration camps.

Department has requested American Red Cross to arrange for 500 parcels for transfer to UNRRA for delivery to Intercession being worked out between UNRRA Department and the Board.

Your Department must at once (remit at once) whether you can obtain new containers in Switzerland for re-packing. If so, re-packing be done in sufficient time and in sufficient quantity to utilize all transportation facilities including air facilities for armed forces supplies. Would be unable to arrange for delivery in Switzerland of containers shipped from United States for many weeks.

In the meantime, in view of your no. 209 of April 6th, Board will bring to attention of your Department, that Intercession is of opinion that there parcels could be used as they are with
-2-#1392, April 9, 7 p.m., to Bern

exception of blacking out of markings, changing labels, etc.

STEITINUS
(GHK)
US URGENT

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

Reference your No. 1988 and our telephone conversation of April 5th.

War Department has agreed to sell Board 206,000 United States prisoner of war parcels now in Switzerland, on condition that these parcels are repackaged before delivery by Intercross and that they will be delivered only to concentration camps. War Department has requested American Red Cross to earmark these 206,000 parcels for transfer to War Refugee Board under arrangements being worked out between War Department and the Board.

Board must know at once (repeat at once) whether you can obtain new containers in Switzerland for repackaging. If so, can repackaging be done in sufficient time and in sufficient quantities to utilize all transportation facilities including trucks available for Board relief supplies. Board would be unable to arrange for delivery in Switzerland of containers shipped from United States for many weeks.

In the meantime, in view of your No. 2009 of April 6, Board will bring to attention of War Department that Intercross is of opinion that these parcels should be used as they are with exception of blacking out of markings, changing labels, etc.

THIS IS AN URGENT CABLE No. 490

12:03 p.m.
April 7, 1944

[Signature]
INCOMING TELEGRAM

DD3-747
Distribution of true reading by special arrangement.

Bern

Dated April 6, 1945.

Receiv'd, 12:35 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

US URGENT

1968, April 6, 11 a.m.

FOR O'DWYER OF WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

Arrangements with ICRC for securing trucks to transport WRB food parcels into Germany for civil detainees are shaping up as follows: Six Renault trucks will be available for loading morning April 9 and should depart on April 10. ICRC's Division of Special Assistance still hopes send them to Berlin - Lubeck - Hamburg area to relieve rapidly worsening condition of detainees in concentration camps of Sonnenburg, Ravensbruck and Hamburg Neuengamme. If it proves impossible to dispatch trucks this area they will be sent Munich region and east.

Prospects are good getting four to six more Renaults moving by April 13.

These French trucks, although new, all required light overhauling, painting with ICRC insignia, et cetera, which has delayed their use.

With tires

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By H. H. Parke Date SEP 21 1972
I. #1988, April 6, 11 a.m., from Bern.

With tires and diesel oil procured for ICRC by board's efforts committee hopes make at least four trucks available also next week for our program.

Since it is quite possible that only areas of Munich and to east and northeast thereof will be accessible in future it is planned to direct relief shipments by truck mainly to these regions taking in camps of Dachau, Landsberg Amlech, Flossenburg and Hamthauern near Linz, including emergency relief to evacuated deportees on roads. These shipments would be apart from any that might go to Lubbeck area.

Recent news from Germany indicates that almost all internal telephone and telegraph communications are disrupted so that individual camp commanders are progressively more isolated. Little or no centralized SS control, therefore, appears to exist which may tend to preclude any general last minute extermination of large group civil detainees.

ICRC reported this afternoon that truck convoy carrying 300 French women and small children, presumably civil detainees, is expected to arrive.
3- 1988, April 6, 11 a.m., from Bern.

arrive Kreuzlingen tomorrow.

Exact area or camp from which these persons
come is still unknown.

Herbert Katzki arrived this afternoon, April
5 from Paris and will actively work with me on
these TRB programs.

All further significant developments in situation
will be reported to Board.

HARMSO!

JT
At the request of General O'Dwyer, I telephoned Mr. Ryan of the American Red Cross to find out if the Red Cross had
inadequate instructions to Geneva concerning the 200,000 package
of war parcels for the Refugee Board purposes. Ryan informed
me that no order had been sent; that this quantity of packages
were merely being examined here in Washington for eventual
transfer to the War Refugee Board; and that no order or instruc-
tion would be sent to Geneva by the American Red Cross
until the details of the transfer had been worked out between
the Board and the War Department.

