War Refugee Board
American Legation
Bern, Switzerland

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE
RED CROSS: JEWISH RELIEF

January through December
1944
January through April
1945

Juris-Mappe Nr. 1000 (32 x 24 cm)
Kaiser & Co A.-G., Bern
Swiss Relief Supplies for Vienna, Budapest and Bucharest

The following statement has been issued by the International Committee of the Red Cross:

Inaccurate information from a foreign source having appeared concerning the caravans of trucks sent out by the International Committee and conveying relief stores to Eastern Europe, the said Committee publish the following details.

On July 25, 1945, a caravan of 22 motor-trucks left Switzerland, carrying 29,5 tons of medicaments, 147,6 tons of food-stuffs and five tons of clothing to Vienna, Budapest and Bucharest. Thanks to the courtesy shown and facilities granted by the American, French and Russian occupying authorities, the caravan has safely reached its first stage, Vienna. The Committee have as yet no details about the further progress of the caravan.

These relief stores were placed at the disposal of the International Committee by various welfare organizations, and through the intermediary of the Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross. They are earmarked for liberated deportees and prisoners of war, for the civilian population, especially for children, and for various civil and military hospitals.

With this end in view, the Romanian Red Cross supplied medicaments for sick and wounded Romanian nationals; the American Joint Distribution Committee contributed goods for Jewish and non-Jewish populations; the Swiss Red Cross, Child Relief Section, gave milk for under-nourished children. Furthermore, the European Student Relief and several Jewish welfare organizations contributed gifts in kind and in money. Lastly, the Swiss Relief Fund took advantage of this opportunity to send a stock of medicaments to the hospitals and the poor among the civil population of Vienna and Budapest.
To Hon. Max Huber Jan. 29, 1944
Re: Jan. 4
To: Mr. W.E.

Telegram Received

6:45 a.m., 1944

To: N.Y.

From:

6:50 a.m.

Code:

Eco.

A.W.

A: 10

5 F.

E: 2A

It is possible that a large movement of food, especially the food for German civilians, will be required to German...
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: January 27, 11 p.m., 1944
No: 279
Code: Brown
Received: January 28, 9 a.m.

US URGENT

For the International Red Cross, Geneva, from the
War Refugees Board.

We are familiar with the report (contained in your
cable 571, of October 12, 1943, to your Washington delegation) concerning possible feeding programs in Rumania, Theresienstadt, Slovakia and Croatia, and the need of funds therefor. We desire immediate information concerning
what areas you could operate in right now, assuming that
necessary funds are made available to you to provide food
and medicines to Jews and other persecuted groups in German
occupied areas who are denied the facilities available to
the rest of the population. Please advise where food,
medicines and other supplies can be purchased and how much
money is needed. We are prepared to see that funds are
made available at once for necessary operations.

HULL

/nrm
Bern, January 29, 1944

The Honorable Max Huber
President, International Committee of the Red Cross,
Geneva.

Sir:

I have the honor to convey to you the following message for the International Committee of the Red Cross, transmitted by telegraph by the Department of State, Washington, on behalf of the newly organized War Refugees Board of the United States Government:

We are familiar with the report (contained in your cable 571, of October 12, 1943), to your Washington delegation, concerning possible feeding programs in Rumania, Transylvania, Bulgaria and Croatia, and the need of funds therefore, and desire information as to the areas in which you could operate immediately, assuming that necessary funds are made available to you to provide food and medicines to Jews and other persecuted groups in German occupied areas who are denied the facilities available to the rest of the population. Please advise where food, medicines and other supplies can be purchased and how much money is needed. We are prepared to see that funds are made available at once for necessary operations.

In transmitting the foregoing message to you, I desire to add that I would, of course, be pleased to forward by telegraph any reply which the Committee may desire to make to the War Refugee board's inquiry.

Very truly yours,

Leland Harrison,
American Minister.
Jüdische Unterstützungsstelle
für das Generalgouvernement
Korczak, Jerozolimská 2a, Postfach 211

Tätigkeitsbericht Nr. IV.
für den Monat Januar-März 1944.

Excellence,

J'ai l'honneur d'acquérir réception de votre lettre du 29 janvier 1944, par laquelle vous avez bien voulu me transmettre, de la part du War Refugee Board of the United States Government, un message concernant le problème de secours aux différentes catégories de personnes dans les pays occupés par l'Allemagne.

Nous profiterons volontiers de votre aimable offre de transmettre une réponse de notre part au Département de l'Etat; cette réponse toutefois nécessitera quelques jours.

Son Excellence
M. Leland Harrison
American Minister,
Légation des États-Unis d'Amérique
BERNE

February 1944
Excellence,

J'ai l'honneur d'exprimer réception de votre lettre du 27 janvier 1944, par laquelle vous avez bien voulu me transmettre, de la part du War Refugee Board of the United States Government, un message concernant le problème des secours aux différentes catégories de personnes dans les pays occupés par l'Allemagne.

Nous profiterons volontiers de votre aimable offre de transmettre une réponse de notre part au Département de l'Etat; cette réponse toutefois nécessitera quelques jours d'examen.

Nous vous félicitons de l'intérêt que le Département d'État témoigne à l'égard de ce problème et nous vous prions d'agréer, Excellence, l'assurance de notre haute considération.

Max HUBER
Président

Son Excellence
M. Leland Harrison
American Minister,
Légation des États-Unis d'Amérique
BERNE
PARAPHRASE

Following is for the Minister from War Refugee Board:

You are requested to transmit following urgent message to the International Red Cross, in Geneva:

Please refer to our recent cable in which information was requested relating to possible relief operations on behalf of Jews and other persecuted groups. We have examined the proposal which you made through your London delegation in December to the Intergovernmental Committee, in which you requested that there be placed at your disposal the sum of 300,000 Swiss francs for carrying out the indicated relief program in Croatia, Slovakia, Rumania, Hungary and Theresienstadt and such other relief actions as may become feasible. The funds needed for this project are being made available to you immediately by Joint Distribution Committee, which has been granted by the Treasury Department a license authorizing transmission to you of the equivalent in Swiss francs of $100,000 for this purpose. You are authorized under the license to employ the funds for buying food and other supplies in Hungary, Rumania and neutral countries and otherwise to carry out the relief activities which are mentioned above. Please keep the War Refugee Board fully advised of the action you take, and also indicate to the Board what other assistance is required in order to carry out this and similar operations.

The Legation should extend to Intercross and the Joint Distribution Committee representatives its full cooperation in this matter. Please transmit promptly to Daily Mayer a copy of the above message.

HULL

In triplicate

DECLARATED
State Dept. Inter. 11/12

By H. H. Fiske Date SEP 25 1977
Monsieur le Directeur,

Nous avons été informés par notre délégation à Londres que, à la suite d'un appel du World Jewish Congress, les gouvernements américains et anglais ont chargé la Comité intergouvernemental pour les Réfugiés d'examiner s'il y a lieu de mettre des fonds à la disposition du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge pour qu'il puisse acheter en Europe des secours destinés à certains groupes d'Israélites nécessiteux en Allemagne, dans les pays occupés et en Europe centrale. Nous tenons à exprimer notre gratitude pour ce geste généreux dans lequel nous voyons une marque de confiance et un précieux encouragement aux efforts que nous pourrions entreprendre pour venir en aide à toutes les victimes de la guerre.

À ce sujet, nous nous permets d'attirer votre attention sur le point suivant:

Lorsque le World Jewish Congress nous avait informés il y a quelques mois, de son intention de lancer un appel aux gouvernements alliés pour leur demander de mettre des fonds importants à la disposition du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge en vue d'une action de secours en Europe, nous avions été très heureux de constater que cette action devrait être entreprise en faveur des victimes civiles de la guerre, sans distinction de race ni de religion. Or, il semble que ce projet initial a été abandonné et qu'il a été décidé que l'action envisagée serait limitée à certains groupes d'Israélites en Europe centrale. Nous constatons avec regret que cette limitation rend extrêmement difficile, sinon illusoire, la réalisation de ce projet, qui aurait eu plus de chances d'être accepté par les autorités et les secours envisagés qui auraient pu être organisés dans le cadre d'une action générale. Nous nous retrouvons donc dans une situation dans laquelle nous avons de bonnes raisons de penser que vous comprendrez notre regret et que vous pourrez constater que vous ayez fait un effort pour soutenir l'œuvre de la Croix-Rouge, mais que vous soyez incapables de vous engager dans ce genre d'action.

Avec mes salutations respectueuses,

[Signature]
TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: February 10, 10 p.m., 1944.

No: 838

Code: Brown

Charged to:

Department's 279, January 29, 11 p.m.
Message communicated to International Red Cross acknowledged on February 8 by Dr. Huber, who states that Committee is gratified by this evidence of interest in this problem, that it will gladly avail itself of my offer to transmit its reply to Washington, that reply will, however, require several days' consideration.

HARRISON
At Mr. Mayer’s request this letter was sent to him to Hotel Gournin, Geneva.

Bern, February 11, 1944

Mr. Saly Mayer,
American Joint Distribution Committee,
The Honorable Max Huber of the International Red Cross,
Tigerbergstrasse 25,
St. Gallen.

Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Legation’s letter of today’s date to the Honorable Max Huber of the International Red Cross, Geneva.

In accordance with instructions received from the Department of State, the Legation will be pleased to offer you all possible cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché

Enclosure as stated.

4.17

Feb. 11

A true copy of the signed original.
Bern, February 11, 1944.

Rumania, and neutral countries and otherwise to carry out the relief activities which are mentioned above. Please keep the War Refugee Board fully advised of the action you take.

Relevant to the Board what other assistance is required in order to carry out this and similar operations.

The Honorable

Max Huber

President, International Committee of the Red Cross

Geneva.

In view of the association of the Joint Distribution Committee with the activity outlined in the telegram from the War Refugee Board, as quoted above, I am taking the liberty of writing to you a message from the War Refugee Board, and to your reply of February 3. In this connection the Legation has been requested by the Department of State to transmit to the International Red Cross the following telegraphic message from the War Refugee Board:

"Please refer to our recent cable in which information was requested relating to possible relief operations on behalf of Jews and other persecuted groups. We have examined the proposal which you made through your London delegation in December to the Intergovernmental Committee, in which you requested that there be placed at your disposal the sum of 300,000 Swiss francs for carrying out the indicated relief program in Rumania, Hungary, and Theresienstadt and such other relief actions as may become feasible. The funds needed for this project are being made available to you immediately by Joint Distribution Committee, which has been granted by the Treasury Department a license authorizing transmission to you of the equivalent in Swiss francs of $100,000 for this purpose. You are authorized under the license to employ the funds for buying food and other supplies in Rumania,

Rumania,
Rumania, and neutral countries and otherwise to carry out the relief activities which are mentioned above. Please keep the War Refugee Board fully advised of the action you take, and also indicate to the Board what other assistance is required in order to carry out this and similar operations."

In accordance with instructions received from the Department of State, the Legation will be pleased to offer you all possible cooperation in this matter.

In view of the association of the Joint Distribution Committee with the activity outlined in the telegram from the War Refugee Board, as quoted above, I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Saly Mayer, representative of the Joint Distribution Committee, Tigerbergstrasse 26, St. Gallen.

Very truly yours,
For the Minister:

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.

DJR/CG/11DP
Copy to Mr. Saly Mayer
Copy to Chancery files

Intended Committee: DJD
Intended Location: No
Intended Office: No
To: Department  
Date: February 13, 11 a.m., 1944.
No: 691
Code: [redacted]

Charged to: [redacted]

Paraphrase

In a letter dated February 11 this Legation transmitted to Judge Max Huber, President of the International Red Cross, the message contained in your 437 of February 9. On the same date a copy of the Legation's letter was sent to Salo Mayer.

HARRISON

DHR:305:af

In triplicate

RECEIVED
State Dept. Letter, 1-14-72
By M.H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972
February 15, 1944

Memorandum for the files.

Telephone conversation between Mr. Reagan and Mr. Saly Mayer
(Joint Distribution Committee)

Mr. Mayer telephoned this noon to tell Mr. Reagan that
he has been in Geneva for the past few days waiting to see
the appropriate person at the Red Cross with whom he has now
had an interview. The Red Cross was interested in his propositions
and will consider them, he will be given an answer at the end of
the week. In the meantime he will go back to St. Gallen and may
stop in Bern on his way. If so, he will telephone for an appoint-
ment.

DJR/CH

Restated
M.E.W. always said "No" in principle - used the advice on how far he can go.
Requested $5,000,000. Now receiving war, apparently.
Delivered copy of memo to British Committee.
Drew their attention to fund program originally raised from W.O.B.
Highly necessary to describe. Publicity would result in closing up of possibilities.
Most thus disposed, of means not needed of relief planned.
States he considers 3 out 100,000 desert.
W.O.B. however, a political organization.

W.O.B. - evacuation. IRC doesn't want to continue with operations - has no confidence in organizations in Turkey and Romania - people that interested in making money. IRC's only interest is in obtaining safe-conducts. Now interested in obtaining safe-conducts. Now trying to obtain for a total ready. British have assumed Romanians have given us deposed reply but indicated thinking Romanians will instruct. Romanians not yet heard from last report will probably go with United Crosses and say IRC insignia can be used only when all safe conduct given.

S. doubts Washington can at present go to work together - against religious barriers. S. and friend proposed plan of 'w.O.B. and work together. Sale of money from Switzerland.' - not sure about it again.
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going to benefit many.

Blacked dollars - D.R. might be able to bring on basis of blacked dollars. Thanks to a possibility. But Romanians may prefer to buy black market dollars. D.R. said would support.

Individual families could be sent to U.S. by plane. Thousands of Jews in work camps permitted to get food, etc. Would be most helpful. Not all would arrive. D.R. thought best way to try.

Above all, clothes and underwear needed according to I.R.C. delegate who visited Thessaloniki, Salonica, and Thessaloniki. This commodity not available in large parcels. Transport available on land and boats.

All possibilities change from day to day. Stresses essential here under our control. Cooks' proposal went to Washington - would be too late.
Those that can be reached

Thousandth &

10,000 - (20,000)

Slovakia - Several tens of thousands, very few still alive.

Poland - 10,000's reached, possibly 250,000 still alive - strictly off the record.

Romania - ? was about 80,000 in

Transnistria in movement.  Some being returned.

Actual refugees in Hungary continuing - possibly 17,000.

Croatia - 2,500

Belgium & France - not well known, many still in Belgium. Belgium is best of all.

Other proposed groups? What doesn't mean? Is it geography? Who else can be helped? Children in Serbia and

Children in Serbia and

concentration camps in Germany with Public.

Prisoners - Dutch, Belgian, Norwegian - in opinion of IR. deserve only more than all others. Situation in camps appalling - dying like flies, worse than memorandum which now out of date.

The rest several hundred

sums in new system of control. &

current responsibility. Until next T.E.W. demand that these people move

Prisoners of War states.
Delegate rang to Banks unofficially.
To: Department  

Date: February 17, 8 p.m., 1944.  

No: 995  

Code: [redacted]  

Paraphrase  

Please refer to your no. 437 of February 9.  

On February 17 Schwarzenburg, member of the Secretariat of the Intercross Committee, called at the Legation in connection with the above telegram. S. stated that Intercross will report shortly to the Legation the action it proposes to take. The necessity for surrounding the program for relief action with complete secrecy was emphasized by him; he stated that publicity would doubtless prompt German measures to thwart relief. Schwarzenburg requested that this aspect be brought to the attention of groups in the United States who are participating in the program for relief.

Mr. Saly Mayer is in contact with Intercross with regard to the program for relief.

HARRISON  

DVR:reg:nf  
In triplicate
Sir,

The message from the War Refugee Board of the Government of the United States of America, which you were so kind as to forward us on 29 January, and relating to the possible transfer of relief in cash, was for us a matter of special satisfaction since for several months past our most earnest concern has been to draw the attention of Allied Authorities to the almost tragic condition of various categories of civilians in Europe.

Subsequently the Legation of the United States of America has been good enough, in a letter of 11 February, to inform us of the transmission of US$100,000— for the purpose of purchasing foodstuffs and other relief without the relevant licence containing any geographical restriction concerning the utilisation of this sum.

We should be very much obliged to the Legation of the United States of America if it were so kind as to convey to the War Refugee Board the expression of our deep gratitude for this proof of confidence and the assurance that, on our side, we shall do everything in our power, in close co-operation with the Joint Relief Commission and taking into account the wishes of the donors, to draw up a programme of relief action which will be submitted to the War Refugee Board in the near future.

We shall not fail to make in due course further suggestions of a practical character concerning the development of this action and the initiation of other similar operations. In this connection we should much

His Excellency
Mr. Leland Harrison
American Minister
Legation of the United States of America,
appreciate if the Legation of the United States of America could indicate the name of a member of its staff with whom we could get into touch in the future with a view to mutual consultation as to the expediency of any given proposal.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

very truly yours,

Max HUBER
President.
Telegram Sent

To: Department
Date: February 18, midnight, 1944.
No: 1028
Code: ,.llllllllllllla
Charged to:

Paraphrase

We have now received a letter from the Committee of the International Red Cross in which it is stated that the message from the War Refugee Board was a matter of special satisfaction, since their most earnest concern for several months past has been to draw the attention of Allied authorities to the almost tragic condition of various categories of civilians in Europe.

The CICR, after acknowledgement of the receipt of our letter of February 11 which transmitted the message contained in the Department's 437 of February 9, asks us to convey their deep gratitude to the War Refugee Board for this proof of confidence and the assurance that everything in their power would be done in close cooperation with the Joint Relief Commission and taking into account the wishes of the donors to draw up a program of relief action that will be submitted in the near future to the War Refugee Board. In due course, the CICR will also make further suggestions of a practical character with regard to the development of this action and the initiation of other operations of a similar nature.

Department's no. 279, January 27 and Legation's 836, February 10 and 891, February 13.

HARRISON

LH:mk:mf
One paraphrase
Bern, February 21, 1944

COMMISSION MIXTE DE SECOURS DE LA CROIX-ROUGE INTERNATIONALE

The Honorable Max Huber, President, International Committee
Projct de refuge des Red Cross, Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale à Genève.

I have the honor to acknowledge your letter of February 17th, C/34 9.59/7 0.58/8 0.88 JBS/HL, in response to my letters of January 19th and February 14th last, and take pleasure to inform you that I have not failed to convey your message as requested to the War Refugee Board.

In reply to the inquiry contained in the last paragraph of your letter under acknowledgment, I am happy to name Mr. Daniel J. Reagen, Commercial Attaché of the Legation, for such informal consultation as suggested by you. 4/29/44.

Very truly yours,

Le Service Vivres et Propos d’utiliser la somme de fr. 359,000.- mise à sa disposition, comme suit:

1. Un montant de fr. 100,000.- en faveur des déportés juifs résidant en Belgique.

2. Un montant de fr. 119,000.- en faveur des déportés israélites de Theresienstadt.

3. Un montant de fr. 100,000.- en faveur des œuvres d’assistance aux israélites de Cracovie.

4. Un montant de fr. 50,000.- aux fins de réserves en faveur des déportés dans les différents camps de Hollande et d’Autre Suisse.

Total: fr. 359,000.-
Projet de répartition établi par la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale à Genève à l'intention de la Légation des États-Unis à Berne concernant un don de 100'000 dollars en faveur de déportés israélites de différents pays.

Nous suggérons de répartir la contre-valeur de ce don de 100'000 dollars, représentant en francs suisses une somme de ........................................ sFr. 429'000.- en :
- sFr. 70'000.- pour le Service pharmaceut.
- et sFr. 359'000.- pour le Service : Vivres & Vêtements.
- sFr. 429'000.-

Le Service "Vivres et Vêtements" propose d'utiliser la somme de ........................................ sFr. 359'000.- mise à sa disposition, comme suit :

1/. Un montant de ........................................ sFr. 100'000.- en faveur des déportés israélites en Transnistrie et en Weissraddy.
2/. Un montant de ........................................ sFr. 119'000.- en faveur des déportés israélites à There-

3/. Un montant de ........................................ sFr. 100'000.- en faveur des œuvres d'assistance aux is-
raélites à Cracovie.
4/. Un montant de ........................................ sFr. 40'000.- aux fins de réserves en faveur des déportés dans les différents camps de Hollande et de Haute Silésie.

Total: ........................................ sFr. 359'000.-
DEAR Mr. Reagan,

There it is, the long, long letter almost a book. I wonder whether we made our point sufficiently clear. I do hope so.

May I add some personal remarks:

1. Discretion in all this matter has proved to be of the utmost importance. All the Jews in Switzerland seem to have heard about money being suddenly available and they all come to us with personal claims. I am almost out of wits and do not know how to stop this continual flow of visitors.