I also telephoned Major Smuts to advise him that General
O'Dwyer had requested that Major Smuts, as Chairman, immedi-
ately the War Refugee Board was not very anxious to undertake
the transfer of all 200,000 parcels to the Board; that, in view of
information received from Nunez, all War Refugee Board
parcels now in Switzerland would be cleared out in two weeks,
thereafter absolutely necessary for the Board to secure the
200,000 parcels of War parcels as soon as possible. Major
Smuts revised as that he would not write on this matter. He
raised the question of arrangements for repackaging and I ad-
vised him that we had today cancelled Nunez and asked him to
go into certain questions on that matter and to advise the
Board as soon. Major Smuts then suggested that the matter of
transfer be held up until the details on repackaging can
be worked out and I requested that the transfer be effected
at once and that he work out the details on the repackaging
with our representatives. In both. He agreed to go ahead on
this basis.

Major Smuts called back later in the day to find out if
the Board was cleared on this matter with the War Administration
and I advised him that General O'Dwyer expected to have
War Food when he came down on Wednesday. Major Smuts stated
that, since American Red Cross was not insisting that the
matter be cleared with all interested government agencies
before the transfer was effected, Major Smuts said that he
would clear the matter with War Food for the War Department.
I advised him that the War Refugee Board would have no ob-
jection to this.

P. Hedel
April 7, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE 파일

Major Soares telephoned today with respect to the question raised in General O'Dowd's letter to Colonel Gardner of April 4, 1945. Major Soares stated that he had preliminary contact already with the War Department and that further checks had to be done before a formal reply could be made to us. He stated that, with respect to the method of transfer, the War Department would do the following:

1. Write to the American Red Cross to forward 200,000 prisoner of war certificates and 3,000 sets of them in accordance with the directions of the War Refugee Board;

2. A copy of this letter from the War Department to the American Red Cross will be sent to the War Refugee Board;

3. Treasury Form 1030 will be used in the transfer of the concentrated funds from one government agency to another. With respect to the cost of the packages, he stated that the cost was $3.10 and the approximate cost of shipping was .35. If this is covered by the War Department of the amount, Major Soares suggested that we figure the total cost on the basis of $3.70 per package. At this rate the total cost of the 200,000 packages is $742,000.

Major Soares also stated that the War Department had notified the State and FIA of the letter of this transfer. He stated that it would also be advisable to send the War Refugee Administration of the 200,000 forms and 3,000 sets to the War Refugee Board. He said that this would be done informally.

Major Soares also stated that he was awaiting the final go-ahead on this letter from the General, and in the meantime, conversation should be kept with the War Refugee Board, and not make all of the reply at once. With respect to the matter of repatriating, Major Soares stated that the War Department had no objection to the use of the same size certificate for the War Refugee Board. He said,
In view, that with the War Department and the Red Cross would

make it possible to secure a larger lot of Wages,

and in order to expedite the return to family life. I advised

Mr. Genet that we would be glad with him as soon as

the matter had been discussed with General Johns.

F. Mead
I am sure you will be interested to know that we have just made arrangements with the War Department for the sale to the War Refugee Board of 608,000 parcels of this Government's present reserve of prisoner of war packages now in Switzerland, on condition that the parcels be repackaged before shipment by the War Refugee Board into Germany. We are now working out the details of the transfer and repackaging.

We are very pleased over this because it now assures us of an adequate supply of food to be shipped by truck from Switzerland. During the past two weeks, we have thoroughly explored the problem of obtaining food from sources in the United States and it is clear that, even under the best circumstances, it would take many months before packages could be prepared for shipment to Europe.

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

Filed 6/6/46
Secretary of State
Washington,
US URGENT.
2009, April 6, 8 p.m.
FOR O'DWYER, OF WRB PROF. MCCLELLAND.

Immediately following your telephone call I contacted ICRC regarding possible need for repacking 206,000 across POW parcels whose release to ICRC for WRB programs in Germany you have just obtained. ICRC states that under present conditions of distribution in Germany it will definitely not (report not) be necessary to repack these parcels. They can be used as they are with exception of possible blacking out of markings, changing labelling, etcetera, all of which can be done locally. These parcels will, therefore, be almost immediately available for our WRB relief shipments.