2. The "Joint" being the donor of the $100,000 transferred to us, we are wondering whether it is up to us alone to decide what is to be done with the money or whether Sally Mayer, as Swiss representative of the "Joint", is to handle the matter. We have not informed Sally Mayer of the enclosed proposals about how to use the money as we should like to have your opinion first. Luckily we always get on very well with Sally Mayer and we trust that he will agree on principle with our scheme, provided that you approve it. So please let us know soon how we are to proceed.

3. In our scheme we have done our best to spend as little money as possible in Axis countries, and this could be still diminished if the War Refugee Board would accept our suggestion of letting us have parcels. I do hope you will find it possible to support this scheme.

4. We beg you most earnestly to consider the enclosed letter as confidential, i.e. to prevent it from falling into the wrong hands. It would make things for us extremely difficult. Therefore, we hope that you will be able to have the substance of our proposals ciphers sent to Washington. Should you consider this as impossible we could send a copy of the letter by bag to Lisbon where it might be handed to your Legation for forwarding to Washington. That is just a suggestion. I do not know whether you would think it of

Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Legation of the United States of America

[Address]

[Date]
Forgive us for being so long in answering your letter, and believe me, dear Mr. Reagan,

sincerely yours,

(Dr. J.H. Schwarzenberg)
Dear Sirs,

Following upon our letter of February 17th, 1944, to H.E. the American Minister in Bern, we venture to submit for your consideration the following particulars concerning relief action in regard to which the support of the War Refugee Board of the United States would be highly desirable.

The War Refugee Board, in accepting a suggestion made by us to the Inter-Cabinet Committee for Refugees in London last autumn, was good enough to notify us that the equivalent in Swiss francs of 100,000 dollars would be available free from restrictions as to geographical areas, for use in Hungary, Rumania and neutral countries, and that the licence had been issued under the name of the "Joint Distribution Committee".

The International Committee have just been credited with the sum of 429,000 Swiss francs through the Swiss National Bank, on behalf of the "Joint", and we assume that it will be mainly a matter for Mr. Slay Mayor to discuss with us particulars for the utilization of this sum. We feel, however, that it may be useful to send you herewith a scheme which has been drawn up by the "Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross (Commission Mixte)". Subject to an agreement being reached with the "Joint Distribution Committee", this scheme would provide for the utilization of a sum of 429,000 Swiss francs for the benefit of groups of Jews whom we consider to be in great need. This scheme aims at speedy action, without awaiting the putting into effect of any projects which might be evolved subsequently.

To the
Legation of the United States of America,

BERN
We have thought it advisable to apply certain rules in drawing up this programme.

I. Relief for Jews.

1. The peculiar position of Jews in the Axis countries is not a crystallised one, and the possibilities of extending relief to them which exist at any given moment may suddenly disappear. It is therefore necessary to proceed by test cases in the absence of any basis which is firmly established by international law. We have been able more than once, by means of tests, to open up fresh channels for the distribution of relief, the facilities offered to us being very variable and differing from one area to another. We should therefore very much appreciate if a certain proportion of the sums which are placed at our disposal was to be set aside for test consignments the despatch of which would be attempted through hitherto untried channels. Whereas we are able to state almost with certainty that relief consignments to Rumania, to Theresienstadt and to the "Jüdische Unterstützungskommission" in Cracow will reach the beneficiaries, we cannot vouch in the same way for the delivery of relief to, say, the Jews in the camp at Westerbork (Netherlands), in the camps in France and in certain camps in Upper Silesia, where we should like to make the test.

2. Being apprised of the views of the blockade authorities as regards transfer of currency to Axis countries, we shall endeavour to reduce to the lowest possible minimum any purchases which may have to be made in Hungary and Rumania, and to procure goods as far as possible in the neutral countries of Europe (pharmaceutical products and some foodstuffs, which have however become very rarefied). In this connection, we should like to know if we could count on additional funds if they were to be used exclusively in Switzerland, Portugal, Sweden and possibly Turkey.

3. In order, however, to limit as far as possible the purchases which would be made in Hungary and Rumania, we wonder if the War Refugee Board would consider shipping from overseas relief in kind which we propose to stock in Geneva, and upon which we would draw according as supplies were required. This method would have the advantage of enabling us to seize as they occur certain opportunities of despatching relief supplies, without having to send out fresh appeals on each occasion. The stock which would thus be built up in Switzerland could remain under the control of the War Refugee Board which, through their representative...
at the American Legation in Bern, would authorize us to draw upon these reserves to the extent of the amounts proposed in the schemes and projects which would be submitted by us.

The articles which are most urgently required are:

a) warm clothing and underwear. Certain groups of Jews in Transnistria, for instance, whom our delegate has been able to visit, are practically completely deprived of clothing.

b) boots (large sizes for men).

It would meet one of the most urgent needs if, as the War Refugee Board proposes to do, we had several thousand parcels available, containing each an assortment of clothing, underwear and possibly a pair of strong boots (parcels made up separately according as they are intended for men, women or children (not infants)).

4. The same system of warehousing could usefully be applied for food parcels, perhaps several tons of thousands of these at a maximum weight of 2 kg. 1/2. The distribution of relief to Theresienstadt is most easily carried out in the form of standard parcels. These should contain only articles which will keep some time (canned goods, sugar, condensed milk, Ovaltine, etc.). These parcels could be sent also to the camps in Upper Silesia (if this is found to be possible), Croatia, the Netherlands and France. If, on the other hand, the War Refugee Board, do not see their way to entertaining our proposal that clothing and food parcels be sent to us from overseas, we should be compelled to make them up ourselves, which would unavoidably entail the purchasing of certain foodstuffs in Hungary and Rumania, and this would mean transfer of Swiss francs to Axis countries.

Should the question of tonnage be an obstacle in the way of the War Refugee Board accepting our proposal to place food parcels at our disposal, we should be willing to have these consignments conveyed, against reimbursement of the freight charges, and in so far as the available tonnage would permit, by the ships which are at present plying under the sign of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and which carry supplies for the allied prisoners of war between the United States, Canada and Lisbon, on the one hand, and Lisbon-Marseilles (Genoa), on the other.
5. As a general rule, we should like to stress that in this matter of relief for Jews, we proceed very discreetly, and that we endeavour to avoid any form of publicity as far as our own work is concerned. The reasons for this are:

a) the fact that the various Jewish associations, for certain reasons, prefer to act independently of one another, and that it would seem impossible to succeed in centralizing the various relief undertakings which are organized by each of these groups. It is therefore not in the interest of the aims in view to reveal to one Jewish organization what is done by another.

b) Neither is it in the interest of the Jews whom we wish to rescue from a critical situation to draw too much attention to the proposed relief action. In view of certain tendencies, it is to be feared that authorizations which already exist might be withdrawn and new difficulties raised if this plan to save certain groups of Jews were exploited for propaganda purposes.

II. Relief for concentration camps in Germany.

This desire to avoid as far as possible attracting attention to our scheme has led us to propose relief work for certain groups of civil war victims, irrespective of race and religion. The War Refugee Board willingly agreed to this principle, and we are therefore venturing to mention certain groups who, we feel, are deserving of assistance by the War Refugee Board in like manner to the Jews.

These groups include nationals of allied countries (Belgians, Dutch, Norwegians, Poles, Greeks, Czechs, etc.) who have been deported and are detained in the prisons and concentration camps in Germany.

Political prisoners are detained in Germany in concentration camps which are under the control of the secret police. The régime is more severe than in the prisoner of war and civil internment camps, and all the information we receive corroborates that the food in these camps is inadequate. The International Committee therefore, in response to the urgent appeals which they received from these political prisoners and from their next-of-kin, applied on many occasions to the allied authorities and Red Cross Societies, with the object of obtaining permission to forward food parcels to these concentration camps, as is done for allied prisoners of war and civilian internees in Germany. To their great regret, the blockade authorities firmly refused to authorize these...
consignments, insisting, as an essential condition, for such an authorisation that these detainees should be assimilated with prisoners of war, i.e. that the stipulations of the Geneva Convention should be applied to them. Such a measure depends, however, upon the German authorities, which refuse to allow this assimilation. The International Committee regret that the blockade authorities should have laid down this condition which makes relief entirely dependent upon a decision to be taken by the detaining authorities and prevents the detainees from receiving what are very necessary food supplies.

Judging that the blockade authorities are not opposed in principle to this category of peculiarly afflicted war victims receiving assistance, but that they are concerned chiefly with preventing the detaining country from deriving any benefit from the foodstuffs, the International Committee have endeavoured to discover some means of guaranteeing the safe distribution of relief in these camps. At the same time, they have sought to provide the blockade authorities with guarantees which would be equivalent (if not superior) to the means of control which are provided for under the Conventions of Geneva, the latter being unfortunately inapplicable in the present instance.

These guarantees are the following: thanks to certain small sums which have been received in Switzerland, we have been able to send some parcels to the principal concentration camps in Germany and even to certain camps and prisons in the occupied countries, asking that acknowledgments be returned to us personally by the beneficiaries. In certain camps (Oranienburg and Ravensbrück), our delegates have been able to ascertain on the spot that the parcels were actually delivered, and that there was no reason to fear they had been misappropriated. We are thus able at present to send parcels to Norwegian (also to the students from Oslo), Dutch, Polish, Belgian, Greek, Czech and other deportees in Dachau, Buchenwald, Buchsenhausen-Oranienburg, Ravensbrück, and in certain other camps, but for lack of funds and parcels, we are not in a position to develop this relief action on the scale which would be necessary; at present it is still in the stage of a test process undertaken to furnish the blockade authorities with evidence that the scheme is feasible, and that fully adequate guarantees could be supplied and which we should be ready to submit for the attention of the representative of the American Legation, should the latter be interested in these various test cases.
Although the detaining authorities decline to supply the International Committee with the names of political prisoners and even with information on the strengths of the camps, this action has had a noteworthy result. The parcels which we have nevertheless been able to deliver to certain detainees have as a matter of fact acted as a snowball, and the next-of-kin, in the home countries of the deportees, having doubtless been notified by letters from the camps, are now advising us spontaneously of the names and addresses of the deportees. Thus we possess the names and we would ask you to treat this as strictly confidential – of nearly all the Norwegian, Dutch and a large number of Poles who are political prisoners in the concentration camps. Consignments could therefore be organized systematically and we would even be in a position to receive acknowledgments from the prisoners’ representatives – similarly to the procedure applied in prisoner of war camps – for any collective consignments which might be despatched.

The present problem would be to send food supplies by means of standard parcels to several thousand political prisoners (approximately 1,450 Norwegians, a thousand Dutch men and women, or thereabouts, and as many Polish men and women). We do not know the strengths of the other nationalities, but we feel convinced that we would have their names communicated to us if we were able at last to undertake this relief action.

We are profiting by the opportunity afforded us by the War Refugee Board, thanks to their generous support, of drawing their attention once more to this very urgent problem, and of warmly recommending that they contribute to supplying a particularly deserving and severely striken category of war-victims with relief which might be instrumental in saving the lives of many of them.

III. Relief for children war-victims, particularly in Serbia and Slovenia.

From accurate information received from Belgrade we hear that there are at present in Belgrade and several other Serbian towns more than 30,000 children who have escaped from the areas which used to be included formerly in Yugoslavia, and which are now attached to Croatia. These refugee children are in a particularly critical condition; they are undernourished and require clothing. Their health condition is pitiful.

It would be necessary to organize emergency relief action for their benefit.

The same may be said of children in Slovenia (the northern section of Yugoslavia). This area was first
annexed by Italy which undertook to supply it. The situation which was already serious has become worse since the events in Italy in the summer of 1943. More than 100,000 children are suffering from malnutrition. Products such as milk, sugar, chocolate, eggs, and other strengthening foods are entirely lacking. Here, too, relief consignments are urgently required. We enclose a distribution plan in case it should prove useful.

* * *

The International Committee of the Red Cross and the joint Relief Commission (Commission Mixte) undertake to apply in any future action - as in the past - measures of control as strict as possible, and to prevent any misappropriation of relief consignments. We shall proceed to carry out relief only when we have gained the conviction as far as possible that the detaining authorities will not derive any direct benefit from the relief supplies. We shall submit to the War Refugee Board - if possible through their representative at the American Legation in Bern - all the evidence which we can gather vouching for the safe arrival of relief supplies, and reports on their distribution, in all cases where our delegates have been able to be present. Thus the War Refugee Board will be in a position to judge whether it is possible to carry out a specific undertaking or not.

Further we do not think that rigid regulations for control are expedient; we have already mentioned the example (cf. point II) of political prisoners in German concentration camps to whom the blockade authorities do not consider it permissible to send relief parcels so long as they are not assimilated with prisoners of war. The criterion to be selected for control should, in our opinion, be as flexible as the relief action itself; one principle must however be strictly applied, i.e. that relief must benefit only those for whom it is intended.

We are at the entire disposal of the War Refugee Board to supply them with any additional information they may desire to receive.

Yours truly,

Carl J. Burckhardt
Member of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
Scheme of distribution drawn up by the "Joint Commission of the International Red Cross in Geneva" (Commission Mixte) for the American Legation, Berne, concerning a donation of 100,000 dollars for Jewish deportees of various countries.

We suggest apportioning the equivalent of this donation of 100,000 dollars representing a sum of:

- Sw. Fr. 429,000.- for the "Commission Mixte"
- Sw. Fr. 70,000.- for the Pharmaceutical Service
- Sw. Fr. 359,000.- for the Food & Clothing Section

The Food & Clothing Section proposes to utilize the sum of Sw. Fr. 359,000. to be placed at its disposal as follows:

1. A sum of ... for Jewish deportees in Transnistria and Bessarabia.

2. A sum of ... for Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt.

3. A sum of ... for Jewish relief organisations in Cracow.

4. A sum of ... to build up a reserve stock for deportees in the various camps in the Netherlands and Upper Silesia.

Sw. Fr. 429,000.

1/ As of ... for Jewish deportees in Transnistria and Bessarabia.

2/ A sum of ... for Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt.

3/ A sum of ... for Jewish relief organisations in Cracow.

4/ A sum of ... to build up a reserve stock for deportees in the various camps in the Netherlands and Upper Silesia.

Sw. Fr. 359,000.

1/ A sum of ... for Jewish deportees in Transnistria and Bessarabia.

2/ A sum of ... for Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt.

3/ A sum of ... for Jewish relief organisations in Cracow.

4/ A sum of ... to build up a reserve stock for deportees in the various camps in the Netherlands and Upper Silesia.

Sw. Fr. 359,000.
1. Relief work for Jewish deportees in Transnistria and Bessarabia.

Sw.Fr. 100,000.

Rumania being herself in a position to supply all the requisite foodstuffs as well as clothing, except footwear, we consider it would be a mistake to proceed to buy foodstuffs in Switzerland with the object of forwarding them to these deportees. Experience has proved that Mr. Kolb, Delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Rumania, is able to procure clothing on favourable terms. We know that the Jewish deportees have no clothing and we therefore suggest that the Treasury of the International Committee of the Red Cross place the sum earmarked for the relief for these persons at the disposal of their delegate in Rumania, requesting the latter to be good enough to make the purchases and distribute the clothing under his own control and that of the Rumanian Red Cross which has the necessary organisations at its disposal.

Amount to be spent abroad: Sw.Fr. 100,000.

2. Relief work for Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt

Sw.Fr. 119,000.

Since the responsible German authorities do not permit collective consignments to be sent to Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt, we propose to use the sum of Sw.Fr.119,000 which has been earmarked for this purpose, for individual consignments in the form of standard parcels of Hungarian origin. We submit two proposals:

I. Consignments of Hungarian standard parcels

(a) Consignment of about 5000 parcels containing foodstuffs partly requiring preparation, composed of:

...
500 gr. plum jam
500 gr. macaroni (or similar) with broth
flavouring for soups.
300 gr. biscuits
1 kg. sugar.

This parcel would cost, inclusive of
share of the administrative expenses of the
Joint Commission and packing ... Sw.fr.9.42.--
To be spent abroad ... Sw.fr.24.520
To be spent in Switzerland Sw.fr.12.000
36.520.--

b) Consignment of about 5500 parcels
containing foodstuffs which do not
require preparation, composed of:

500 gr. plum jam
500 gr. biscuits
2 tins of canned meat, i.e.
1 of 250 gr. chicken paste
1 of 250 gr. venison paste
1 kg. sugar.

This parcel would cost, inclusive of
share of administrative expenses of the Joint
Commission and packing ... Sw.fr.12.42
To be spent abroad ... Sw.fr.59.295
To be spent in Switzerland Sw.fr.18.100.--
76.395.--
Total Sw.fr.122.915.--

Proviso for costs purchasing,
conveyance, insurance, to be
spent in Switzerland ... Sw.fr. 6.085.--
Total 129.000.--

If the first proposal is adopted, the
expenditure would therefore be:

in Switzerland ............... Sw.fr.24.585
Abroad ............... Ch.f.415.--
Sw.fr.119.000.--

This proposal is subject to agreement by the
Swiss appropriate authorities, in particular those of
the Swiss National Bank as regards the fund to be ex-
pended in Hungary.
II. Parcels containing partly Swiss products and partly products of Hungarian and Slovak origin.

The scheme would include about 9000 parcels which would cost Sw.Fr.12.40 per parcel, packing and share of administrative charges of the Joint Commission inclusive, the contents being:

1. can sweetened condensed milk
2. 1 can unsweetened condensed milk
3. 1 carton cheese
4. 1 can roast veal hash
5. 1 can medium green peas
6. 1 kg sugar
7. 1 kg macaroni or such like

Amount to be spent in Switzerland Sw.Fr.85.050.–
Amount to be spent abroad 30.150.– 115.200.–

Proviso for costs purchasing, conveyance, insurance, to be spent in Switzerland
Total Sw.Fr. 115.000.–

If the second proposal is adopted, the expenditure would therefore be
in Switzerland Sw.Fr. 85.050.–
Abroad Sw.Fr. 30.150.– Sw.Fr. 115.000.–

As in the first instance, this second proposal is subject firstly to agreement by the Swiss National Bank as regards Hungarian and Slovak products, and secondly to the export licence for Swiss products which has to be issued by the appropriate authorities. These products could, if necessary, be forwarded from the Port-France of Geneva Cornavin where they could be packed into parcels which would be grouped in crates, twentyfive packages in each crate, and sent in the form of a collective consignment without any personal address.

3/ Relief work for Jewish relief organisations in Cracow

Sw.Fr.100.000.–

According to information which has reached us, the responsible German authorities have once more authorized consignments of pharmaceutical products to Cracow. We could therefore send these persons vitaminized milk LACTISSA, which is recognized as strengthening food.
The sum of Sw.fr.100,000.- earmarked for the purpose of the above work would permit of sending about 12,000 kg. of LACTIBI at Sw.fr.7.75 per kg = Sw.fr.93,000.-
Proviso for share of administrative expenses, insurance, freight = Sw.fr. 7,000.-
Sw.fr.80,000.-

Amount to be spent in Switzerland: Sw.fr.100,000.-

L. Reserve Stock to be built up for the camps in the Netherlands and Upper Silesia.

Sw.fr.40,000.-

As regards consignments of parcels for the various deportee camps in the Netherlands and in Upper Silesia, i.e. a sum of Sw.fr.20,000.- for the Netherlands, and an equal amount for Upper Silesia, we propose to send standard food parcels of Hungarian origin, viz. parcels of food not requiring preparation, at Sw.fr.15.45 per parcel, including packing and share of the Relief Commissions charges, which would allow of two shipments of 1350 parcels each, that is a total of 2700 parcels, representing a sum of Sw.fr.40,000.- of which would be spent in Switzerland Sw.fr.35,000.- and Abroad total 5,000.-

Proviso for cost, purchasing, conveyance, insurance = 2,497.-
total Sw.fr.40,000.-

Distribution for the utilisation of funds

1st Proposal:
To be spent in Switzerland
1. Bessarabia and Transnistria 34,585.-
2. Theresienstadt 100,000.-
3. Cracow
To be spent abroad

1/ Bessarabia and Transnistria: Sw.fr. 100,000.-
2/ Theresienstadt: 84,419.-
3/ Cracow:
4/ Netherlands and Upper Silesia: Sw.fr. 29,435.- Sw.fr. 213,818.-
Sw.fr. 359,000.-

Second proposal:
To be spent in Switzerland

1/ Bessarabia and Transnistria: 85,050.-
2/ Theresienstadt: 100,000.-
3/ Cracow:
4/ Netherlands and Upper Silesia: 104,357.- 195,617.-
To be spent abroad

1/ Bessarabia and Transnistria: 100,000.-
2/ Theresienstadt: 33,950.-
3/ Cracow:
4/ Netherlands and Upper Silesia: 29,435.- Sw.fr. 163,353.- Sw.fr. 359,000.-
Note to the attention of the American Legation, Berne.

Propositions on the purchase of Medical supplies and surgical dressings for relief action in favour of Jewish refugees (Fr. 100'000. - from War Refugees Board).

A. GENERALITIES.

A sum of Fr. 70'000.-- would be necessary for the purchase of medical supplies and surgical dressings. These purchasing propositions have been established on the basis of relief consignments which we send on account of other donors; this programme may be subject to modification due to conditions of purchase.

An explanation is necessary for the following items:

- **Swiss pharmaceutical products:**
  Pharmaceutical specialties and products manufactured in Switzerland, according to the enclosed list (Assortment A, annex 1), or properly mentioned;

- **Foreign pharmaceutical products:**
  Pharmaceutical specialties and products of foreign origin, according to the enclosed list (Assortment B, annex 2), or properly mentioned (from Depot Sanitaire);

- **Synthetic Surgical dressings:**
  Synthetic gauze and cotton, manufactured in Switzerland and which can be exported.

B. PROPOSITIONS.

1. For Refugees in Transnistria:

- **Swiss pharmaceutical products:**
  - 50'000 Polyvitamin tablets: Fr. 2'500.--
  - 50'000 Vitaequin tablets: Fr. 3'200.--
  - 3'000 Cleo-5i ampoules: Fr. 1'700.--
  - 16'000. Phyton tablets: Fr. 1'000.--

- **Foreign pharmaceutical products:**
  - 60'000 units Insulin: Fr. 800.--

- **Synthetic Surgical dressings:**
  - Fr. 3'000.--

**Total:** Fr. 12'000.--
2. For Theresienstadt and camps in the neighbourhood:

Swiss pharmaceutical products:
- 100,000 Polyvitamin tablets: Fr. 4'600.---

Foreign pharmaceutical products:
- 20,000 units Insulin: 200.---
- 2 kg Mercurochrome: 300.---

Synthetic Surgical dressings: 2'600.---

Total: Fr. 7'700.---

3. For Jüdische Unterstützungsstelle Cracow and camps in the neighbourhood:

Swiss pharmaceutical products:
- two Assortments A: Fr. 14'000.---
  - 150,000 Polyvitamin tablets: 6'900.---
- Foreign pharmaceutical products:
  - two Assortments B: 2'000.---
- Synthetic Surgical dressings: 3'100.---

Total: Fr. 26'000.---

4. Reserve for camps in Holland and Upper Silesia:

Swiss pharmaceutical products:
- two Assortments A: Fr. 14'000.---
- Foreign pharmaceutical products:
  - two Assortments B: 2'000.---
- Synthetic Surgical dressings: 1'600.---

Total: Fr. 12'600.---

Total: Fr. 63'300.---

Emergency reserve: Fr. 70'000.---

Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross Pharmaceutical Service:

[Signatures]
### List of Swiss pharmaceutical products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Acid, ascorbinic 0,05 (Vitamin C)</td>
<td>1 kg tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Becoyam (Vitamin B-Komplex)</td>
<td>40 x 100 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benerva (Vitamin B&lt;sub&gt;1&lt;/sub&gt;)</td>
<td>20 x 100 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benerva-forte (Vitamin B&lt;sub&gt;1&lt;/sub&gt;)</td>
<td>5 x 25 amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larostidin</td>
<td>6 x 25 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saridon</td>
<td>6 x 25 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redoxon-forte (Vitamin C)</td>
<td>100 x 125 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perro-Redoxon</td>
<td>10 x 25 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tnicol</td>
<td>100 x 100 gr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leronan</td>
<td>2000 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spasmylytic (Atropin-Papaverin)</td>
<td>20 x 50 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitroglycerin 0,0005</td>
<td>500 amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffein, matr. salicylic 0,2</td>
<td>1000 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffein, matr. salicylic 0,25</td>
<td>2000 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matr. salicylic 0,5</td>
<td>1000 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naphthol. benzoic 0,25</td>
<td>3000 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codisin, phosphoric 0,02</td>
<td>15 x 100 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandoz</td>
<td>20 x 500 gr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandoz granulated</td>
<td>20 x 10 amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sundox 10% 5 cc</td>
<td>20 x 200 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sundox liquid</td>
<td>25 x 10 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam Panthesin</td>
<td>4 x 100 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Felamin</td>
<td>30 x 1/2 tube</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ipedrin</td>
<td>5 x 250 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strophosid 1 ccm</td>
<td>6 x 250 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strophosid 0,5 ccm</td>
<td>6 x 50 amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synergen</td>
<td>6 x 50 amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gynagen 0,5 ccm</td>
<td>5 x 100 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gynagen 0,5 ccm</td>
<td>5 x 50 amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enter-Visziform</td>
<td>10 x 250 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cormarin 1,7 ccm</td>
<td>20 x 20 amp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cormarin liquid 15 ccm</td>
<td>150 fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citrilgin</td>
<td>4 x 250 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citazol</td>
<td>5 x 1000 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citazol</td>
<td>2 x 250 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citazol powder</td>
<td>10 x 10 gr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merfen &quot;solution s£queuse&quot;</td>
<td>20 fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merfen &quot;teinture colors&quot;</td>
<td>20 fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merfen &quot;solution nasals&quot; 10 ccm</td>
<td>100 fl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Item</td>
<td>Quantity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 jars Merfen ointment 500 gr</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 jars Merfen ophthalmic ointment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 500 gr Bismuth subgallic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kg Bismuth subnitric</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 250 tabl. Irgafen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 50 sup. Irgafen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 gr Irgamid nasal ointment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 gr E. salicylic</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 gr Magnes. sulfuric</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 kg Phenacetin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kg Vaso. liquidum</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4000 tabl. Acid. acetylosalicilic 0,5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 tabl. Barcital 0,5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5000 tabl. Di-pyridini 0,5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 tabl. Hexamin 0,5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 tabl. Taninii albuminti 0,5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5000 tabl. T. bromo-natr. sallicylic 0,5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/1 tub. Calmitol ointment</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/1 flao. Calmitol liquid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kg Ungt. hydrargyi praec. alb. com. vasel. artific. 10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 kg Pasta zinci cum vasel. artif.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 kg Pulvis adaspersor. zinci</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ASSORTMENT B

Foreign pharmaceutical products

20'000 i.u. Insulin
2 kg Mercurochrome
500 amp. Dextrose 50% 20 ccm
500 amp. Perhepar
Propositions relatives à une action éventuelle de secours en faveur des enfants sous-alimentés, en Serbie et en Slovénie.

Tenant compte de la situation particulièrement alarmante de plusieurs milliers d'enfants en Serbie et en Slovénie, nous nous permettons de soumettre un projet concernant une action de secours en faveur de ces déshérités.


Nous proposons donc l'envoi de produits suisses, auxquels nous pourrions ajouter du sucre slovaque et des pâtes hongroises, pour une somme de:

Frs. 200'000.--

à répartir par moitié pour chacune des deux actions envisagées, soit:

1) à destination de la Serbie, pour distribution aux enfants de rogurités dans ce pays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Produit</th>
<th>Quantité</th>
<th>Unité</th>
<th>Prix</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300 caisses de lait condensé sucré</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>caisses de lait condensé sucré</td>
<td>Frs. 1'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10'000 kgs. de sucre</td>
<td>10'000</td>
<td>kgs. de sucre</td>
<td>Frs. 15'450.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 pâtes</td>
<td>5'000</td>
<td>pâtes</td>
<td>Frs. 11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10'000 boîtes de fromage</td>
<td>10'000</td>
<td>boîtes de fromage</td>
<td>Frs. 17'150.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 kgs. de farine pour potages</td>
<td>5'000</td>
<td>kgs. de farine pour potages</td>
<td>Frs. 11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2'000 boîtes de marmelade de pommes</td>
<td>2'000</td>
<td>boîtes de marmelade de pommes</td>
<td>Frs. 6'000.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provision pour frais d'assurances, de transitaires et participation à nos frais d'administration</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frs. 91'550.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Frs. 1'450.--

Frs. 100'000.--
2) À destination de la Slovénie, pour distribution aux enfants de ce pays.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Montant (Fr.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300 caisses de lait condensée sucré</td>
<td>18'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>300 &quot; n/sucré</td>
<td>15'450.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10'000 kgs. de sucre</td>
<td>11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 &quot; pâtes</td>
<td>11'000.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10'000 boîtes de fromage</td>
<td>17'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 kgs. de farine pour potages</td>
<td>11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2'000 &quot; de marmelade de pommes</td>
<td>6'000.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>91'550.--</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provision pour frais de transport, d'assurances, et participation à nos frais d'administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Montant (Fr.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81'450.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100'000.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Montant à dépenser en Suisse

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Montant (Fr.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15'1000.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15'1000.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200'000.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale:
Service: Vivres et Vêtements.

[Signatures]
Geneva, 26th February 1944.

Note to the attention of the American Legation, Berne.

Proposition on the purchase of medical supplies and surgical dressings for relief actions in favour of Refugee children in Serbia and Slovenian children.

1. For children in Slovenia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swiss pharmaceutical products:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandoz tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phytin tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'400.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferro-Redoxon tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 6'900.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyvitamin tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'200.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diphtheria Antitoxin</td>
<td>Fr. 1'800.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larasan</td>
<td>Fr. 1'800.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neocid disinfectant</td>
<td>Fr. 3'700.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Synthetic Surgical dressings: Fr. 3'700.--

Total: Fr. 20'000.--

2. For Refugee children in Serbia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swiss pharmaceutical products:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandoz tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'600.--</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neocid disinfectant</td>
<td>Fr. 1'800.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Synthetic surgical dressings: Fr. 1'000.--

Total: Fr. 20'000.--

Total: Fr. 40'000.--
No. 7454
Bern, March 2, 1944.

Subject: Proposed Program of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the relief of Jewish Refugees and other Persecuted Groups in Enemy Territory.

The message for the International Committee of the Red Cross contained in the Department's telegram no. 279 of January 27 stated that the War Refugee Board was familiar with the report contained in the International Red Cross's cable no. 971 of October 12, 1943, to its Washington delegation concerning possible feeding programs in Rumania, Theresienstadt, Slovakia, and Croatia, and the need of funds therefor. The War Refugee Board requested from the International Committee of the Red Cross immediate information concerning the areas in which it could operate immediately, assuming that the necessary funds were made available, to provide food and medicines to Jews and other persecuted groups in Rumania, Theresienstadt, Slovakia, and Croatia.

ICRC - Jewish Relief
March 1944
No. 7454
Bern, March 2, 1944.

Subject: Proposed Program of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the relief of Jewish Refugees and other Persecuted Groups in Enemy Territory.

The message for the International Committee of the Red Cross contained in the Department's telegram no. 279 of January 27, 1944, and 437 of February 9, 1944, which contained messages from the War Refugee Board which the Minister was requested to transmit to the International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva. The message for the International Committee of the Red Cross contained in the Department's telegram no. 279 of January 27 stated that the War Refugee Board was familiar with the report contained in the International Red Cross's cable no. 571 of October 12, 1943, to its Washington delegation concerning possible feeding programs in Romania, Theresienstadt, Slovakia and Croatia, and the need of funds therefor. The War Refugee Board requested from the International Committee of the Red Cross immediate information concerning the areas in which it could operate immediately, assuming that the necessary funds were made available, to provide food and medicines to Jews and other persecuted groups in Germany.
German-occupied areas who are denied the facilities available to the rest of the population. The Red Cross was further requested to advise the War Refugee Board as to where food, medicines, and other supplies could be purchased and how much money was needed. The War Refugee Board stated that it was prepared to see that funds were made available at once for the necessary operations.

The message for the International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, in the Department's telegram no. 437 stated that, in response to the proposal made in December to the Intergovernmental Committee in London through the London delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the American Treasury Department had authorized the Joint Distribution Committee to place at the disposal of the International Committee of the Red Cross the Swiss franc equivalent of $100,000 for the carrying out of a relief program in Croatia, Slovakia, Rumania, Hungary, and Theresienstadt, and such other relief actions as might be feasible.

Upon receipt of the Department's telegram no. 279 of January 27 the message contained therein was transmitted in a letter from the Minister, dated January 29, 1944, to Mr. Max Huber, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva. The message contained in the Department's telegram no. 437 of February 9, 1944, was transmitted to Mr. Huber in a letter dated February 11, 1944, and a copy of this message was, in accordance with the Department's instructions, transmitted on the same date to Mr. Bally Mayer, representative in Switzerland of the American Joint Distribution Committee. Copies of the Legation's letter of January 29, 1944, to Mr. Huber and of the Legation's letter of February 11, 1944, to Mr. Huber and to Mr. Mayer are enclosed with this despatch. The action taken was reported to the Department in the Department's telegram nos. 886 of February 10, 1944, and 911 of February 17, 1944, and 1028 of February 18, 1944, reported to the Department the International Committee of the Red Cross's acknowledgment of the messages from the War Refugee Board and informed the Department that the International Committee of the Red Cross was preparing a report giving the information requested in the Department's telegram no. 279 of January 27 and stating how it is proposed to employ the Swiss franc equivalent of $100,000 made available by the Joint Distribution Committee.

Enclosed with this despatch is a letter dated February 25, 1944 addressed to the Legation by Dr. Carl J. Juchkowetz, Member of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
The letter from Dr. Burobhardt constitutes the reply of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the Department's telegram nos. 279 of January 27 and 437 of February 9, 1945. A summary of this letter is being telegraphed to the Department. Dr. Burokhardt's letter treats generally with the problems and possibilities of relief of Jewish refugees "and other persecuted groups in German-occupied areas who are denied the facilities available to the rest of the population" and proposes two definite relief programs: a) for the expenditure of the Swiss franc equivalent of the $100,000 made available by the Joint Distribution Committee for the relief of Jewish refugees in Transnistria, Bessarabia, Theresienstadt, Cracow, and different camps in Holland and Upper Silesia; b) for the relief of children war victims in Serbia and Slovenia. For the latter relief action funds have not yet been provided. Annexed to Dr. Burokhardt's letter are detailed schedules of the proposed expenditures.

It is believed that the Department and the War Refugee Board will be particularly interested in the proposal made by the International Committee of the Red Cross in paragraph 3 section I of Dr. Burokhardt's letter that to as large an extent as possible purchases of food and clothing in enemy territory be replaced by the assembly in Geneva of a depot of relief articles shipped from overseas. In an interview on February 17 Dr. J. B. Schwarzenberg, the member of the secretariat of the International Committee of the Red Cross who was charged with the preparation of the reply to the War Refugee Board's inquiry, indicated that he was fully aware of the dangers implicit in the expenditure of foreign exchange in enemy territory and requested that the Legation favorably recommend to the Department and the War Refugee Board the comparative advantages of shipping relief articles from overseas. In the Legation's opinion, the expenditure of foreign exchange in enemy territory is likely to result in unpreventable abuses by the enemy which may endanger the relief program and which will certainly handicap the prosecution of our economic warfare. Dr. Schwarzenberg has since renewed his plea for the despatch of relief parcels from overseas.

The Legation also commends to the particular attention of the Department and the War Refugee Board section II of Dr. Burokhardt's letter, which proposes relief for Norwegians, Dutch, Poles, Belgians, Greeks, and Czechs who, incarcerated in German concentration camps and prisons under severe German secret police control, are enduring privations. Dr. Schwarzenberg has informed the Legation that, in his opinion, these individuals who are suffering for their political beliefs or for resistance to the enemy
are among those of the persecuted groups in most urgent need of assistance. He expressed his deep regret that up to the present time the British blockade authorities have refused to authorize relief for these groups because the German will not recognize these imprisoned persons as being prisoners of war and as such subject to the Geneva Convention. He requested that the Legation second the plea of the Red Cross that these unfortunate people likewise be granted assistance by the War Refugee Board.

Respectfully yours,

Leland Harrison
American Minister.

Enclosures:
1. Legation's letter of January 29 to Mr. Huber.
2. Legation's letter of February 11 to Mr. Huber.
3. Legation's letter of February 11 to Mr. S. Mayer.
4. Letter dated February 29 from Dr. Burckhardt.

(With original copy)

814.2
DNR/RCG/imp

(Original and two copies to Department)

In transmitting the foregoing message to you, I desire to ask that I receive, of course, the most forward reply which may suggest any desire to make to the War Refugee Board's inquiry,

Very truly yours,

Leland Harrison
American Minister.
Barn, January 29, 1944

The Honorable Max Huber, President, International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Legation's Letter of January 29, 1944, which transmitted to you by telegraph the following message for the International Committee of the Red Cross transmitted by telegraph by the Department of State, Washington, on behalf of the newly organized War Refugee Board of the United States Government:

"We are familiar with the report (contained in your cable 571, of October 12, 1943, to your Washington delegation) concerning possible feeding programs in Hungary, Theresienstadt, Slovakia and Croatia, and the need of funds therefore, and desire information as to the areas in which you could operate immediately, assuming that necessary funds are made available to you to provide food and medicines to Jews and other persecuted groups in German occupied areas who are denied the facilities available to the rest of the population. Please advise where food, medicines and other supplies can be purchased and how much money is needed. We are prepared to see that funds are made available at once for necessary operations."

In transmitting the foregoing message to you, I desire to add that I would, of course, be pleased to forward by telegraph any reply which the Committee may desire to make to the War Refugee Board's inquiry.

Very truly yours,

Leland Harrison
American Minister.

In accordance with instructions received from the Department of State, Washington will be pleased to offer you all possible cooperation in this matter.
Enclosure no. 2 to despatch no. 7454 March 2, 1944, from American Legation, Bern, on the subject of "Proposed program of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the Relief of Jewish Refugees...etc"
In view of the association of the Joint Distribution Committee with the activity outlined in the telegram from the War Refugees Board, as quoted above, I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Sally Mayer, representative of the Joint Distribution Committee, Tigerborgstrasse 26, St. Gallen.

Very truly yours,
For the Director:

Mr. Sally Mayer
American Joint Distribution Committee
Tigerborgstrasse 26, St. Gallen.

Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Legation’s letter of today’s date to the American Joint Distribution Committee of the International Red Cross, Geneva.

In accordance with instructions received from the Department of State, the Legation will be pleased to offer you all possible cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché.

Enclosures as stated.
In view of the association of the Joint Distribution Committee with the activity outlined in the telegram from the War Refugee Board, as quoted above, I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Saly Mayer, representative of the Joint Distribution Committee, Tigerbergstrasse 26, St. Gallen.

Very truly yours,
For the Minister:

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.

To:
Mr. Saly Mayer,
American Joint Distribution Committee,
St. Gallen.

Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the legatine's letter of today's date to the Honorable Gen Schaller of the International Red Cross, Geneva.

In accordance with instructions received from the Department of State the War Refugee Board will be pleased to offer you all possible cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.

Enclosure as stated.
Enclosure no. 3 to despatch no. 7454 March 2, 1944, from American Legation, Bern, on the subject of "Proposed program of the International Committee of the Red Cross for the Relief of Jewish Refugees...etc"

COPY
International Committee of the Red Cross, Geneva, Bern, February 11, 1944

Mr. Salo Mayer,
American Joint Distribution Committee,
Zieglerstrasse 26,
St. Gallen.

Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the Legation's letter of today's date to the Honorable Max Ruber of the International Red Cross, Geneva.

In accordance with instructions received from the Department of State, the Legation will be pleased to offer you all possible cooperation in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan, Commercial Attaché.

The International Committee have just been advised that the sum of 499,000 Swiss francs through the Swiss National Bank on behalf of the "Joint" and an assurance from the Swiss Government that it will be available to the Mr. Salo Mayer as well as other persons in the same capacity, that it may be useful to send the treasurer in Geneva, Dr. Ruber, the sum of 250,000 Swiss francs for the benefit of Jewish organizations in Switzerland. This will be used to purchase and distribute relief aid to the needy. The funds will be available for the following projects:

1. Relief of the Jewish population in Switzerland
2. Assistance to Jewish refugees
3. Support of Jewish institutions

The funds will be managed by the Joint Relief Committee of the International Red Cross, subject to the approval of the Geneva Committee, which is charged with the responsibility of ensuring the efficient use of the funds. The Legation will keep the Joint Relief Committee informed of the progress of the relief operations and will ensure that the funds are used in accordance with the approved plan.
Dear Sirs,

Following upon our letter of February 17th, 1944, to H.E. the American Minister in Bern, we venture to submit for your consideration the following particulars concerning relief action in regard to which the support of the War Refugee Board of the United States would be highly desirable.

The War Refugee Board, in accepting a suggestion made by us to the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees in London last autumn, was good enough to notify us that the equivalent in Swiss francs of 100,000 dollars would be available free from restrictions as to geographical areas, for use in Hungary, Rumania and neutral countries, and that the licence had been issued under the name of the "Joint Distribution Committee".

The International Committee have just been credited with the sum of 429,000 Swiss francs through the Swiss National Bank, on behalf of the "Joint", and we assume that it will be mainly a matter for Mr. Salo Mayer to discuss with us particulars for the utilization of this sum. We feel, however, that it may be useful to send you herewith a scheme which has been drawn up by the "Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross (Commission Mixte)". Subject to an agreement being reached with the "Joint Distribution Committee", this scheme would provide for the utilization of a sum of 429,000 Swiss francs for the benefit of groups of Jews whom we consider to be in great need. This scheme aims at speedy action, without awaiting the putting into effect of any projects which might be evolved subsequently.