For security reasons the text of this message must be closely guarded.
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
WASHINGTON

5 April 1945

Brigadier General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director, War Refugees Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

In accordance with your request I enclose a copy of a letter which I am today sending to the American Red Cross in connection with the proposed transfer of 205,000 food parcels.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DAVIDSON SOMERS
Major, Air Corps
Assistant Executive

Enc.

cc 1st. 8 Apr. 45 to Ryan, Red Cross,
fm. 023W
8 April 1945

Mr. Philip Ryan, Director
Civilian Relief, Insular and Foreign Operations
American Red Cross
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ryan:

This is to advise you, pursuant to our conversation today, that we have received a letter from General O'Dwyer, Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, accepting the conditions upon which the War Department stated, in Colonel Gerhardt's letter of March 30th, a copy of which was furnished to you, that it would agree to sell 206,000 food parcels now in Switzerland to the War Refugee Board for distribution to war refugees in concentration camps in Germany.

General O'Dwyer states that the War Refugee Board accepts the War Department offer.

Under the circumstances, while details as to payment and transfer are being worked out, it is requested that you earmark 206,000 of the food parcels, which you are holding in Switzerland for distribution to American prisoners of war, for eventual transfer to the War Refugee Board under arrangements to be worked out between it and the War Department.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DAVIDSON SOMMERS
Major, Air Corps
Assistant Executive

COPY FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD
Dear Colonel Gerhardt:

I have received your letter of March 30, 1945, concerning the proposal of the War Refugee Board to purchase food parcels from the stock of allied prisoner of war food packages now in Switzerland.

The Board is firmly convinced that in order to perform its most important function of bringing relief to civilian internees under enemy control it must obtain food now in Switzerland. The Board's efforts to obtain food parcels from sources in the United States have made it clear that even under the best circumstances it would take many months before such food could be prepared for shipment to Europe.

Accordingly, the Board accepts the offer of the War Department to sell the Board 206,000 parcels of this Government's present reserve of prisoner of war packages in Switzerland. The Board will arrange for the repackaging of the parcels before shipment to the refugees in German concentration camps under the supervision of the International Red Cross. You are assured that the Board's feeding program is for refugees in German concentration camps only.

It will be appreciated if you will advise the Board at once as to the cost of the 206,000 parcels and as to the steps to be taken by the Board to obtain title and possession of the parcels in order that appropriate instructions may be forwarded to its representative in Switzerland and to the International Red Cross.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

30 March 1945

Brigadier General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director, War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear General:

I refer to your recent request for the views of the War Depart­
ment on a proposal that the War Refugee Board purchase 900,000 food
parcels from the stock of 7,000,000 food parcels now in Switzerland
and intended for use by United Nations prisoners of war in Ger­
many.

This matter has been discussed with the American Red Cross and
the following information has been obtained:

a. Only 2,000,000 parcels in the present reserve are owned
by this Government, the balance being the property of other Gover­
ments of the United Nations whose nationals are prisoners of war
in German custody. The United States alone cannot provide the
desired 900,000 parcels, as to do so would reduce by almost one-
half the reserve available for United States prisoners of war. It
would therefore be necessary for the War Refugee Board to negotiate
with the other Governments involved, on the basis of trying to ob­
tain the desired number of parcels pro rata out of the total stock­
pile.

b. The American Red Cross strongly urges that no prisoner
of war parcels be distributed to war refugees unless repacked, as
distribution outside prisoner of war camps of parcels marked for
prisoners of war would destroy the security provided at present
against the misuse or diversion of these special parcels. In the
opinion of the Personnel Division this position is sound, and it
is understood, further, that the War Refugee Board has informally
expressed concurrence therein to the Red Cross. Hence the necessity
would arise for repacking the 900,000 parcels in Switzerland, and
this, it is believed, would be difficult to do. In connection with
the above, this Division is informed by the American Red Cross
(Mr. Pate) that the Red Cross is in a position to package in its
plants in the U.S. 15,000 special refugee food parcels per day, the
necessary supplies to be furnished by the War Refugee Board.
The War Department has so far concurred only in the forwarding by the War Refugee Board of specifically packaged "refugee parcels" to war refugees in concentration camps in Germany. If it is now intended to feed refugees in Germany outside of concentration camps the question of blockade violation is presented. The War Department would appreciate a clarification of the intention of the War Refugee Board in this respect.

Assuming that the food parcels in question will be distributed solely in concentration camps, supervised by International Red Cross Committee in accordance with existing practice, I should like to ask the earnest consideration of the War Refugee Board to the matters set forth above and that the War Refugee Board make every effort, subject to available shipping, to provide the desired parcels from sources in the United States.