To the
Legation of the United States of America,

BERN
We have thought it advisable to apply certain rules in drawing up this programme.

I. Relief for Jews.

1. The peculiar position of Jews in the Axis countries is not a crystallised one, and the possibilities of extending relief to them which exist at any given moment may suddenly disappear. It is therefore necessary to proceed by test cases in the absence of any basis which is firmly established by international law. We have been able more than once, by means of tests, to open up fresh channels for the distribution of relief, the facilities offered to us being very variable and differing from one area to another. We should therefore very much appreciate if a certain proportion of the sums which are placed at our disposal were to be set aside for test consignments the despatch of which would be attempted through hitherto unused channels. Whereas we are able to state almost with certainty that relief consignments to Russia, to Theresienstadt and to the "Judische Unterweisungszentrale" in Cracow will reach the beneficiaries, we cannot vouch in the same way for the delivery of relief to, say, the Jews in the camp at Westerbork (Netherlands), in the camps in France and in certain camps in Upper Silesia, where we should like to make the test.

2. Being apprised of the views of the blockade authorities as regards transfer of currency to Axis countries, we shall endeavour to reduce to the lowest possible minimum any purchases which may have to be made in Hungary and Rumania, and to procure goods as far as possible in the neutral countries of Europe (pharmaceutical products and some foodstuffs, which have however become very rarefied). In this connection, we should like to know if we could count on additional funds if they were to be used exclusively in Switzerland, Portugal, Sweden and possibly Turkey.

3. In order, however, to limit as far as possible the purchases which would be made in Hungary and Rumania, we wonder if the War Refugee Board would consider shipping from overseas relief in kind which we propose to stock in Geneva, and upon which we would draw according as supplies were required. This method would have the advantage of enabling us to seize as they occur certain opportunities of despatching relief supplies, without having to send out fresh appeals on each occasion. The stock which would thus be built up in Switzerland could remain under the control of the War Refugee Board which, through their representative at the American Legation in Bern, would authorise us to draw upon these reserves to the extent of the amounts proposed in the schemes and projects which would be submitted by us.

The articles which are most urgently required are:

a)
a) warm clothing and underwear. Certain groups of Jews in Transnistria, for instance, whom our delegate has been able to visit, are practically completely deprived of clothing.

b) boots (large sizes for men).

It would meet one of the most urgent needs if, as the War Refugee Board proposes to do, we had several thousand parcels available, containing each an assortment of clothing, underwear and possibly a pair of strong boots (parcels made up separately according as they are intended for men, women or children (not infants)).

4. The same system of warehousing could usefully be applied for food parcels, perhaps several tens of thousands of these of a maximum weight of 2 kg. 1/2. The distribution of relief to Theresienstadt is most easily carried out in the form of standard parcels. These should contain only articles which will keep some time (canned goods, sugar, condensed milk, oatmeal, etc.). These parcels could be sent also to the camps in Upper Silesia (if this is found to be possible), Croatia, the Netherlands and France. If, on the other hand, the War Refugee Board do not see their way to entertaining our proposal that clothing and food parcels be sent to us from overseas, we should be compelled to make them up ourselves, which would unavoidably entail the purchasing of certain foodstuffs in Hungary and Rumania, and this would mean transfer of Swiss francs to Axis countries.

Should the question of tonnage be an obstacle in the way of the War Refugee Board accepting our proposal to place food parcels at our disposal, we should be willing to have these consignments conveyed, against reimbursement of the freight charges, and in so far as the available tonnage would permit, by the ships which are at present plying under the sign of the International Committee of the Red Cross, and which carry supplies for the allied prisoners of war between the United States, Canada and Lisbon, on the one hand, and Lisbon-Marseilles (Geneva), on the other.

5. As a general rule, we should like to stress that in this matter of relief for Jews, we proceed very discreetly, and that we endeavour to avoid any form of publicity as far as our own work is concerned. The reasons for this are

a) the fact that the various Jewish associations, for certain reasons, prefer to act independently of the one from the other, and it would seem impossible to succeed in centralising the various relief undertakings which are organized by each of these groups. It is therefore not in the interest of the aim in view to reveal to one Jewish organization what is done by another.

b)
b) Neither is it in the interest of the Jews whom we wish to rescue from a critical situation to draw too much attention to the proposed relief action. In view of certain tendencies, it is to be feared that authorizations which already exist might be withdrawn and new difficulties raised if this plan to save certain groups of Jews were exploited for propaganda purposes.

II. Relief for concentration camps in Germany.

This desire to avoid as far as possible attracting attention to our scheme has led us to propose relief work for certain groups of civil war victims, irrespective of race and religion. The War Refugee Board willingly agreed to this principle, and we are therefore venturing to mention certain groups who, we feel, are deserving of assistance by the War Refugee Board in like manner to the Jews.

These groups include nationals of allied countries (Belgians, Dutch, Norwegians, Poles, Greeks, Czechs, etc.) who have been deported and are detained in the prisons and concentration camps in Germany.

Political prisoners are detained in Germany in concentration camps which are under the control of the secret police. The régime is more severe than in the prisoner of war and civil internment camps, and all the information we receive corroborates that the food in these camps is inadequate.

The International Committee, therefore, in response to the urgent appeals which they received from these political prisoners and from their next-of-kin, applied on many occasions to the Allied authorities and Red Cross Societies, with the object of obtaining permission to reforward food parcels to these concentration camps, as is done for allied prisoners of war and civilian internees in Germany. To their great regret, the blockade authorities firmly refused to authorize these consignments, insisting, as an essential condition, for such an authorization that these detainees should be assimilated with prisoners of war, i.e., that the stipulations of the Geneva Convention should be applied to them. Such a measure depends, however, upon the German authorities, which refuse to allow this assimilation. The International Committee regret that the blockade authorities should have laid down this condition which makes relief entirely dependent upon a decision to be taken by the detaining authorities and prevents the detainees from receiving what are very necessary food supplies.

Judging that the blockade authorities are not opposed on principle to this category of peculiarly afflicted war victims receiving assistance, but that they are concerned chiefly with preventing the detaining country from deriving any benefit from the foodstuffs, the International Committee have endeavoured to discover some means of guaranteeing the safe distribution of relief in these camps. At the same time, they have sought to provide the blockade authorities with guarantees.
guarantees which would be equivalent (if not superior) to the 
means of control which are provided for under the Conventions 
of Geneva, the latter being unfortunately inapplicable in the 
present instance.

These guarantees are the following: thanks to 
certain small sums which have been received in Switzerland, 
we have been able to send some parcels to the principal concentra-
tion camps in Germany and even to certain camps and prisons 
in the occupied countries, asking that acknowledgments be re-
turned to us personally by the beneficiaries. In certain 
camps (Oranienburg and Ravensbrück), our delegates have been 
able to ascertain on the spot that the parcels were actually 
delivered, and that there was no reason to fear they had been 
appropriated. We are thus able at present to send parcels 
to Norwegian (also to the students from Oslo), Dutch, Polish, 
Belgian, Greek, Czech and other deportees in Dachau, Buchen-
wald, Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg, Ravensbrück, and in certain 
other camps, but for lack of funds and parcels, we are not in 


Although the detaining authorities decline to 
supply the International Committee with the names of political 
prisoners and even with information on the strengths of the 
camps, this action has had a noteworthy result. The parcels 
which we have nevertheless been able to deliver to certain 
detainees have as a matter of fact acted as a snowball, and the 
next-of-kin, in the home countries of the deportees, having 
been notified by letters from the camps, are now ad-
vising us spontaneously of the names and addresses of the 
deportees. Thus we possess the names — and we would ask you 
to treat this as strictly confidential — of nearly all the 
Norwegians, Dutch and a large number of Poles who are political 
prisoners in the concentration camps. Consignments could 
therefore be organized systematically and we would even be in 


The present problem would be to send food supplies 
by means of standard parcels to several thousand political 
prisoners (approximately 1450 Norwegians, a thousand Dutch 
men and women, or thereabouts, and as many Polish men and women) 
We do not know the strengths of the other nationalities, but feel convinced that we would have their names communicated 
to us if we were able, last to undertake this relief action.

We are profiting by the opportunity offered us 
by the War Refugee Board, thanks to their generous support, 
of drawing their attention once more to this very urgent 
problem, and of warmly recommending that they contribute to
supplying a particularly deserving and severely struck
category of war-victims with relief which might be instrumental
in saving the lives of many of them.

III. Relief for children war-victims, particularly in Serbia
and Slovenia.

From accurate information received from Belgrade
we hear that there are at present in Belgrade and several other
Serbian towns more than 50,000 children who have escaped from
the areas which used to be included formerly in Yugoslavia,
and which are now attached to Croatia. These refugee children
are in a particularly critical condition; they are under-
nourished and require clothing. Their health condition is
pitiful. It would be necessary to organize emergency relief
action for their benefit.

The same may be said of children in Slovenia
(the northern section of Yugoslavia). This area was first
annexed by Italy which undertook to supply it. The
situation which was already serious has become worse since
the events in Italy in the summer of 1943. More than
100,000 children are suffering from malnutrition. Products
such as milk, sugar, chocolate, Ovaltine and other
strengthening foods are entirely lacking. Here too relief
consignments are urgently required. We enclose a distribu-
tion plan in case it should prove useful.

The International Committee of the Red Cross and
the Joint Relief Commission (Commission Mixte) undertake to
apply in any future action - as in the past - a measure of
control as strict as possible, and to prevent any misap-
propriation of relief consignments. We shall proceed to carry
out relief only when we have gained the conviction as far as
possible that the detaining authorities will not derive any
direct benefit from the relief supplies. We shall submit
to the War Refugee Board - if possible through their represen-
tative at the American Legation in Bern - all the evidence
which we can gather vouching for the safe arrival of relief
supplies, and reports on their distribution, in all cases
where our delegates have been able to be present. Thus the
War Refugee Board will be in a position to judge whether it
is possible to carry out a specific undertaking or not.

Further we do not think that rigid regulations
for control are expedient; we have already mentioned the
example (cf. point II) of political prisoners in German
concentration camps to whom the blockade authorities do not
consider it permissible to send relief parcels so long as
they are not assimilated with prisoners of war. The
scheme to be selected for control should, in our opinion,
be as flexible as the relief action itself; one principle
must however be strictly applied, i.e. that relief must

benefit
benefit only those for whom it is intended.

We are at the entire disposal of the War Refugees Board to supply them with any additional information they may desire to receive.

Yours truly,

(signed) Carl J. Burckhardt

Secretary-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross.
We suggest apportioning the equivalent of this donation of 100,000 dollars representing a sum of:

Sw.Fr. 429,000.

Sw.Fr. 79,000.- for the Medical Service
and Sw.Fr. 359,000.- for the "Commission Mixte"

Sw.Fr. 429,000.-

The Food & Clothing Section proposes to utilize the sum of Sw.Fr. 359,000

to be placed at its disposal as follows:

1/. A sum of Sw.Fr.100,000.

for Jewish deportees in Transnistria and Bessarabia.

2/. A sum of 119,000.

for Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt.

3/. A sum of 100,000.

for Jewish families in Poland.

4/. A sum of 40,000.

for Jewish deportees in Czechoslovakia.

5/. A sum of 12,000.

for Jewish deportees in the Netherlands and the Baltic States.

1/. Relief work for Jewish deportees in Transnistria and Bessarabia.

Sw.Fr. 100,000.-

Rumania being herself in a position to supply all the requisite foodstuffs as well as clothing, footwear excepted, we consider it would be a mistake to proceed to buy foodstuffs in Switzerland with the object of forwarding them to these deportees. Experience has proved that Mr. Kolb, delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Rumania, is able to procure clothing on favourable terms. We know that the Jewish deportees have no clothing and we therefore suggest that the Treasury of the International Committee of the Red Cross place the sum earmarked for the relief for these persons at the disposal of their delegate in Rumania, requesting the latter to be good enough to make the purchases and distribute the clothing under his own control, and that of the Rumanian Red Cross which has the necessary organizations at its disposal.

Amount to be spent abroad Sw.Fr.100,000
2/. Relief work for Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt

Since the responsible German authorities do not permit collective consignments to be sent to Jewish deportees in Theresienstadt, we propose to use the sum of Sw.Fr. 119,000.— which has been earmarked for this purpose, for individual consignments in the form of standard parcels of Hungarian origin. We submit two proposals:

I. Consignments of Hungarian standard parcels
   (the goods to be purchased in Hungary and the parcels made up at the Port Franc in Geneva.)

a). Consignment of about 4000 parcels containing foodstuffs partly requiring preparation, composed of:
   - 500 gr. plum jam
   - 500 gr. macaroni (or similar) with broth
   - 100 gr. biscuits
   - 1 kg. sugar.

This parcel would cost, inclusive of share of the administrative expenses of the Joint Commission and packing... Sw.Fr. 9.15.—
To be spent abroad... Sw.Fr. 24,520.
To be spent in Switzerland... Sw.Fr. 24,520.
Total Sw.Fr. 112,915.

b). Consignment of about 5000 parcels containing foodstuffs which do not require preparation, composed of:
   - 500 gr. plum jam
   - 500 gr. biscuits
   - 2 tins of canned meat, i.e.
     - 1 of 250 gr. chicken paste
     - 1 of 250 gr. venison paste
   - 1 kg. sugar.

This parcel would cost, inclusive of share of administrative expenses of the Joint Commission and packing... Sw.Fr. 13.80
To be spent abroad... Sw.Fr. 53,895.
To be spent in Switzerland... Sw.Fr. 39.50.
Total Sw.Fr. 119,000.

Provide for costs purchasing, conveyance, insurance, to be spent in Switzerland... Sw.Fr. 6,085.
Total Sw.Fr. 119,000.
If the first proposal is adopted, the expenditure would therefore be:

in Switzerland: Sw. Fr. 100,000
Abroad: Sw. Fr. 34,585
Sw. Fr. 134,585

According to the above figures, the proposal is adopted.

This proposal is subject to agreement by the Swiss authorities, in particular those of the Swiss National Bank as regards the fund to be expended in Hungary.

II. Parcels containing partly Swiss products and partly products of Hungarian and Slovak origin. The scheme would include about 9,500 parcels which would cost Sw. Fr. 12.80 per parcel, packing and share of administrative charges of the Joint Commission inclusive, the contents being:

1 can sweetened condensed milk
1 can unsweetened condensed milk
1 carton cheese
1 can roast veal hash
1 can medium green peas
1 kg sugar
1 leg macaroni or such like

Amount to be spent in Switzerland: Sw. Fr. 85,050
Amount to be spent abroad: 30,150
Total: Sw. Fr. 115,200

Provision for costs purchasing, conveyance, insurance, to be spent in Switzerland: 3,800

Parcels originating in the Netherlands, and equal amount for Hungarian and Slovak products, as proposed to send standard food parcels originating in Sw. Fr., 12.80 per parcel, including packing and share of the administrative costs of the Joint Commission, inclusive, a total of 9,500 parcels of which would be paid for in Sw. Fr. 12,800.

In Switzerland: Sw. Fr. 85,050
Abroad: 30,150
Total: Sw. Fr. 115,200

Provision for costs purchasing, conveyance, insurance, to be spent in Switzerland: 3,800

As in the first instance, this second proposal is subject firstly to agreement by the Swiss National Bank as regards Hungarian and Slovak products, and secondly to the export licence for Swiss products which has to be issued by the appropriate authorities. Last, if these products could, if necessary, be forwarded from the Port-Franc of Geneva Cornavin where they could be packed into parcels which would be grouped in crates, twenty-five packages in each crate, and sent in the form of a collective consignment without any personal address.
3. Relief work for Jewish relief organizations in Cracow

Sw. Fr. 100,000.-

According to information which has reached us, the responsible German authorities have once more authorized consignments of pharmaceutical products to Cracow. We could therefore send these persons vitaminized milk LACTISSA, which is recognized as strengthening food.

Sw. Fr. 213,018.-

The sum of Sw. Fr. 100,000.- earmarked for the purpose of the above work would permit of sending about 12,000 kg of LACTISSA at

Sw. Fr. 7.75 per kg = Sw. Fr. 93,000.-

Proviso for carriage, insurance, freight Sw. Fr. 7,000.-

Sw. Fr. 100,000.-

Amount to be spent in Switzerland:

Sw. Fr. 100,000.-

4. Reserve stock to be built up for the camps in the Netherlands and Upper Silesia.

Sw. Fr. 40,000.-

As regards possible consignments of parcels for the various deportee camps in the Netherlands and in Upper Silesia, viz. a sum of Sw. Fr. 20,000.- for the Netherlands, and an equal amount for Upper Silesia, we propose to send standard food parcels of Hungarian origin, viz. parcels of food not requiring preparation, at Sw. Fr. 15.50 the parcel, including packing and share of the Relief Commission's charges, which would permit of two shipments of 1350 parcels each, that is a total of 2700 parcels, representing a sum of Sw. Fr. 42,000.- of which would be spent in Switzerland Sw. Fr. 8,100.- and Abroad a 22,403 Total 37,505.

Proviso for cost, purchasing, conveyance, insurance.

Sw. Fr. 2,497.-

Sw. Fr. 40,000.-

Distribution for the utilization of funds

1st Proposal:

To be spent in Switzerland

1. Bessarabia and Transnistria

Sw. Fr. 34,595.-

2. Theresienstadt

Sw. Fr. 100,000.-

3. Cracow

Sw. Fr. 100,000.-

4. Netherlands and Upper Silesia

Sw. Fr. 145,182.-

To
To be spent abroad

1. Bessarabia and Transnistria, Sw.Fr. 100,000.–
2. Transnistria, 84,415.–
3. Cracow, 10,000.–
4. Netherlands and Upper Silesia, 29,403.–

A. GENERALITIES.

Second proposal:

To be spent in Switzerland: Surgical dressings. These purchasing propositions have been established on the basis of relief proposals, and are subject to modification due to changes of relief action.

1. Bessarabia and Transnistria, 85,090.–
2. Cracow, 100,000.–
3. Netherlands and Upper Silesia, 10,597.–
4. Synthetic Surgical Dressings, 29,403 Sw.Fr. 163,353.–

Pharmaceutical specialties and products manufactured in Switzerland, according to the enclosed lists:

1. Bessarabia and Transnistria, 100,000.–
2. Transnistria, 33,250.– (annex A)
3. Cracow, 33,250.

Upper Silesia, 29,403 Sw.Fr. 399,000.–

Synthetic gauze and cotton, manufactured in Switzerland and which can be exported.

B. PROPOSITION:

1. For Refugees in Transnistria:

Swiss pharmaceutical products:

Swiss pharmaceutical products: 50,000 Polypodium tablets, 2'300.–
50,000 Ytterbium tablets, 9'200.–
10,000 Oleo-Bi retinol, 1'700.–
10,000 Phytin tablets, 17'000.–

Foreign pharmaceutical products: 90,000 units Lecithin, 1'700.–

Synthetic Surgical Dressings, 3'000.–

Total: 12'000.–
Geneva, 28th February 1944.

Note to the attention of the American Legation, Berne.

Propositions on the purchase of Medical supplies and surgical dressings for relief action in favor of Jewish refugees ($100'000.- from War Refugees Board).

A. GENERALITIES.

A sum of Fr. 70'000.-- would be necessary for the purchase of medical supplies and surgical dressings. These purchasing propositions have been established on the basis of relief consignments which we send on account of other donors; this program may be subject to modification due to conditions of purchase.

An explanation is necessary for the following items:

- Swiss pharmaceutical products:
  Pharmaceutical specialties and products manufactured in Switzerland, according to the enclosed list (Assortment A, annex 1), or properly mentioned;

- Foreign pharmaceutical products:
  Pharmaceutical specialties and products of foreign origin, according to the enclosed list (Assortment B, annex 2), or properly mentioned (from Depot Sanitaire);

- Synthetic surgical dressings:
  Synthetic gauze and cotton, manufactured in Switzerland and which can be exported.

B. PROPOSITIONS

1. For Refugees in Transnistria:
   Swiss pharmaceutical products:
   Swiss pharmaceutical products:
   50'000 Polyvitamin tablets  Fr. 2'300.--
   50'000 Yitequin tablets  Fr. 3'200.--
   5'000 Oleo-HI ampoules  Fr. 1'700.--
   16'000 Phytin tablets  Fr. 1'000.--

Foreign pharmaceutical products:
   80'000 units Insulin  Fr. 800.--
   Synthetic Surgical dressings:  Fr. 5'000.--

Total:  Fr. 12'000.--

(Siegel of the Commission Mixte Secours Croix-Rouge Internationale, Geneva)
2. For Theresienstadt and camps in the neighbourhood

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swiss pharmaceutical products:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100,000 Polyvitamin tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 4,000--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign pharmaceutical products:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000 units insulin 300 (Vitamin C)</td>
<td>200--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x 25 mg Mercurous bromide</td>
<td>500--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic Surgical dressings:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x 25 amp. Redoxon-Forte (Vitamin C)</td>
<td>2,600--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 x 125 tabl. Force-mix Total:</td>
<td>Fr. 7,700--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. For Judenwohnungsstelle Czecow and camps in the neighbourhood (Peppeverin)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Swiss pharmaceutical products:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100,000 Polyvitamin tablets</td>
<td>2,200--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign pharmaceutical products:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x Assortements salicylic 0,2</td>
<td>0,20--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150,000 Polyvitamin</td>
<td>0,02--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20,000 units insulin 300 (Vitamin C)</td>
<td>2,000--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic Surgical dressings:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 100 com. Digitalet liquid</td>
<td>26,000--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 x 100 tabl. Digitalet Total:</td>
<td>Fr. 26,000--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Reserve for camps in Holland and

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Upper Bileania:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6 x 15 tabl. Iodrin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 x 2 Assortements A, B, C, D, E, F</td>
<td>Fr. 14,000--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 x 100 tabl. Tyroergin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x 50 com. two Assortements F, G, H</td>
<td>2,000--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 50 com. salicylic 0,7</td>
<td>0,70--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic Surgical dressings:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 250 tabl. Digitalet liquid</td>
<td>Fr. 1,600--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5. Emergency funds

| Mercuric “solution aquea”              |          |
| Mercuric “solution aquea”              | Fr. 6,700--|
| Mercuric ointment 500 gr               | Fr. 70,000--|
| Mercuric ointment 50 gr                |          |
| Demogen                               |          |
| 200 tabl.                               |          |
| 200 com.                               |          |
| 200 kg                                 |          |
| 10 x 500 gr                            |          |
| 10 x 250 tabl.                         |          |
| 10 x 500 tabl.                         |          |
| 10 x 500 com.                          |          |
| 10 x 50 kg                             |          |
| 200 sub.                               |          |
| 200 gr                                 |          |
| 1 kg                                   |          |
| 1 kg                                   |          |

Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross

Pharmaceutical Service:

Signed/F. Feinstein

Boehinger.
List of Swiss Pharmaceutical Products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 kg tabl.</td>
<td>Acid, ascorbinico. 0,05 (Vitamin C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 x 100 tabl.</td>
<td>Benecox (Vitamin B-Komplex)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 100 tabl.</td>
<td>Benerva (Vitamin B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 x 25 amp.</td>
<td>Benerva-forte (Vitamin B1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 x 25 amp.</td>
<td>Larate (10%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x 250 tabl.</td>
<td>Saridon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 x 25 amp.</td>
<td>Redoxon-forte (Vitamin C)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 x 125 tabl.</td>
<td>Ferru-Redoxon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 25 tabl.</td>
<td>Eulecrol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 x 100 gr.</td>
<td>2000 tabl.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 50 tabl.</td>
<td>Nitroglucerin 0,0005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x 500 amp.</td>
<td>Coffein, mst. salicylic. 0,02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 tabl.</td>
<td>Coffein, mst. salicylic. 0,25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000 tabl.</td>
<td>Kaptop, benadyl. 0,25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000 tabl.</td>
<td>Codeina, phosphoric. 0,02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 x 150 tabl.</td>
<td>Calcium Sandoz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 500 gr.</td>
<td>Calcium Sandoz granulated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 10 amp.</td>
<td>Calcium Sandoz 10% 5 cc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 100 tabl.</td>
<td>Digilanid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 x 10 ccm</td>
<td>Digilanid liquide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 x 100 ccm</td>
<td>Digilanid liquide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50 x 1/2 tube</td>
<td>Bourbon Farnathin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x 250 tabl.</td>
<td>Neolamin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 x 250 tabl.</td>
<td>Ipedrin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 x 50 amp.</td>
<td>Strophosid 1 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 x 50 amp.</td>
<td>Strophosid 0,5 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x 100 tabl.</td>
<td>Gymnegen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 x 50 amp.</td>
<td>Gymnegen 0,5 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 250 tabl.</td>
<td>Enterof-Vioform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 20 amp.</td>
<td>Coramin, 1,7 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 x 1 fl.</td>
<td>Coramin liquid 15 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 x 250 tabl.</td>
<td>Cibasolin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 x 1000 tabl.</td>
<td>Cibasolin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 x 250 tabl.</td>
<td>Cibasolin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 10 gr.</td>
<td>Cibasolin powder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 1 fl.</td>
<td>Merfen &quot;solution aquaeuse&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 1 fl.</td>
<td>Merfen &quot;teinture coloris&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100 x 1 fl.</td>
<td>Merfen &quot;solution murs&quot; 10 ccm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 1 jar.</td>
<td>Merfen ointment 500 gr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 x 500 gr.</td>
<td>Merfen ophthalmic ointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 250 tabl.</td>
<td>Desogen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 50 amp.</td>
<td>Bisumic, subgallic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 50 amp.</td>
<td>Bisumic, subnitric.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 50 amp.</td>
<td>Eigejen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 x 50 amp.</td>
<td>Ergamid nasal ointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 x 250 gr.</td>
<td>Coffein, pur.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>500 gr.</td>
<td>Kalium chloricum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 kg</td>
<td>Magnes sulfurico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kg</td>
<td>Phenacetin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 kg</td>
<td>Vaselinum liquidum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Code</td>
<td>Description</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4000</td>
<td>tabl. Acit. nortylsalicylto. 0,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>tabl. Harural 0,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5000</td>
<td>tabl. Bi-pyridin 0,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>tabl. Hexamini 0,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1000</td>
<td>tabl. Xanomini-albuminati 0,5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20/1</td>
<td>tub. Calmitol ointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/1</td>
<td>flav. Calmitol liquid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kg. Ungt. hydrargyri praeo. alb.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparations vasum vasel. artific. 10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 kg. Fulvis dassipor. sunit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tenant compte de l'affectation particiée Annex 2, acheminées de plusieurs unités d'efforts au sein de AFS et en Slovénie, nous interviennent d'envoyer un project concernant une action de secours en faveur de ces déplacés. Foreign Pharmaceutical product.

Les envois: 20.000 kg. Insuline au délibéré du I.U.C.R.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Flanc. Calmitol liquid</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kg. Ungt. hydrargyri praeo. alb.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Preparations vasum vasel. artific. 10%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nous proposons donc l'envoi de produits suivants, auxquels nous pourrions ajouter du sucre slovaque et des pâtes hongroises, pour une somme de: Frs. 300'000.--.

À répartir par moitié pour chacune des deux actions envisagées, soit:

17. À destination de la Serbie, pour distribution aux enfants de réfugiés dans ce pays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300</td>
<td>caisses de lait condensé sucré</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frs. 16'600.--.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300</td>
<td>n/sucre</td>
<td>15'450.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10'000</td>
<td>kg. de sucre</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000</td>
<td>pâtes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11'000.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15'000</td>
<td>boîtes de fromage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000</td>
<td>kg. de farine pour potages</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2'000</td>
<td>de macérole de pommes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8'000.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provision pour frais d'assurances, de transitaires et participation à nos frais d'administration: Frs. 81450.-- 

Frs. 100'000.--

---
COMMISSION MIXTE DE SECOURS
DE LA CROIX-ROUGE INTERNATIONALE

2) À destination de la Slovénie, pour distribution
aux enfants

Genève, le 26 février 1944.

Propositions relatives à une action
éventuelle de secours en faveur des enfants sous-
alimentés, en Serbie et en Slovénie.

Tenant compte de la situation particulièrement
alarmante de plusieurs dizaines d'enfants en Serbie
et en Slovénie, nous nous permets de soumettre un
projet concernant une action de secours en faveur de
ces déshérités.

Les envois seraient adressés au délégué du C.I.C.R.
à Belgrade, pour distribution, sous son contrôle et
celui de la Croix-Rouge serbe, aux dits enfants.

Nous proposons donc l'envoi de produits suisses,
auxquels nous pourrions ajouter du sucre slovaque et
des pêtes hongroises, pour une somme de:

Fr.s. 200'000.--

À répartir par moitié pour chacune des deux actions
envisagées, soit:

1) À destination de la Serbie, pour distribution aux
enfants de réfugiés dans ce pays.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Produit</th>
<th>Quantité (unités)</th>
<th>Prix (Fr.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300 caisses de lait condensé sucré</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>10'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10'000 kg. de sucre</td>
<td></td>
<td>11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 kg. de pêtes</td>
<td></td>
<td>11'000.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15'000 boîtes de fromage</td>
<td></td>
<td>17'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 kg. de farine pour potages</td>
<td></td>
<td>11'500.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2'000 &quot; de marmelade de pommes</td>
<td></td>
<td>6'000.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Provision pour frais d'assurances, de
transitaires et participation à nos
frais d'administration

Fr.s. 1'450.--

Fr.s. 100'000.--

2)
2) À destination de la Slovénie, pour distribution
aux enfants de ce pays:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>300 caisses de lait condensé sucré</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Frs. 19'000.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1'000 kg. de sucre, le purchase of sugar</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15'450.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 paniers de bandages pour adjoints</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11'500.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10'000 boîtes de fromages pour enfants</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>17'500.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5'000 kg. de farine pour potages</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11'500.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2'000 bouteilles de marmelade de pommes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8'000.---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Frs. 91'750.---

1. Provision pour frais de transitaires,
d'assurances, et participation à nos
frais d'administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandoz</td>
<td>Frs. 1'000.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhytin-tablets</td>
<td>1'400.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyrhein tablets</td>
<td>6'900.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montant à dépendre en Suisse</td>
<td>1'200.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot; À l'étranger</td>
<td>1'000.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scléro disinfetant</td>
<td>45'100.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic Surgical dressings</td>
<td>3'000.---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: Frs. 200'000.---

Commission Mixte de Secours de
la Croix-Rouge internationale:

Service: Vivres et Vêtements.

(signature illegible)

2. For Refuge children in
Swiss pharmaceutical products

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandoz table gifts</td>
<td>Frs. 1'000.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rhytin-tablets</td>
<td>1'600.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyrhein tablets</td>
<td>8'900.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Férro-Robson tablets</td>
<td>6'800.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vinquine tablets</td>
<td>1'800.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scléro disinfetant</td>
<td>1'000.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic Surgical dressings</td>
<td>1'000.---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: Frs. 50'000.---

Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross
Pharmaceutical Service:

(Signed) E. Feiststein
Geneva, 28th February 1944

To the attention of the American Legation, Berna.

---

Proposition on the purchase of medical supplies and surgical dressings in favour of refugee children in Serbia and Slovenian children.

1. For children in Slovenia.
   Swiss pharmaceutical products:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandos tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phythin-tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'400.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferro-Redoxon</td>
<td>Fr. 1'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyvitamin tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 6'900.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diphtheria Antitoxin</td>
<td>Fr. 1'200.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larosan</td>
<td>Fr. 1'800.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neocid disinfectant</td>
<td>Fr. 1'700.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic Surgical dressings</td>
<td>Fr. 3'700.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
   **Total:**                | Fr. 20'000.-- |

2. For refugee children in Serbia.
   Swiss pharmaceutical products:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Sandos tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phythin-tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'400.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferro-Redoxon tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 1'600.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polyvitamin tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 6'900.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitquin tablets</td>
<td>Fr. 3'200.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diphtheria Antitoxin</td>
<td>Fr. 1'200.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neocid disinfectant</td>
<td>Fr. 1'700.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larosan</td>
<td>Fr. 1'700.--</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic surgical dressings</td>
<td>Fr. 1'000.--</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
   **Total:**                | Fr. 20'000.-- |

---

Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross
Pharmaceutical Service:

(Signed) K. Feistean
Boehinger.

---
Bern, March 3, 1944

Mr. Finkle,

With regard to our conversation concerning the draft conference to be held in Paris to discuss the establishment of J.C.R.S., it is important to proceed with the matter as follows:

1. The work of the J.C.R.S. should be accelerated and conclusions reached.
2. The conference should be held in Paris with the participation of representatives from various countries.
3. The conference should be organized by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

If you agree with the above, please let me know as soon as possible. I will be in Paris from March 3 to the 15th. I would be glad to meet with you at that time. It is urgent that the conference be held as soon as possible, for the sake of the children in Yugoslavia.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
March 4

CA. 07R

I noted that S. letter of Feb 29th 1938 as presented and as-

you have it in your typewriter, over my

hand he makes on your budget, as well

thereafter. If you please send me a copy

I will transfer no. 44 (supposed 51) and 2 wish to prepare to make budget

for your signature.

If you agree suggest you will do

on this round number as you reply

date of March 8 (see project 2) to meet

regard its like! to reach. It needs to

be applied if.BadRequest's official at its

belong to be known at present.

Keep according to 1 you for its

laboratory realization.

A true copy of the signed original.
Bern, March 3, 1944

Dr. Carl J. Burckhardt,
Member of the International Committee of the Red Cross,

Dear Dr. Burckhardt:

I wish to acknowledge on behalf of the Legation the receipt of your letter of February 29, 1944, in reply to the Legation's letters of January 29 and February 11 which transmitted to the International Committee of the Red Cross messages from the War Refugee Board.

A summary of the proposals for relief action contained in your letter is being telegraphed to the Department of State, Washington, D.C., for transmission to the War Refugee Board and the Legation will not fail to inform you as soon as further word is received from Washington.

May I express the Legation's appreciation for the promptness and completeness with which the International Committee of the Red Cross has supplied the information requested by the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.

[Signature]

[Note: A true copy of the second original]

[Additional note: Business would be despatched by intercross and would cost 93,000 francs; the overhead would cost 7,000 francs.]
Bern, March 3, 1944

A minor question arose in connection with the Foreign pharmaceutical products designated as "Assortment II" in Annex 2 to Dr. Burckhardt's letter. I should be grateful if you could inform me of the precise origin of these products. I have no knowledge of whether or not they are actually on the market in Switzerland.

Dr. J. E. Schwarzenberg,
Member of the Secretariat of the
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Conseil-Général,
Geneva.

Dear Dr. Schwarzenberg, Attaché:

I wish to thank you for your letter of February 29, 1944, with which you enclosed Dr. Burckhardt's letter of the same date in reply to the Legation's letters of January 29 and February 11 which transmitted the International Committee of the Red Cross messages from the War Refugee Board.

A summary of the report and proposals contained in Dr. Burckhardt's letter has been prepared and is being telegraphed to the Department of State at Washington D.C. for transmission to the War Refugee Board. Nonetheless I believe it might be helpful if you could send copies of your letter and Dr. Burckhardt's letter via courier to Mr. Peter your delegate in the United States.

The question you raise in the second paragraph of your letter as to whether the International Committee of the Red Cross or Mr. Saly Mayor is to have the final authority in the administration of the funds donated by the Joint Distribution Committee has been referred to the War Refugee Board and I shall not hesitate to inform you as soon as a reply has been received.

In accordance with your observation concerning the necessity of discretion, this fact has again been brought to the attention of the American authorities and you may be certain that the Legation will take every precaution to treat Dr. Burckhardt's letter as strictly confidential.

Very sincerely yours,

A

Delegation would be dispatched by Intercross and would cost 93,000 francs; the overhead would cost 9,000 francs.
A minor question arises in connection with the foreign pharmaceutical products designated as "Assortment B" in Annex 2 to Mr. Burkhardt's letter. I should be grateful if you would inform me of the precise origin of these pharmaceutical products and whether or not they are at the present time in Switzerland.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.

Year no. 279, January 27 and 427 February 9 and our no. 1289 of February 10.

1. The information requested in the Department's no. 279 is furnished in a letter dated February 8 submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross; the letter also details the Committee's proposed expenditures of the equivalent in Swiss francs of 100,000 dollars (500,000 Swiss francs) received from Joint. The Interrotron proposes to expend this sum in the following manner:

(a) Belorussia and Transnistria: 100,000 francs to be put at the disposal of the Interrotron Delegation in Belorussia to purchase medical and surgical supplies and to distribute clothing available in Belorussia to Jewish refugees in cooperation with the Belorussian Red Cross.

(b) Theresienstadt: The following two alternative proposals for the expenditure of 110,000 francs for food:

(i) 9,500 food parcels to be prepared in Gorizia from materials purchased in Slovenia and 75,000 francs to be spent in Gorizia for laborers, freight, etc. 100,000 francs to be spent in Switzerland.

(ii) 8,000 food parcels containing materials of Slovakian, Hungarian and Swiss origin; 30,000 francs to be spent in Hungary and 50,000 francs to be spent in Switzerland. Interrotron states that the execution of the first plan is dependent upon the receipt of authorization from the National Bank for expenditures in Hungary and the second is dependent upon Bank and Swiss license for the shipment of materials. The said plans would be implemented by Interrotron and would cost 85,000 francs; the overhead would cost 25,000 francs.

(Your initials)
To: Department  
Date: March 4, 10 p.m., 1944.  
No: 1334  
Charged to: 

MOST IMMEDIATE

Paraphrase

Your no. 279, January 27 and 437 February 9 and our no. 1026 of February 16.

1. The information requested in the Department's no. 279 is furnished in a letter dated February 29 submitted by the International Committee of the Red Cross; the letter also details the Committee's proposed expenditures of the equivalent in Swiss francs of 100,000 dollars (429,000 Swiss francs) received from Joint. The Interrocrs proposes to expend this sum in the following manner:

(A) Bessarabia and Transnistria: 100,000 francs to be put at the disposal of the Interrocrs delegate in Rumania to purchase and distribute clothing available in Rumania to Jewish refugees in cooperation with the Rumanian Red Cross;

(B) Theresienstadt: The following two alternative proposals for the expenditure of 119,000 francs for parcels of food:

(a) 9,500 food parcels to be prepared in free port at Geneva from materials purchased in Hungary: for materials 84,400 francs to be spent in Hungary and for labor packing, freight, etc. 34,600 francs to be spent in Switzerland; or (b) 9,000 food parcels containing materials of Slovakian, Hungarian and Swiss origin: 30,000 francs to be spent in Hungary and Slovakia and 89,000 francs to be spent in Switzerland. Interrocrs states that the execution of the first plan is dependent upon the receipt of authorization from the National Bank for expenditures in Hungary and the second is dependent upon Bank and Swiss licenses for export.

(C) Cracow: The shipment of pharmaceutical products to Jews in Cracow has recently been authorized by the German authorities. 12,000 kilos of vitamin fortified milk Lactisse would be despatched by Interrocrs and would cost 95,000 francs; the overhead would cost 7,000 francs.
(D) The Jews in camps in Upper Silesia and Holland:
40,000 francs to be spent for 2000 parcels of food of
Hungarian origin - 1250 parcels for each destination;
29,500 francs are to be spent in Hungary and the balance
in Switzerland. This is again subject to the National Bank's
authorization.

[E] For Swiss and foreign pharmaceutical products
and Swiss surgical dressings 70,000 francs are to be spent.
This material will be distributed as follows: to Trans-
nisteria 12,000; to Theresienstadt 7,700; to the Judische
Unterstutzungstelle Cracow, 2600; for Upper Silesia and
Holland 12,000 and for emergency reserve 6700. Total 5300
of these drugs foreign origin (perhaps, mercurochrome,
insulin and dextrosum), the balance of Swiss origin.

2. Before it discusses details of the above plan
with Salo Mayer, Intercross inquires of the War Refugee
Board whether it has discretionary authority subject to
advice from Mayer or whether he has the final word on the
use of funds which the Joint supplies.

3. The letter from Intercross warns strongly against
the exploitation of relief action for the purposes of
propaganda by interested groups and states that publicity
is likely to result in the withdrawal of channels for relief
which are open at the present time.

4. There follows in a separate telegram the summary
of the reply from Intercross to the questions raised in
telegram no. 279 from the Department.

HARRISON

DJR:RGrn:isp:nf
In triplicate
Your 279 January 27 and 427 of February 9 and our 1334 of March 4.

In addition to detailing proposed expenditures of funds donated by the Joint Distribution Committee, a letter dated February 29 from the International Committee of the Red Cross includes the following information which was requested by the War Refugees Board in the telegrams from the Department mentioned above: A) the general possibilities and the proposals for relief of Jewish refugees and other persecuted groups; B) the proposals for relief for prisoners from occupied countries in concentration camps in Germany; C) the plan for relief of children war-victims in Slovenia and Serbia.

1. Intercross states that it is almost certain relief consignments to the Judische Unterstutzungstelle in Cracow, Theresienstadt and Rumania would reach their destinations; it is uncertain about Westerbork in Holland and camps in Upper Silesia and France, but Intercross proposes that a certain proportion of the sums put at its disposal be devoted to test shipments through channels as yet untried.