If the War Refugee Board considers that it must procure these parcels in Switzerland, the War Department will agree to sell its proportionate share of the requested total (i.e., 2/7 or approximately 236,000 parcels), on condition that these parcels be repackaged before shipment into Germany.

Sincerely,

HARRISON A. GERMANT
Colonel, General Staff Corps
Executive to Asst Secretary of War
In view of the possibility that the War Refugee Board stockpile of food packages in Switzerland might be quickly exhausted if adequate trucking equipment becomes available soon, on March 22 General O'Dwyer telephoned General Gerhardt of Mr. McClelland's office to find out if it might be possible for an allocation to be made from existing prisoner of war stockpiles in Switzerland to the War Refugee Board against replenishment in kind or in money. Colonel Gerhardt advised General O'Dwyer that this was primarily a matter for the American Red Cross and he suggested that General O'Dwyer raise it with the Red Cross. He also stated that he would discuss the question at the War Department.

General O'Dwyer then telephoned Bevil O'Connor, Chairman of the American Red Cross, and explained the problem to him. Mr. O'Connor appeared to be very sympathetic to the proposal and stated that he would raise the matter immediately with his staff and have someone call the General at once. Thereafter, Mr. Ryan of the American Red Cross called General O'Dwyer and explained that the stockpile in Switzerland contains only about 1,000,000 food packages for American prisoners of war and that the balance is made up of packages for other Allied prisoners. He stated that, in view of this fact, it would be impossible to allocate any quantity for War Refugee Board purposes since it is contemplated that all American prisoner of war packages on hand in Switzerland would be needed for American prisoners. Mr. Ryan indicated, however, that the Red Cross would be able to help the War Refugee Board by making available its packing center in New York for the packaging of War Refugee Board parcels to be shipped from this country.

In view of the fact that Mr. McClelland advised the Board that there is a stockpile of 80,000 tons of prisoner of war supplies in Switzerland, and in view of the fact that Mr. Currie and Orvis Schmiel, who had just returned from Switzerland, advised that the prisoner of war stocks in Switzerland are not only tremendous but in some cases scrofulous, and in view of the Board's need to be prepared for additional supplies, General O'Dwyer decided to raise the matter with David Niles of the White House. General O'Dwyer suggested that a request to Mr. O'Connor from the White House might expedite the matter. Mr. Niles called back later and said that he discussed the
matter with Mrs. Becttiger and that a memorandum outlining the problem as stated to him by General O'Dwyer should be sent direct from the General to Mrs. Becttiger. Such a memorandum was prepared and was sent to Mrs. Becttiger at 2:15 p.m., with a copy to Mr. Miller.

General O'Dwyer advised Secretary Morgenthau of the foregoing and the Secretary indicated that he would be very glad to help if his personal assistance were necessary.

On March 23, General O'Dwyer reexamined the whole matter and decided that it would be advisable to press further for an allocation of prisoner of war supplies, at least until the Board was in a position to say it had trucks but no food. He therefore decided that every effort should be made to replenish the War Refugee Board stockpile in Switzerland as soon as possible with packages obtained under our second and third food programs which had been cleared with the Blockade authorities. With respect to the second program, it was decided to attempt to have the contract let by Treasury Procurement to three contractors in the hope that a shorter time would be consumed in accumulating the 300,000 packages. General O'Dwyer discussed this with Mr. Folli who stated that he had no objection and arrangements were made with Treasury Procurement to effectuate this. With respect to the third program which has just been approved by the Blockade authorities, General O'Dwyer decided that he should immediately ask for the necessary allocation of funds from the President's Foreign Relief Appropriation and that we should take up the offer of Red Cross to package for us on this program. Since, as a matter of courtesy, we have always asked for American Red Cross approval to our request for such an allocation, General O'Dwyer called Mr. Ryan to find out if he had any objection to our request to the President. Mr. Ryan indicated that there were no unobligated funds in this appropriation; that there was a balance of about $3,000,000 which had been obligated by the American Red Cross.

Mr. McCormack checked with Treasury Procurement and found that as of March 23, the amount of unobligated funds allocated to Treasury Procurement from this appropriation is $3,610,922. It was decided to send the letter to the President requesting an allocation of $1,125,000 for this War Refugee Board program and to omit from the letter any reference to prior clearance with the American Red Cross with respect to this allocation.