2. Intercross states that it will endeavor to keep any purchases made in Hungary or Rumania at the lowest possible minimum and will try to procure goods in neutral countries as much as possible. Intercross inquires whether it can count on additional funds on condition that they be expended in neutral countries exclusively within the limited possibilities available.

3. In order to avoid expenditures in enemy territory (Intercross is apprehensive of the dangers of enemy abuse entailed by the expenditure of foreign exchange in enemy territory), Intercross proposes that stocks of relief materials be shipped from overseas for deposit in Geneva. As opportunities arise for despatch to relief centers, these stocks could be drawn upon. Immediate action (opportunities for relief are often of short duration and cannot be
anticipated with certainty), without the necessity for fresh appeals on each occasion would be permitted by a reserve depot. Intercross proposes that the depot be under the control of a WRB representative. According to Intercross, warm clothing, underwear, and men's large-sized boots are the articles most urgently required in Transnistria. Intercross suggests that several thousand parcels be made up separately for men, women and children (not infants), each of these parcels to contain an assortment of clothing, underwear and a pair of strong boots. Intercross proposes that the depot contain several tens of thousands of relief food parcels of overseas origin; such parcels not to weigh over two and one-half kilos and to contain non-perishable articles including sugar, ovaltine, condensed milk, canned goods, etc. Intercross is prepared to transport, against reimbursement, via Red Cross ships sailing from the United States and Canada to Marseilles and Lisbon, if the question of tonnage presents difficulties.

4. Intercross states that cooperation among the various Jewish relief groups seems impossible and observes not in interest of aims in view that it be revealed to one Jewish relief organization what other organizations are doing. Intercross urgently requests that plans for relief be kept strictly secret.

5. The importance that the relief program include oppressed groups "irrespective of race or religion" is stressed by Intercross and it expresses gratification that the WRB agreed to this principle willingly. In the belief of Intercross a broad relief program to assist various groups is less likely to arouse enemy opposition than one which is confined to the assistance of Jewish refugees exclusively. Relief to Allied nationals in German concentration camps and children in Yugoslavia is proposed by Intercross as a beginning. (Please see headings B and C hereunder.)

B.1 Intercross proposes, in accordance with A5 above and if funds are made available, the immediate extension of relief to Czechs, Belgians, Dutch, Greeks, Poles, Norwegians and other Allied nationals who are enduring privation in German concentration camps and prisons under severe control of the secret police. (Through informal channels, Intercross has obtained names of nearly all Norwegians, Dutch, and a large number of Poles who are detained in German prisons and concentration camps and urgently requests that this fact be kept strictly secret.) According to Intercross, the British authorities, who insisted as condition that the Germans recognize these prisoners as prisoners of war and subject to the Geneva Convention, have prevented organized relief up to the present time. Intercross states that it
has made successful test shipments of individual relief parcels to these prisoners. The parcels were personally acknowledged by the recipients. In several camps delegates of Intercross were able to verify on the spot that shipments reached the persons intended. Intercross is prepared to submit evidence of the success of these operations and, as a start, proposes that food parcels be made immediately available for 1,000 Polish men and women, 1,450 Norwegians, and 1,000 Dutch men and women in German camps and prisons. The risks of benefiting the enemy are far less than if free exchange were expended in enemy territory for relief in Transnistria.

C.1 According to Intercross, the situation of two groups of children in Yugoslavia is particularly alarming. As they are undernourished, need clothing and their health condition is pitiful, 60,000 children evacuated from Croatia to Belgrade and other Serbian towns are a particularly critical problem. The same applies to Slovenia, where conditions already bad during the Italian occupation have since last summer become increasingly serious and where 100,000 children are suffering from malnutrition as the result of a complete lack of fortifying foods such as ovaltine, sugar, milk and chocolate.

In order

2. Intercross proposes, to alleviate this situation, that the WRC assign 220,000 francs of which 20,000 for medical relief and 200,000 for food to be divided equally between the children in Slovenia and Serbia. 45,000 francs would be used for the purchase of Slovaks sugar and Hungarian alimentary pastes and the balance of 200,000 francs (less 17,000 francs for administration, transportation, etc.) for the purchase of Swiss food products. 20,000 francs would be used for the purchase of Swiss pharmaceutical products and surgical dressings. It is proposed by Intercross that these relief goods be shipped to the delegate of Intercross in Belgrade for distribution in cooperation with the Red Cross of Serbia.

If the Department desires, the Legation can telegraph further details of the above proposals. The Legation will endeavor to forward a copy of the letter from Intercross. IRC is sending copy of this letter through its facilities also.

HARRISON

DJR:ROG:imp:inf
In triplicate
Dr. J. E. Schwarzenberg,
Member of the Secretariat of the
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Consul-Général,
Geneva.

Dear Dr. Schwarzenberg:

I should like to refer to our telephone conversation this morning concerning the relief program you propose to undertake in accordance with the message from the War Refugees Board transmitted to the International Committee of the Red Cross in the Legation’s letter of February 11, 1944.

With regard to the use of the equivalent in Swiss francs of the $100,000 made available to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the Joint Distribution Committee in accordance with a Treasury license, the message from the War Refugees Board states:

“You (the International Committee of the Red Cross) are authorized under the license to employ the funds for buying food and other supplies in Hungary, Rumania, and neutral countries and otherwise to carry on the relief activities which are mentioned above.”

The Legation interprets this statement to mean that the International Committee of the Red Cross requires no further authorization to proceed with the relief program in question.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.
Dear Mr. Reagan,

May I thank you for your letter of March 3rd and for the information you were kind enough to give me by telephone on the subject of the War Refugee Board's action in favour of Jews.

We are sending on our letter of February 29th, ref. G.59/2 G.85, to Mr. Peter, our delegate in the United States, with a copy for transmission to the War Refugee Board.

Answering to your question contained in the last paragraph of your letter, the "Service Pharmaceutique" of our Committee gives the following information:

The 4 pharmaceutical products designated as Assortment B are actually at the Port-Franc Cornavin in Geneva and are of foreign origin, i.e.

- insulin = Canada or Denmark
- mercurochrome = France
- dextrosum = Hungary
- perhepar = Hungary.

Sincerely yours,

J.E. de Schwarzenberg
I believe it may be useful to inform you of a long visit we had from Mr. Saly Mayer, the representative of the "Joint" in Switzerland.

Mr. Saly Mayer, interpreting, as we assume, the opinion of his organization, seems to have expected that the International Committee of the Red Cross would utilize the sums transferred through the kind offices of the War Refugee Board not solely for relief activity. Mr. Mayer hoped that we would request the transfer of far greater sums and utilize them primarily for what he calls "saving of lives".

We pointed out that the International Committee of the Red Cross could not contemplate the possibility of partaking in certain actions with the object of getting Jews out of Axis countries, such actions necessitating methods which are not considered legal by the detaining authorities. Being fully aware of the humanitarian aim of this type of activity - and in this case the means would seem to justify the end - the International Committee of the Red Cross, considering its manifold other activities which are based on the confidence of all governments concerned, cannot launch into a new field of activity where it would sooner or later come into conflict with the detaining powers. This would be contrary to its interests and to its traditions of absolute neutrality. We believe that Mr. Saly Mayer understood our point of view, and the fact that we have to discriminate between the vast activities which are the province of the various Jewish organizations, and the narrow limits within which the International Committee of the Red Cross is able to offer its services without jeopardizing the task which devolves upon it as a result of tradition and the Geneva Conventions.

Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché of the
Legation of the United States of America
B E R N
Dear Mr. Reagan,

I believe it may be useful to inform you of a long visit we had from Mr. Salty Mayer, the representative of the "Joint" in Switzerland.

Mr. Salty Mayer, interpreting, as we assume, the opinion of his organization, seems to have expected that the International Committee of the Red Cross would utilize the sums transferred through the kind offices of the War Refugee Board not solely for relief activity. Mr. Mayer hoped that we would request the transfer of far greater sums and utilize them primarily for what he calls "saving of lives".

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Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché of the
Legation of the United States of America

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
For these reasons the International Committee has decided to limit its work in favour of the Jews and other persecuted groups of civilians in Europe to relief work, building up of a Central Card-Index for Dispersed Families and a certain limited co-operation in the emigration problem.

The latter consists in helping to procure tonnage and to protect ships which might transport Jews from Hungarian or Bulgarian ports to Palestine. We shall probably have to reduce our work in this case to protection of the ships (asking the belligerants for safe-conducts), all the more so as the British authorities prefer to pass through the channel of the Protecting Powers in all questions concerning emigration.

We have, however, asked Mr. Mayer to make practical suggestions as to what, in his opinion, the International Committee of the Red Cross could do for Jews in addition to the above-mentioned points. We shall be glad to examine his suggestions and see whether we can discover a means of rendering assistance.

Concerning the utilization of the 100,000 dollars, Mr. Saly Mayer seems to approve our plan except for certain minor changes which could be easily made. His main objection however is that this action is put on too modest a basis and that we ought to ask for higher contributions.

This is however for the War Refugee Board to decide. If we have been reluctant to embark upon a large-scale plan, it is partly because we do not know exactly how far and in what way the War Refugee Board wishes us to proceed. The proposals contained in our letter of February 29th aim, by the way, at an amplification of our activity; especially our scheme of having a large stock of parcels in Switzerland under control of the War Refugee Board, opens the door, in our opinion, to relief on a far larger scale.

We feel we have indicated to the War Refugee Board - and this we explained to Mr. Mayer - where and how the International Committee of the Red Cross could be entrusted with the continuation and enlargement of a scheme which might lead to a really effective relief action on behalf of certain groups of persecuted civilians in Europe. And relief in the case of Jews and the other categories mentioned in our letter of February 29th is, in our opinion, a means too - if somewhat different - of "saving lives".

Sincerely yours,

J. de Schurzenberg
No. 7555

Bern, March 16, 1944

Subject: Transmission of letter from International Committee of the Red Cross concerning relief program for Jewish Refugees in enemy territory.

It was in dispatch no. 7454 and taken by the Secretary General of the International Committee that the International Committee proposed to utilize the funds made available by the Joint Distribution Committee.

The Department and the War Refugees Board will note from the enclosed letter that, according to the Red Cross, Mr. Saly Meyer approved the relief program as proposed "with the exception of certain minor changes which could easily be made.

The Legation desires to call the Department's attention to Mr. Meyer's proposal that the scope of relief operations be extended to the observations of Mr. de Schwarzenberg in this connection.

Respectfully yours,

The Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Department's telegram no. 279 of January 27, 1944, and 437 of February 8, 1944, and to the Legation's despatch no. 7454 of March 2, 1944, concerning the relief of Jewish Refugees and other persecuted groups in enemy territory through the agency of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

In this connection, the Legation encloses for the information of the Department and the War Refugees Board a copy of a letter dated March 13, 1944, addressed to the Legation by Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg, member of the Secretariat of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which reports a discussion with Mr. Saly Meyer, representative in Switzerland of the Joint Distribution Committee, concerning the employment for relief purposes of the Swiss franc equivalent of $100,000 donated by the Joint Distribution Committee, which funds, according to the message from

DECLASSIFIED
State Do. Lettr. 11-13-31
By R. F. Parks Dec. 21, 1972

with...
from the War Refugee Board contained in the National Committee Department's telegram no. 437 of February 9, 1944, were to be employed for the carrying out of a relief program for Jewish refugees in Croatia, Slovakia, Roumania, Hungary, and Theresienstadt. The Legation's dispatch no. 7454 and telegram no. 1334 of March 4, 1944, informed the Department of the manner in which the International Committee proposed to utilize the funds made available by the United States.

The Department and the War Refugee Board will note from the enclosed letter that, according to the Red Cross, Mr. Saly Mayer approved the relief program as proposed "with the exception of certain minor changes which would easily be made."

The Legation desires to call the Department's attention to Mr. Mayer's proposal that the scope of relief operations be enlarged and to the same observations of Mr. de Schwarzenberg in this connection.

The Department will note from the enclosed letter that, according to the Red Cross, Mr. Mayer approved the relief program as proposed "with the exception of certain minor changes which would easily be made."

The Legation desires to call the Department's attention to Mr. Mayer's proposal that the scope of relief operations be enlarged and to the same observations of Mr. de Schwarzenberg in this connection.

Respectfully yours,

Leland Harrison,
American Minister.

Enclosure: A true copy of the signed original.
Dear Mr. Reagan,

I believe it may be useful to inform you of a long visit we had from Mr. Suly Mayer, the representative of the "Joint" in Switzerland.

Mr. Suly Mayer, interpreting, as we assume, the opinion of his organization, seems to have expected that the International Committee of the Red Cross would utilize the sums transferred through the kind offices of the War Refuge Board not solely for relief activity. Mr. Mayer hoped that we would request the transfer of far greater sums and utilize them primarily for what he calls "saving of lives".

We pointed out that the International Committee of the Red Cross could not contemplate the possibility of participating in certain actions with the object of getting Jews out of Axis countries, such actions necessitating methods which are not considered legal by the detaining authorities. Being fully aware of the humanitarian aim of this type of activity - and in this case the means would seem to justify the end - the International Committee for the Red Cross, considering its manifold other activities which are based on the confidence of all governments concerned, cannot launch into a new field of activity where it would sooner or later come into conflict with the detaining powers. This would be contrary to its interests and to its traditions of absolute neutrality. We believe that Mr. Suly Mayer understood our point of view, and the fact that we have to discriminate between the vast activities which are the province of the various Jewish organizations, and the narrow limits within which the International Committee of the Red Cross is able to offer its services without in any way jeopardizing the task which devolves upon it as a result.
result of tradition and the Geneva Conventions, could be entrusted with the continuation of this work.

For these reasons the International Committee has decided to limit its work in favour of the Jews and other persecuted groups or civilians in Europe to relief work, building up of a Central Card Index for Displaced Families and a certain limited co-operation in the emigration problem.

The latter consists in helping to procure tonnage and to protect ships which might transport Jews from Romanian or Bulgarian ports to Palestine. We shall probably have to reduce our work in this case to protection of the ships (excepting the belligerents for safe-conducts), all the more so as the British authorities prefer to pass through the channel of the Protecting Powers in all questions concerning emigration.

We have, however, asked Mr. Mayer to make practical suggestions as to what, in his opinion, the International Committee of the Red Cross could do for Jews in addition to the above-mentioned points. We shall be glad to examine his suggestions and see whether we can discover a means of rendering assistance.

Concerning the utilization of the 100,000 dollars, Mr. Salo Mayer seems to approve our plan except for certain minor changes which could be easily made. His main objection however is that this action is put on too modest a basis and that we ought to ask for higher contributions.

This is however for the War Refugee Board to decide. If we have been reluctant to embark upon a large-scale plan, it is partly because we do not know exactly how far and in what way the War Refugee Board wishes us to proceed. The proposals contained in our letter of February 30th aim, by the way, at an amplification of our activity; especially our scheme of having a large stock of parcels in Switzerland under control of the War Refugee Board, opens the door, in our opinion, to relief on a far larger scale.

We feel we have indicated to the War Refugee Board - and this we explained to Mr. Mayer - where and how the International Committee of the Red Cross could...
could be entrusted with the continuation and enlargement of a scheme which might lead to a really effective relief action on behalf of certain groups of persecuted civilians in Europe. And relief in the case of Jews and the other categories mentioned in our letter of February 29th is, in our opinion, a means too if somewhat different of "saving lives".

Sincerely yours,

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg,

For the International Committee

I wish to acknowledge of the Red Cross,

receipt of your letter of March 13, 1944, concerning your discussions with Mr.ény Meyer and the relief program to be signed: J. de Schwarzenberg

which have been made available to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the Joint Distribution Committee.

I was pleased to note that with the exception of certain minor changes which you are able to affect, Mr. Meyer agreed with your program for the expenditure of these funds.

I believe that your letter would be of interest to the War Refuge Board and wonder if it would be possible for you to forward it to the United States as was done with the International Committee's letter of February 29, 1944

Washington is, of course, very interested in the execution of the relief program and it would be much appreciated if you could inform us of any developments which have taken place since your letter of March 13.

I am very sorry to have missed you during my brief visit to Geneva this week but hope to see you soon either here or in Geneva.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Mr. J. Reagan,

Commercial Attaché to the United States

Address correspondence to the Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,

4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
Dr. J. J. de Schwarzenberg,
Member of the Secretariat of the International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Conseil-Général,
Geneva.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I wish to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of March 13, 1944, concerning your discussions with Mr. Galy Mayer of the relief program to be undertaken with the funds which have been made available to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the Joint Distribution Committee.

I was pleased to note that with the exception of certain minor changes which you are able to effect, Mr. Mayer agreed with your program for the expenditure of these funds.

I believe that your letter would be of interest to the War Refugee Board and wonder if it would be possible for you to forward it to the United States as was done with the International Committee’s letter of February 29, 1944?

Washington is, of course, very interested in the execution of the relief program and it would be much appreciated if you could inform me of any developments which have taken place since your letter of March 13.

I am very sorry to have missed you during my brief visit to Geneva this week but hope to see you soon either here or in Geneva.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché
With reference to your telegram No. 1164 of March 4, 1944, the Department requests you to deliver the following message from the War Refugee Board to the International Red Cross at Geneva.

"With reference to your letter of February 25, No. 199, addressed to the American Legation at Bern, with regard to the equivalent of $100,000 in Swiss francs received from the Joint Distribution Committee: The Joint Distribution Committee has informed the War Refugee Board that full discretion with regard to the use of the funds under reference has been placed in the International Red Cross but the Joint Distribution Committee hopes that the International Red Cross will, after consultation with Salo Wanya, coordinate the proposals set forth in the letter of February 25 with the feeding program at present being carried out in Turkey and with the work which is being done by Salo Wanya. The Joint Distribution Committee assures the International Red Cross that no exploitation for purposes of propaganda will be made of this relief action."

Hull

In triplicate

[Signature]

[Date: SEP 25 1372]

[Address: Commission Miste de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale, 4, Cours des Basiliques, Geneve]
Bern, March 22, 1944.

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,

Member of the Secretariat of the
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Conseil-Général,
Geneva.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

Reference is made to paragraph 2 of your letter of February 29, 1944, and to the Legation's letter of March 7, 1944, concerning the authority of the International Committee of the Red Cross to administer the expenditure of the Swiss franc equivalent of the $100,000 for relief purposes made available to the International Committee by the Joint Distribution Committee.

In this connection, the Legation has been requested to deliver to the International Committee the following message from the War Refugee Board:

"With reference to your letter of February 29, no. 199, addressed to the American Legation at Bern, with regard to the equivalent of $100,000 in Swiss francs received from the Joint Distribution Committee; The Joint Distribution Committee has informed the War Refugee Board that full discretion with regard to the use of the funds under reference has been placed in the International Red Cross but the Joint Distribution Committee hopes that the International Red Cross will, after consultation with Saly Mayer, coordinate the proposals set forth in the letter of February 29 with the feeding program at present being carried out in Turkey and with the work which is being done with . . ."
Sally Mayer. The Joint Distribution Committee assures the International Red Cross that no exploitation for purposes of propaganda will be made of this relief action.

You will note that this message confirms the interpretation of the original instructions which was made in the Legation's letter of March 7.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.

INR/RCS/imp

A true copy of the original
Geneva, March 23, 1944

Dear Mr. Reagan,

Do you think you could ask for the support of the War Refugee Board in the following matter?

In view of the growing difficulties of purchasing foodstuffs in Central Europe — and these will be considerably increased by present events in Hungary — we have endeavoured to obtain information as to purchasing possibly in certain countries which are further distant. We hear that certain food products might be found in Portugal. As a matter of fact, the blockade authorities give permission to transfer funds from overseas more easily when these are to be devoted to purchases in neutral countries. The Jewish organisations would be able to make funds available for our use forthwith in Portugal with the object of supplying food to certain Jewish groups who were not included in our scheme of 29 February. We should, as an example, like to send food-stuffs to Jews who are interned in three camps in Croatia and who, according to reports received from our Delegate in Zagreb, are in an extremely precarious condition as regards food.

The following difficulty, however, arises: railroad transportation from Portugal is very expensive and, moreover, fairly uncertain because of the railroad situation in Spain. For these reasons, the International Committee of the Red Cross were led to initiate a shipping line between Lisbon and Marseilles to convey the large cargoes of parcels for
American and British prisoners of war in Germany.
These ships are, however, allowed to carry only goods
for which the Blockade authorities have issued navicerts.

Hitherto we have never been able to obtain navicerts
for shipments intended for the categories of persons,
including Jews, whom we hope to be able to help within the
sphere of the scheme which has now been started thanks to
the support of the War Refugee Board.

We should therefore be extremely grateful if you
could approach the War Refugee Board with the object of
finding out whether they could secure navicerts from the
Blockade authorities which would enable the goods intended
for the groups of persons indicated in our letter of 29
February to be shipped on board the International Committee's
ships from Lisbon to Marseille.

With many thanks in advance for your kindness in
this matter and as the question appears to be an urgent
one, we should be most grateful for an answer as quickly
as may be. Copy of this letter is forwarded to our delegate
in Washington.

We are, dear Mr. Reagan,
Yours sincerely,

[F. E. Schwarsenberg]

P.S.-Referring to your kind letter of March 18th, par. 3,
I may add that my letter of March 15th has been
forwarded to our Washington delegation with instructions
to contact the War Refugee Board.
TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: March 23, 11 a.m., 1944

No: 1774

Code: 

Charged to: 

PARAPHRASE

Please refer to the Department's telegram 916 of March 20.

After discussions with Sally Mayer Intercross states that Mayer has approved "with the exception of certain minor changes which could be easily made" the Intercross relief program.

HARRIS

DR/228/mjb
In tripl. to CA
Dear Mr. Reagan,

Many thanks for your letter of March 22nd, 1944, by which you were kind enough to transmit to us a message from the War Refugee Board concerning the Joint's opinion on the utilisation of $100,000. We have seen Mr. Sally Mayer and are in agreement with him.

On the other hand, events in the Balkans have developed recently in a way which necessarily must change our entire plan of action. As a matter of fact, I don't see how we shall be able to get any more foodstuffs out of Hungary now. I shall write to you on this subject in a few days.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Reference Department's 916 dated March 20, and previous. The following is a summary of an inquiry for the War Refugee Board from the ICRC:

Intercross desires, in view of the increasing difficulties in purchasing food in Central Europe which is further complicated by recent events in Hungary, that if funds can be made available by Jewish organizations, to purchase certain food products in Portugal for the relief of groups of Jewish refugees not included in the plan transmitted in the Legation's telegram 1334 of March 4th. In particular, Intercross desires to assist three refugee camps in Croatia where food conditions reported precarious by their delegate. Intercross proposes to ship from Lisbon by Marseilles via Intercross ships since transportation from Portugal is expensive and slow. Intercross inquires whether the War Refugee Board could obtain approval of the blockade authorities. Navicerta would be necessary.

HARRISON

DHR/RCC/mjb
In tripl. to CA
To: Department

Date: March 25, 7 p.m., 1944

No: 1850

Charged to:

PARAPHRASE

Following refers to the Legation’s 1774 of March 23rd.

Stated by Intercross that the recent developments in the Balkans necessitate a change in the entire plan of action and express doubt as to whether it will be possible to obtain from Hungary any more foodstuffs. Further report will be made in a few days by Intercross.

HARRISON

LIF/KCG/mjb
In tripl. to CA

DECLARATION

Date: Dept. Legion, 1-11-72

By E. H. Parks Date: SEP 25 1972
The latest events in Hungary and the rumours about a possible occupation of Slovakia and Romania will of necessity influence considerably the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross on behalf of war victims in those parts of Europe. Moreover, the last possibilities of securing foodstuffs in noteworthy quantities within Europe seem to be dwindling away. The Commission Mixte will inform you of these growing difficulties in purchasing, and that certain adjustments will have to be made as far as the Joint's 100,000-dollar scheme is concerned.

We are sure that the War Refugee Board will agree with us when we say that rapid action is essential if the United States Government's intention of rescuing certain particularly stricken groups of refugees is to be put into effect. The latest events have shown once more that what would have still been feasible a few months ago has now been rendered impossible because action has come too late.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has experienced this over and over again during this war, and that is the reason why we so very strongly urge the necessity of accepting our suggestion to send us as rapidly as possible a considerable stock of parcels of food and under-wear. As we have suggested, we would hold these in reserve in Geneva and we would draw upon them according to requirements, but only after having contacted the War Refugee Board's representative at Bern to whom we would supply all information and control vouchers he may desire.

Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Legation of the United States of America,
B E R N
Dear Mr. Reagan,

The latest events in Hungary and the rumours about a possible occupation of Slovakia and Rumania will of necessity influence considerably the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross on behalf of war victims in those parts of Europe. Moreover, the limited possibilities of securing foodstuffs in noteworthy quantities within Europe seem to be diminishing away. The Commission Mixte will inform you of these growing difficulties in purchasing, and that certain adjustments will have to be made as far as the Joint's 100,000-dollar scheme is concerned.

We are sure that the War Refugee Board will agree with us when we say that rapid action is essential if the United States Government's intention of rescuing certain particularly stricken groups of refugees is to be put into effect.

The latest events have shown once more that what would have still been feasible a few months ago has now been rendered impossible because action has come too late.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has experienced this over and over again during this war, and that is the reason why we so very strongly urge the necessity of accepting our suggestion to send us as rapidly as possible a considerable stock of parcels of food and underwear. As we have suggested, we would hold these in reserve in Geneva and we would draw upon them according to requirements, but only after having contacted the War Refugee Board's representative at Bern to whom we would supply all information and control vouchers he may desire.

Mr. Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Legation of the United States of America,
Bern

Address the correspondence to the Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,
4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
It is with the prospect in view that the situation of refugees may become still worse in Europe and that nothing ought to be left undone to save human lives -- we again point out the necessity of helping detainees in concentration camps and particularly children in certain parts of Europe -- that we ask the American Legation to support our scheme, providing it agrees with it, and to lay particular stress on speedy action. By suggesting that we put before the Legation all material it may desire, we believe that we have taken into due account the reserves which the Economic Warfare might make towards our activities.

Thanking you in advance, dear Mr. Reagan, for all the trouble you are taking in this matter, we are

yours sincerely,

(\[\text{Dr. J.E. Schwarzenberg}\])
Bern, April 1, 1944

To: Dr. J. E. de Schwarzenberg, Member of the Secretariat of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Palais du Conseil-général, Geneva.

I would like to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 27th, 1944. A summary of the observations you make in your letter has been telegraphed to the Department of State for the attention of the War Refugees Board. I shall not fail to inform you when the Legation has received a reply. The War Refugees Board’s plan to resuscitate certain particularly stricken groups is continuing. Reference paragraph 31 of the Legation’s 1366 of March 6, necessity of accepting requests to send in parcels of food and undress uniforms which are under urgent need by internees, the proposal to store the internees in Geneva, and dispatching them in future to the representatives of the countries of origin, who would then control the parcels, would be supplied together with full information.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan, Commercial Attaché

HAMLET

A true copy of the signed original:

4, Cours des Bastions, Genève

Adresse la correspondance à la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale, 4, Cours des Bastions, Genève.
Please refer to our 1950 March 25.

There is given below a summary of a letter dated March 27 from ICRC:

1. Activities of Intercross on behalf of war victims in Hungary and Slovakia will be affected by events in Hungary and the possible occupation of Hungary and Slovakia. It is furthermore stated that the last possibilities of obtaining relief of foodstuffs within Europe is apparently dwindling and certain adjustments in joint 100,000 dollar relief program necessary.

2. If War Refugee Board’s plans to rescue certain particularly stricken groups of refugees are not to be too late rapid action is necessary. Reference paragraph three of the Legation’s 1966 of March 6, necessity of accepting suggestion to send it parcels of food and under- wear urged by Intercross. The parcels would be stored in Geneva and dispatched only after the concurrence of the representative of the War Refugee Board to whom control vouchers could be supplied together with full information.


HARRISON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept Color, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 23 1972

4. Cours des Bastions, Genève

Address the correspondence to the Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,
4. Cours des Bastions, Genève
Dear Sir,

We wish to submit to you four lists of medical supplies and surgical dressings which we have been asked to purchase and send to the Jewish refugees in Romania, Theresienstadt, Cracow, Holland and Upper Silesia.

The sum required for the purchase of these supplies has been put at our disposal by the Joint Distribution Committee and this action has the support of the War Refugee Board.

The same letter has been sent to Mr. Sullivan, Commercial Secretary of the British Legation, in Bern.

Yours sincerely,

The Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross

[Signature]

Reg. 4 lists

Address the correspondence to the Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,
4, Cours des Bastions, Genève

with...
List of medical supplies and surgical dressings
for the Jewish refugees in Romania

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Swiss Francs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polypeptide tablets</td>
<td>50'000</td>
<td>2'700.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin tablets</td>
<td>25'000</td>
<td>3'200.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Olpephalin amp</td>
<td>1'000</td>
<td>1'700.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phytin tablets</td>
<td>15'000</td>
<td>1'000.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic gauze 5cm/3m</td>
<td>24'000</td>
<td>900.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic gauze 10cm/3m</td>
<td>24'000</td>
<td>750.---</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic cotton wool 225kg</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>1'735.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulin</td>
<td>80'000</td>
<td>800.---</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the De-Nord Warehouse:
80'000 units insulin 11'989.50

Address the correspondence to the Commission Miste de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,
4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
List of medical supplies and surgical dressings
for Theresienstadt and camps in the neighbourhood

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Amount (Swiss Francs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Polivitamin tablets</td>
<td>100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>4700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic gauze 5 cm²/ea</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td></td>
<td>390.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic gauze 10 cm²/ea</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td></td>
<td>675.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Synthetic cotton wool 200 kg</td>
<td>620</td>
<td></td>
<td>11,940.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the In-Bond Warehouse:
- 20,000 units insulin
- 2 kg Hérouard's chrome

Amount (Swiss Francs): 77,705.00

Address correspondence to:
Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,
4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
List of medical supplies and surgical dressings
for the "Jüdische Untersstüttungsstelle" Crewe
and camps in the neighbourhood

Swiss Franc
6'900.00

150'000 Polivitamin tablets

2 kg Ascorbpin 0,05 (Vitamin C)
300 x 100 tabl. Bcorvin (Vitamin B-complex)
40 x 100 tabl. Rescura (Vitamin B1)
6 x 25 amp. Lormestin
12 x 25 amp. Herdon
4 x 250 tabl. Reduna forte (Vitamin C)
12 x 25 amp. Furo-cédron
200 x 25 tabl. Triacol
200 x 120 gn. Spasmoftylate (Atropin-Phospherin)
4'000 tabl. Triamteren 0,0005
1'000 amp. Caffein.murat.salicyla. 0,2
2'000 tabl. Caffein.murat.salicyla. 0,25
4'000 tabl. Mag. salicyl. 0,5
2'000 tabl. Saccharoph. 0,02
6'000 tabl. Sodi-Phosphat. 0,02
300 x 150 tabl. Calcium Sandox
40 x 500 gn. Calcium Sandox granulated
40 x 10 amp. Magnesium
40 x 200 tabl. Magnesium liquid
30 x 20 cm. Magnesium liquid
60 x 1/2 tube Buna Panchasin
10 x 230 tabl. Palmin
12 x 250 tabl. Spatrit
12 x 50 amp. Strophosid 1 cc
12 x 50 amp. Strophosid 0,5 cc
10 x 100 tabl. Gynergum
6 x 50 amp. Gynergum 0,5 cc
20 x 250 tabl. Entero-Vismora
40 x 20 amp. Cymamin 1,7 cc
50 x 20 amp. Cymamin liquid 15 cc

Swiss Fr. 6'900.00

Adresser la correspondance à la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,
4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
Dear Reagan,

The Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross informs me that they have written to you in the same terms as to me regarding a list of purchases of medical supplies and surgical dressings which the Commission has been asked to purchase and send to the Jewish refugees in certain occupied territories.

As the funds for this purpose have been put at the disposal of the Commission by the Joint Distribution Committee with the support of the War Refugee Board, I take it that this is a matter which is governed entirely by the issue of a licence from the U.S. Authorities enabling the Joint Distribution Committee to deal freely with their funds.

I am, therefore, inclined to regard these purchases of medical supplies as outside my competence and as not being subject to the established procedure regarding Allied relief purchases or the new procedure regarding International Red Cross purchases generally.

I should, however, be grateful for your views before replying to the Joint Relief Commission.

Yours sincerely,

W.J. Rendell
(Commercial Secretary.)

D.J. Reagan, Esq.,
U.S. Commercial Attaché,
Berne.
To: Department
Date: April 6, 11 a.m., 1944.
No: 3122 (London: 539)
Code: [redacted]

Reference is made to the Legation's 1334, March 4, paragraph #1 [2].

As outlined in the above telegram, a list of medical supplies and surgical dressings for purchase shipment to Jewish refugees has been submitted by the Mixed Relief Commission of the Red Cross to this and the British Legations. Insulin and what appears to be narcotics are among the supplies. Is the Legation correct in its belief that, since the purchase is from funds from the Joint Distribution Committee turned over to the Red Cross under license from the Treasury with full leeway, the list aforementioned is not subject to the joint approval of the Joint Distribution Committee and the British Legation and that narcotics and insulin are not required to be referred to London jointly under instructions contained in the exchange of telegrams between MI6 and the British Legation (please see London's 44 of February 25 to Legation in this connection)?

As a reply to the Mixed Relief Commission is being withheld by this Legation, the early instructions of the Department are requested.

Repeated to London as Bern's no. 539.

HARRISON

LDR:inf
In quintuplicate
Following message from the War Refugee Board is for the Minister:

Reference is made to your telegram No. 1828, of March 24.

Please deliver the following urgent message to the War Refugee Board to the International Red Cross with regard to the proposed purchase of food for the International Red Cross to aid three refugee camps in Croatia.

"In order that the licensing of the necessary remittances may be expedited, please advise the War Refugee Board at once with regard to the following points:

1. The nationality and the number of persons in the three camps to whom aid is to be extended;
2. An estimate of the cost which would be involved;
3. The type of food to be purchased for packaging in Portugal, and
4. Assurance that such food supplies will be received by the intended beneficiaries."

Hull
COMMISSION MIXTE DE SECOURS
DE LA CROIX-ROUGE INTERNATIONALE

Bern, April 11, 1944.

Mr. Daniel G. ESAGAN,
Commercial Secretary to the
Legation of the United States of America to the
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Conseil-Général de Genève.

Dear Mr. William John SULLIVAN,
Commercial Secretary to the
American Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais de l'Exposition, Genève.

Reference is made to your letter of March 23, 1944, concerning the proposal to purchase in Portugal for foodstuffs to be supplied to three internment camps in Croatia. A summary of your proposal was telegraphed to the American authorities and a reply has now been received. The Legation is requested to transmit to you the following message from the War Refugee Board:

"In order that the licensing of the necessary remittances may be expedited, please advise the War Refugee Board at once with regard to the following points:

1. The nationality and the number of persons in the three camps to whom the food is to be supplied;

2. An estimate of the cost which would be involved;

3. The type of food to be purchased for packaging in Portugal;

4. Assurance that such food supplies will be received by the intended beneficiaries."

It would be appreciated if you would forward your reply to the above inquiry to the Legation for transmission to the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Esagan,
Commercial Attaché.

4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
Mr. Daniel J. REAGAN  
Commercial Secretary to the  
Legation of U.S.A.  
Bern

Mr. William John SULLIVAN  
Commercial Secretary to the  
British Legation  
Bern

Re: gift of 100,000 dollars in aid of Jewish deportees and refugees in various countries.

Dear Sir,

We take the liberty to apply for your agreement concerning purchases to be made by means of the above gift.

Owing to the present difficulties of making purchases in Hungary, we have been obliged to alter slightly our original purchase program and to contemplate ordering Swiss merchandise on a larger scale, so as to avoid any delay.

We intend to utilize the sum of 100,000 dollars = 429,000 Sw. Francs as follows:

Pharmaceutical products  
SFr. 100,000. -

Regarding which our Pharmaceutical Dept. is getting into touch with you.

Transnistria and Bessarabia  
100,000.-,

which will be transferred to the Delegate of the IRC at Bucharest for local purchases.

Cracovia  
100,000.-

entirely intended for buying Swiss products which will be sent in one consignment.

300,000.-

Adresser la correspondance à la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,  
4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
Theresienstadt
of which Sfr 40'000 would be used
for purchases in Switzerland. The
goods would be placed in our bon­
ded warehouse at Geneva for despatch
together with foreign merchandise.
Camps in France and Upper Silesia,
which we are temporarily retaining
as a reserve for intended purchases
of Hungarian commodities at a sub­
sequent date.

Sfr. 300,000.
Sfr. 89,000.
Sfr. 429,000.

As you will see from the foregoing, it
is our intention to buy Swiss products to the value
of approx. Swiss Francs 140'000.
and we should appreciate your confirmation that this
plan meets with your approval.
Awaiting your kind reply, for which we
thank you in anticipation, we beg to remain, dear Sir,
yourth very truly
Joint Relief Commission of
the International Red Cross:

Adresser la correspondance à la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale,
4, Cours des Bastions, Genève
To: Department

Date: April 13, 9 p.m., 1944.

No: 2305 [London: 589]

Charged to:

US URGENT

Paraphrase

The following telegram has been repeated to the Embassy in London as no. 589.

With reference to Bern’s no. 1364 of March 4, the whole of the projected purchase scheme from $100,000 which the Joint Distribution Committee gave has now been referred by the Joint Relief Commission to the Commercial Attaché and his British colleague for approval.

An early reply to its 3128 of April 6 is requested by Bern. Latter telegram was repeated to London as no. 589.

HARRISON

In quadruplicate

Copy for Mr. Randall’s attention
Dear Mr. Reagan,

May I thank you for your letter of April 11th concerning the purchase of foodstuffs in Portugal to be supplied to Jewish internees in Croatia. We shall answer the questions put to us by the War Refugee Board as soon as possible and I am glad to note that its attitude seems to be favourable to our proposal. It will be easy to give a positive answer to points 1), 2) and 3). I am now waiting additional information under point 3), because, to simplify matters, we thought it expedient that the "JOINT" in Lisbon should proceed itself to buy foodstuffs, which would be handed over to our delegation there for shipment. Thus, no transfer of funds would be necessary, and we hope that the Joint people in Lisbon will be able to secure the appropriate merchandise in that country.

Hoping to be in a position to give you an answer soon, I am

sincerely yours,

[Signature]

__Adresser la correspondance à la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale, 4, Cours des Bastions, Genève__
Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg,

I wish to thank you for your letter of April 19, 1944, concerning the purchase of foodstuffs in Portugal for Jewish internees in Croatia.

Your suggestion that the Joint Distribution Committee purchase the foodstuffs in Portugal and deliver them to your delegate in Lisbon has been transmitted by telegram to the War Refuge Board for its consideration. I shall not fail to inform you as soon as a reply has been received by the Legation.

I am looking forward to receiving your further report concerning the other points of inquiry raised by the War Refuge Board, and to be able to inform you that we have to-day substituted for the above gift and wish to inform you that we have to-day substituted:

Very truly yours,

export applications to the "Section importations et exportations du Département Fédéral de l’Économie Publique":

a) 50 cases of 100 cans each containing 60 cans middle-size green peas — total value sfr. 6,840.00

These goods are intended for dispatch to Theresienstadt.

Seeing that this merchandise forms part of a plan which met with your approval, we feel obliged to you and to your influence as a member of the Mixed Commission in order to back up our applications.

We take the liberty to rely upon your intervention and hope that your applications will

Bern, April 21, 1944

Dr. J. E. de Schwarzenberg,
Member of the Secretariat of the International Committee of the Red Cross,
Palais du Conseil-Général,
the Legation,
Geneva.
Re: Two applications for export of merchandise forming part of the purchase program in connection with the gift of 100,000 dollars in aid of Jewish deportees and refugees in various countries.

Dear Sir,

We beg to refer to our letter of the 12th inst., notifying you of the alteration made in our original purchase program concerning the above gift and wish to inform you that we have to-day submitted the following two export applications to the "Section importations et exportations du Département Fédéral de l'Economie Publique":

- a) 60 cases each containing 100 cans apple jam - total value SFR. 9'000.-
- b) 100 cases each containing 60 cans middle-fine green peas - total value SFR. 6'840.-

These goods are intended for despatch to Theresienstadt.

Seeing that this merchandise forms part of a plan which met with your approval, we should be very obliged if you would use your influence as a member of the "Mixed Commission" in order to back up our applications.

We take the liberty to rely upon your intervention and hope that our applications will be successful.

Adresser la correspondance à la Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge Internationale, 4, Cours des Bastions, Genève.
thus be granted without delay.

Thanking you in anticipation for your kindness, we beg to remain, dear Sir,

Yours very truly

Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross:

[Signature]

with...
Dear Reagan,

You will no doubt have received a further letter from the Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross dated the 21st April regarding exports of apple jam and green peas for Jewish relief under the $100,000 dollar programme financed by the Joint Distribution Committee.

May I suggest, in order to speed up a reply on your earlier telegram, that you should refer this case also to your authorities, drawing attention to your previous telegrams.

As in the two previous instances, I am not acknowledging the communications of the Joint Relief Commission just yet.

Yours sincerely,

W.J. Sullivan
(Commercial Secretary.)

D.J. Reagan, Esq.,
U.S. Commercial Attaché,
Berne.

[Handwritten note: "62/7/23/44"]
To: Department
Date: April 22, 5 p.m., 1944.
No: 2561
Charged to:

Paraphrase

Reference is made to your no. 1198 of April 8.