P. Hodel
FOOD PACKAGES FOR INTERNEES IN ORIGINAL CONCENTRATION AND REFUGEE CAMPS

The War Refugee Board expects that 50 tons of trucking and 7,000 gallons of gasoline a week will be made available very shortly from United States army stocks to the International Red Cross for the movement of War Refugee Board food parcels to interned in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe. Currently the War Refugee Board has approximately 360,000 of these parcels in Ostberg, Sweden, and in Lebeck, Germany, and 26,000 parcels in Berlin. It can readily be seen that these stockpiles will be quickly exhausted when these trucks get moving.

The Board has funds for the procurement and shipment of an additional 200,000 parcels from the United States, but under the present circumstances private contractors are unable to guarantee delivery of these parcels in less than three months time. This being the case, we will have trucks and gasoline but no packages to distribute to the unassisted interned who face certain death from starvation.

On the other hand, the American National Red Cross has a stockpile of over 2,000,000 parcels in the hands of the International Red Cross Committee in Geneva for distribution to United States military and civilian internees. The monthly distribution rate is approximately 360,000 parcels. At this rate, it will take 6 months to exhaust the existing stockpile. An additional 360,000 parcels go forward from this country each month to replenish this stockpile. Roughly this replenishment exceeds the monthly distribution rate by 35 per cent.

The Board desires to obtain an allocation of 5 thousand tons (slightly in excess of 900,000 parcels) from this stockpile to be earmarked for the Board's feeding program. The Board will arrange for reimbursement either in dollars or in kind.

This proposal has been discussed with Mr. O'Sullivan, Chairman of the American National Red Cross, who is very sympathetic and is taking the matter up with members of his staff. This, undoubtedly, will result in considerable delay.

In view of the urgency, a request to Mr. O'Sullivan that the matter be expedited will probably save the lives of many people.

Signed, [Signature]

3/27/48

[Signature]

3/27/48

[Signature]
The War Refugees Board expects that 50 tons of trucking and 7,000 gallons of gasoline a week will be made available very shortly from United States Army stocks to the International Red Cross for the movement of War Refugees Board food parcels to internees in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe. Currently the War Refugees Board has approximately 226,000 of these parcels in Gotemburg, Sweden, and in Lasken, Germany, and 80,000 parcels in Geneva. It can readily be seen that these stockpiles will be quickly exhausted when these trucks get moving.

The Board has funds for the procurement and shipment of an additional 300,000 parcels from the United States, but under the best possible circumstances private contractors are unable to guarantee delivery of these parcels in less than three months time. This being the case, we will have trucks and gasoline but no packages to distribute to the unassimilated internees who face certain death from starvation.

On the other hand, the American National Red Cross has a stockpile of over 2,000,000 parcels of food and clothing, in the hands of the International Red Cross Committee in Geneva for distribution to United States military and civilian internees. The monthly distribution rate is approximately 263,000 parcels. At this rate, it will take 37 months to exhaust the existing stockpile. An additional 300,000 parcels go forward from this country each month to replenish this stockpile. Roughly this replenishment exceeds the monthly distribution rate by 35 per cent.

The Board desires to obtain an allocation of 5 thousand tons (slightly in excess of 500,000 parcels) from this stockpile to be earmarked for the Board's feeding program. The Board will arrange for reimbursement thereof in dollars or in kind.

This proposal has been discussed with Mr. John O'Connor, Chairman of the American National Red Cross, who is very sympathetic and is taking the matter up with members of his staff. This, undoubtedly, will result in considerable delay.

In view of the urgency, a request to Mr. O'Connor that the matter be expedited will probably save the lives of many people.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON
Office of Foreign Liquidation

In reply refer to:
FI-520-DNC
FEB 1 2 1945

Frank B. Gatchell, Jr.
Budget and Fleming Officer
War Refugee Board
511 District National Bank Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Gatchell:

Attached herewith is the copy promised you of the revised receipt obtained by the Washington offices of UNRRA for the Red Cross Food Parcels of which the UNRRA agent took possession in Geneva, Switzerland.

Yours very truly,

[Signature]
Robert W. Cavanaugh, Chief
Land-Lease Fiscal Division

Attachment (1)
I, the undersigned, on behalf of UNRRA, have taken title to
206,000 standard food parcels (ex Amcross)
49,247 invalid food parcels.

Royall Tyler
UNRRA Representative
in Switzerland.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 31, 1945

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

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

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

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

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

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

/s/ F. D. R.