The International Red Cross states that replies to questions 1, 2 and 4 are being prepared. With regard to question 3 it is the belief of Intercross that matters would be simplified if the Joint Distribution Committee purchases foodstuffs in Portugal for delivery to the delegate in Lisbon of the International Red Cross.

Harrison

DJR:RGG:mf

In triplicate
Copies to Dr. Hotz and British Legation
Bern, April 24, 1944.

Dear Sirs:

I should like to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of April 21, April 12 and April 3, 1944, in which you request our approval for the program of purchases both in Switzerland and elsewhere of relief goods to be paid for out of the gift of $100,000 from the Joint Distribution Committee. In your letter of April 21, you specifically ask that the Legation support your request for a Swiss export license for 60 cases of apple jam and 100 cases of canned green peas.

Since the United States Treasury licensed the Joint Distribution Committee to turn over the $100,000 to the International Red Cross for the relief purchase of food and other goods either in Switzerland or elsewhere, my British colleague felt that the operations carried on by you under this gift are not subject to our approval or reference to London as with other relief purchases made in Switzerland. My colleague based his opinion on the fact that the Joint Distribution Committee’s gift was already licensed by one of the Allied Powers.

I have referred the matter to Washington and London for clarification and regret that as yet I have received no answer. I am telegraphing again today requesting an urgent reply. I shall write you again at the earliest possible moment.

Yours very truly,

Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Joint Relief Commission of
The International Red Cross,
4 Cour de Sallazations,
Geneva.

Sullivan and
dr. Hotz.
A copy of this letter goes to Mr. Sullivan and one to Dr. Rots.

Yours very truly,

Reference is made to the Joint Relief Commission's support for a Swiss export license for specific foodsstuffs purchased in Switzerland from the Joint Distribution Committee. Daniel J. Reagan

Commercial Attaché

1. Referring to former letters, the Joint Relief Commission requests the Legation's support for a Swiss export license for specific foodsstuffs purchased in Switzerland from the Joint Distribution Committee. Daniel J. Reagan

Commercial Attaché

2. In reply the Commercial Attaché has stated that neither he nor the British Secretary feels that the program of the International Red Cross with respect to purchase under this $1,000,000 need be referred for approval to the Legations under the system now being discussed in London for relief purchased in Switzerland. The GA added, however, that the matter has been referred to the American Embassy in London and to the Department of State, pending receipt of definite instructions from the latter.

3. According to the interpretation of the Legation, the AEC may purchase any and all types of products in Switzerland without our prior approval or reference to London, under the latitude of the Treasury License to the Joint Distribution Committee. Is this a correct interpretation?

4. The Legation respectfully requests early instructions in order that a definitive reply can be made to the Joint Relief Commission in view of the urgency of the Department's cable No. 579 of January 27 and others.

Repeated to London as Bern's 678, with reference to letter's 589 of April 15 and 539 of April 6.

HARRISON

In quadruplicate
US URGENT

Reference is made to the Legation's cables nos. 2305 of April 13 and 2122 of April 6.

1. Referring to former letters, the Joint Relief Commission requests the Legation's support for a Swiss export license for specific foodstuffs purchased in Switzerland from the Joint Distribution gift.

2. In reply the Commercial Attaché has stated that neither he nor the British Secretary feels that the program of the International Red Cross with respect to purchases under this $100,000 need be referred for approval to the Legations under the system now being discussed in London for relief purchases in Switzerland. He added, however, that the matter has been referred to the American Embassy in London and to the Department of State, pending receipt of definite instructions from the latter.

3. According to the interpretation of the Legation, the IRC may purchase any and all types of products in Switzerland without our prior approval or reference to London, under the latitude of the Treasury License to the Joint Distribution Committee. Is this a correct interpretation?

4. The Legation respectfully requests early instructions in order that a definitive reply can be made to the Joint Relief Commission in view of the urgency of the Department's cable no. 279 of January 27 and others.

Repeated to London as Bern's 678, with reference to latter's 589 of April 13 and 539 of April 6.

HARRISON

In quadruplicate
Bern, April 26, 1944.

Dear Sullivan:

In reply to your letter of April 22, 1944, regarding the relief activities of the International Red Cross with $100,000 provided by the Joint Distribution Committee under United States Treasury license, I am enclosing a copy of the Legation’s telegram No. 2612 April 24 (repeated to London as the Legation’s 678 of the same date).

This makes our third urgent telegram on the same subject. You will receive under separate cover our letter of April 24, to the Committee. I did not feel that we could let all their letters go unanswered. If we have no reply or no instructions within a short time, I believe this Legation would be justified in informing the I.R.C. that, for lack of instructions to the contrary, we must assume that their purchases under the Treasury license to the Joint can be made without prior approval by us and may include any and all products. I would then inform the Department of our action.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosure.

Lee D. Randall
Secretary of Legation

William J. Sullivan, Esquire,
Commercial Secretary,
British Legation,
Bern.
With the compliments of
the Commercial Counsellor,
His Britannic Majesty's Legation,
Bern

File: 62/7/23/44
ALLIED RELIEF DISTRIBUTION COMMITEE.

D.J. Reagan, Esq.,
U.S. Commercial Attaché,
Bern.

The Joint Relief Committee
of the International Red Cross,
4, Cours des Bastions,
Geneva.

I am grateful if you would refer to you of April 24th
the letters under reference.

A copy of this letter to
W.J. Sullivan
(Commercial Secretary.)

Sincerely yours,

It would therefore only
be logical to treat the purchases made there-

with
26th April, 1944.

Gentlemen,

May I refer to your letters of the 3rd, 12th and 21st April on the subject of certain purchase programmes financed by the Joint Relief Committee (Distribution)?

I should be very grateful if you would take Mr. Reagan's letter to you of April 24th as my reply to the three letters under reference.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Reagan and to Dr. Roth.

Yours sincerely,

Sincerely yours,

J. J. Sullivan  
(Commercial Secretary.)

The Joint Relief Committee of the International Red Cross,  
4, Cours des Bastions,  
Geneva.
Dear Mr. McClelland,

I am very sorry not to have been able to see you today as I am leaving for Zurich. I shall be back Friday night and will be delighted if you care to see me on Saturday. If you don’t ring me up Saturday morning at 9:30, I shall call your office after 9.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Comité International de la Croix-Rouge
Agence Centrale des Prisonniers de Guerre

GENÈVE, 27th April 1944

J. H. S. / H. L.
Dear Randall,

Many thanks for your letter of April 26 on the subject of the purchase and export programmes of the Joint Relief Commission, the financing of which is undertaken by the Joint Distribution Committee.

As regards the suggestion which you make in the second paragraph, I have no personal objection, but would we not be placed in rather a difficult position if the State Department subsequently inform us that these transactions must be dealt with under the International Red Cross purchases procedure? I cannot help feeling that the more prudent course is to remain inactive until you receive the official reaction to your three telegrams. It is not we who are holding up these exports, but the scrupulous Joint Relief Commission and the State Department.

Yours sincerely,

Lee D. Randall, Esq.,
Secretary of Legation,
U.S. Legation, Bern.
To: Department  
Date: April 29, noon, 1944  
No: 2726 (No. 710 to London)  
Code:  

Charged to:  

U.S. URGENT. Repeated to London as Legation's 710.

The Commercial Attaché, in the absence of a reply to his 2612 of April 24, 2305 of April 13, and 2122 of April 8, and in view of the last paragraph of the Department's 856 of March 15, has now supported, in reply to a telephonic request from the Joint Relief Commission, with the Swiss authorities, export license application referred to in the Legation's 2612 paragraph one, being specifically 100 cases canned peas valued francs 6840 and 60 cases apple jam valued francs 9,000 which Theresienstadt urgently requires.

However, the Commercial Attaché stated that his approval of the remainder of the program under the Joint Distribution gift is, pending clarification and instructions in reply to the Legation's three telegrams under reference, being withheld.

HARRISON

LDR/mjb
In triplicate to OA
With the compliments of
the Commercial Counselor,
His Britannic Majesty's Legation,
Bern

File: 62/7/23/44
Allied Relief Distribution
Committee.

D.J. Reagan, Esq.,
U.S. Commercial Attaché,
Bern.

United States Embassy inform us that pro-
on behalf of American Jewish Joint Dis-
referred to you and your U.S. Colleague
the amount 100,000 dollars were remitted.

that this programme should be cleared as
and discretion to approve in this case even
be referred here. You need refer
exceptionally would seriously compromise
funding with Swiss. In that case please do so
us.

of S.

From CONCORD in the Embassy's telegram No.
the same procedure apply to exports
with funds remitted at the instance
of the War Refugee Board as is applied at present to other Red
Cross exports.

The difficulty in the present case of requesting the
British to approve lists of exports which have been seen
nether by the British nor by us will be readily appreciated by
you. We should not wish to make a similar request again.

Furthermore, in view of the excellent cooperation which we
have been receiving from the Ministry of Economic Warfare in
putting control of relief shipments from Switzerland, Sweden,
putting control of relief shipments from Switzerland, Sweden,
that War Refugee Board exports, unlike all other relief exports,
be subject only to the approval of the United States.

WINANT

in triplicate

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1, 11-72
By M. L. Perry
SEP 25 1972

All other shipments (with the exception of those exported in
away territories and generally override
blockade regulations. It would therefore only
be logical to treat the purchases made there-
with...
INCOMING TELEGRAM

AFPA No. 1526
27th April
From M. H. W.

IMPORTANT By tel. 1455, United States Embassy informs us that programme of purchases by I.R.C. on behalf of American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has been referred to you and your U.S. colleague for approval. Funds to the amount of $100,000 were remitted from U.S. some time ago.

2) (U.S. Govt.) is anxious that this programme should be cleared as quickly as possible.

3) You have therefore widest discretion to approve in this case even items which would normally stand to be referred here. You may refer only if approval even given exceptionally would seriously compromise general line we have been taking with Swiss. In that case please do no urgently and state particulars.

S. of S.

It is urged, as indicated in the Embassy's telegram No. 3193, of April 10, that the same procedure apply to exports from Switzerland financed with funds remitted at the instance of the War Refugee Board as is applied at present to other Red Cross exports.

The difficulty in the present case of requesting the British to approve lists of exports which have been seen neither by the British nor by us will be readily appreciated by you. We should not wish to make a similar request again.

Furthermore, in view of the excellent cooperation which we have been receiving from the Ministry of Economic Warfare in putting control of relief shipments from Switzerland, Sweden, and Portugal, etc. on a joint basis, we should not wish to suggest that War Refugee Board exports, unlike all other relief exports, be subject only to the approval of the United States.

WINANT

Form in triplicate

DECLASSEME

State Dept. Letter, 7-11-43
By M. H. Parks Date: SEP 15 1972

allows unlimited discretion to purchase in enemy territories and generally override blockade regulations. It would therefore only be logical to treat the purchases made there-
From: London
Date: April 28, 5 p.m., 1944
No: 97
Received: April 29, 11 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

Following to the Department. Repeated to Bern.

Reference is made to your telegram No. 3129 (Z39 to London) of April 16 and 305 (Z99 to London) of April 18.

For the Department and JIA.

Neither the Embassy nor the Ministry of Economic Warfare received from Bern the lists of foodstuffs and medical supplies to which reference is made in your telegram No. 3323, of April 26. Nevertheless, in view of your request for immediate action, the Ministry of Economic Warfare, on April 27, sent instructions to the British Legation to exercise the widest possible discretion and to approve even items which normally would be referred. The only qualification was the that the British Legation should refer urgently if approval, even given exceptionally, would seriously compromise the general line we have been taking on relief exports with the Swiss.

It is urged, as indicated in the Embassy’s telegram No. 3395, of April 18, that the same procedure apply to exports from Switzerland financed with funds remitted at the instance of the War Refugee Board as is applied at present to other Red Cross exports.

The difficulty in the present case of requesting the British to approve lists of exports which have been seen neither by the British nor by us will be readily appreciated by you. We should not wish to make a similar request again. Furthermore, in view of the excellent cooperation which we have been receiving from the Ministry of Economic Warfare in putting control of relief shipments from Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal, etc. on a joint basis, we should not wish to suggest that War Refugee Board exports, unlike all other relief exports, be subject only to the approval of the United States.

WINANT

In Triplicate

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1.11.73
By (N. F. 0.1. B.)

1972
Dear Dr. Hots:

Joint Letter Commission of the International Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross of the United States, Relief Committee for Corses des Batailles, Geneva.

April 29, 1944.

Bern, April 29, 1944.

Dr. Hots:

I refer to my letter of April 21, 1944, and in your telephone call of yesterday's date by which you asked the Legation to support your application for an export license for 50 cases of apple jam and 100 cases of canned green peas which you are purchasing for relief from the $100,000 gift to you from the Joint Distribution Committee, the $100,000 were licensed by the American Government. The Legation has not received your request.

In view of the urgency with which you expressed and of the nature of the goods in question, I have today written to Dr. Hots of the Federal Department of Public Economy to support your request. With regard to the rest of the program under the $100,000, however, I wish to refer you to my letter of April 24, on the subject. Since that date I have sent another telegram to the Department of State at Washington and to the American Embassy at London asking for instructions. In view of this letter, you will, of course, have not as yet approved of the purchases of the program pending its further instructions.

Yours very truly,

Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché

Mr. Jean Hots,
Director, Division of Commerce,
Department of Public Economy,
Bern.

under a licence of the U.S. Treasury which allows unlimited discretion to purchase in areas of enemy occupation and generally override blockade regulations. It would therefore only be logical to treat the purchases made there-

...
Dear Dr. Hotz:

I should like to refer to my letter of April 24, to the Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross regarding the relief purchase program it intends to carry out with $100,000 given to it by the Joint Distribution Committee under license by the United States Treasury; a copy of this letter was sent to you.

You will have noted that the Joint Relief Commission desired the Legation to support its request for an export permit for 60 cases of apple jam and 100 cases of canned green peas. As I stated in my letter under Reference I have referred the matter to Washington and to London as to whether the approval of the American and British Legations or reference of any items to London are necessary in this case since the $100,000 were licensed by the American Government. The Legation has as yet received no reply, but the Joint Relief Commission asked by telephone that the request for export license for the apple jam and green peas be treated urgently.

Since the two aforementioned products would in any case be approveable by us, I should like to take this opportunity to request you to be so good as to consider favorably the request of the Joint Relief Commission. I have informed my Government of the substance of this letter, while stating that I have not as yet approved of the remainder of the program pending its further instructions.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché
Department of Public Economy, Bern.
Reference Legation's cables 1334 March 4, 2128 of April 6, and 2366 April 13.

Following is from FEA.

We are asking the Ministry of Economic Warfare to give its approval at once to the entire list of medical supplies and foodstuffs, and to instruct your colleague accordingly. Prompt action should be taken, subject to London's confirmation.

HULL

In triplicate

purchases have been transferred to the I.R.O.C. under a licence of the U.S. Treasury which allows unlimited discretion to purchase in enemy territories and generally override blocked regulations. It would therefore only be logical to treat the purchases made there-...
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Code: Code Department
Date: May 1, 2 p.m., 1944
No: 1508
Received: May 2, 8 a.m.

PARAPHRASE

Reference Legation's cables 1334 March 4, 2122 of April 6, and 2306 April 13.
Following is from FEA.
We are asking the Ministry of Economic Warfare to give its approval at once to the entire list of medical supplies and foodstuffs, and to instruct your colleague accordingly. Prompt action should be taken, subject to London's confirmation.

HULL

In triplicate

received

purchases have been transferred to the I.R.O.C. under a licence of the U.S. Treasury which allows unlimited discretion to purchase in enemy territories and generally override blockade regulations. It would therefore only be logical to treat the purchases made there-
Reference is made to London's 97, of April 28 to the Legation repeating its telegram to the Department in answer to the Department's no. 3023 of April 26 to the London Embassy.

1. M.E.'s ABFR no. 1583 has been received by the British Commercial Secretary. This telegram gives my British colleague wide discretion to approve in this case even those items which normally require to be referred to London. My British colleague has informed London in reply that he is prepared to give such approval.

2. This Legation, unless it receives instructions to the contrary, will inform the International Committee of the Red Cross that it approves of the total purchase program of $100,000. The Legation takes this withholding action in anticipation of Departmental instructions with regard to the question of policy raised in the Legation's no. 3122 of April 6, no. 2612 of April 24 and London's telegram indicated above.

Forecasting has been repeated to London as Bern's no. 736 of May 2.

HARRISON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R H Parks Date SEP 25 1972

In quadruplicate

purchases have been transferred to the I.R.O.C. under a licence of the U.S. Treasury which allows unlimited discretion to purchase in enemy territories and generally override blockade regulations. It would therefore only be logical to treat the purchases made there-
R.N. Minister to M.E.W.

File : 30/3/15/44

Arfa Hava...Red Cross Switzerland

Subject: Important

Only to Mr. Rankin, Cbe.

important

Your telegram 1525.

Joint Relief Commission have so far only presented the following programmes of purchases:

(a) pharmaceutical products (including insulin out of bond, some narcotics and a number of specialties not previously referred to you under the allied relief purchases scheme), Value roughly Sw.Fr. 65,000.

(b) Apple jam and peas Sw.Fr. 15,000.

2. I have informed my U.S. Colleague that I am prepared to approve the above if requested. Products in themselves cannot be said to give rise to a compromising situation vis-à-vis the Swiss.

3. The fact that we are waiving the general conditions envisaged in your telegram 1455 paras 2 (2) and 3 does not in my view compromise the general line. This would be avoided if the suggestion made by my colleague in his telegram to London 539 of April 6 were adopted, namely that all these purchases should be regarded as being outside our terms of reference and therefore as not requiring approval. I understand the funds for these purchases have been transferred to the I.B.C.O. under a licence of the U.S. Treasury which allows unlimited discretion to purchase in enemy territories and generally override blockade regulations. It would therefore only be logical to treat the purchases made there-
therewith as equally free from control. This would avoid giving the impression of adopting a contradictory attitude towards one class of I.R.C. transactions while pressing in other direction for the observance of conditions which create difficulties for that organisation (my telegram 15/8.)

conscious and manifest of a certain anomaly between the latitude given to the Joint Distribution Committee under the U.S. Treasury licensing procedure and the control which we are required to exercise in the case of other I.R.C. relief purchases.

I am informed by C.R. Collins that I have instructions by C.R. Collins that if we are to continue to work under the U.S. Treasury regulations we must also continue to work under the U.S. Treasury regulations. If we continue to work under the U.S. Treasury regulations we must also continue to work under the U.S. Treasury regulations.

In the meantime I shall keep you in touch with any developments in the matter.

Collins
Yile: MC/3/15/44
International Red Cross

D.J. Beagan, Ee., U.S. Commercial Attaché.

Sullivan said his son only a few months ago.

If I can get in, I will send it to you.

[Handwritten notes and signs]
LOCATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
RECORD 4. MAI 1944
BERN.

With the compliments of
the Commercial Counsellor,
His Britannic Majesty’s Legation,
Bern.

File: WC/3/15/44
International Red Cross
Purchases.

D. J. Reagan, Esq.,
U.S. Commercial Attaché,
BERNE.

Joint Relief Commission have so far
approved the following purchases:
(including insulin out of bond, some
activities not previously referred to you
area scheme). Value roughly Sw.Fr. 65,000
Rs. 15,000.

agree that I am prepared to approve the
purchases themselves cannot be said to give rise
via the Swiss.

were waiving the general conditions en-
acted in my view compromise the
suggestions made by the
our approval. I understand
been transferred to the I.R.C. under
which allows unlimited discretion to
it generally override blockades regulat-
logical to the purchase made
control. This would avoid giving the his-
tory attitude towards one class of I.R.C.
other directions for the observance of
licensing procedures fired to exercise in the cases of other

International Red Cross
Purchases.

D. J. Reagan, Esq.,
U.S. Commercial Attaché,
BERNE.
I have informed my U.S. colleague that I am prepared to approve the above if requested. Products in themselves cannot be said to give rise to a compromising situation via a via the Swiss.

The fact, however, that we are waiving the general conditions envisaged in your tel. 5465 paragraphs 2 and 3 may in my view compromise the general line. This would be avoided if the suggestion made by my colleague in his tel. to London of April 6th were adopted, namely that all these purchases should be regarded as being outside our terms of reference and therefore not requiring our approval. I understand the funds for these purchases have been transferred to the I.R.C.C. under a licence of the U.S. Treasury which allows unlimited discretion to purchase in enemy territories and generally override blockade regulations. It would therefore only be logical to treat the purchases made therewith as equally free from control. This would avoid giving the impression of adopting a contradictory attitude towards one class of I.R.C.C. transactions while pressing in other directions for the observance of conditions which create difficulties for that organisation (my tel. 1869)

I am conscious of a certain anomaly between the latitude given to the joint distribution committee under the U.S. Treasury licensing procedure and the control which we are required to exercise in the case of other I.R.C.C. relief purchases.