

CONSPICUOUS

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Index: Relief Cases for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Occupied
Areas 1944
Part 1

1944 - T. A. D. - Preparation of

War Refugee Board
American Legation
Bern, Switzerland

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS:
RELIEF FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
IN GERMANY AND GERMAN-OCCUPIED AREAS

April through December

1 9 4 4

Juris-Mappe Nr. 1000 (32×24 cm)
Kaiser & Co. A.-G., Bern

WRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McCall's File

RECEIVED (used) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Occupied
Areas

1944
R-1

document
ICRC.

R.G.
2nd
1st

TR/COPIE

Early appeal
of ICRC

re: relief shipments to "assimilated"
detainees in concentration camps
in German-held areas.

Note remise à :

Mr. James, le 24 août 1943
Mr. Livingston, le 25 août 1943.

August 24th, 1943.

Background

G.44/S/2-
JES/HL.

Despatch of standard food parcels to concentration
camps and prisons.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has
persistently endeavoured to include foreign civilian prisoners,
interned in German concentration camps, in the sphere of its
activities. These prisoners are mainly nationals from

ICRC Packages for
Concentration Camps
April 1944

150 names and addresses, and it is anticipated that
Poles, Dutchmen, etc., and it is anticipated that
and addresses would be forthcoming if the scheme for the regular
despatch of food parcels were put into practice.

However, the ruling laid down by the Joint Anglo-
American Committee for Economic Warfare prohibits the sending
of American and British Red Cross standard food parcels to
persons other than prisoners of war and persons regarded as civi-
lian internees; such consignments are subordinated to the
condition that the camps concerned be regularly visited by
delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross and
that lists of names be supplied. Since this form of control
is unfortunately not feasible in the case of concentration camps,
we have endeavoured to ascertain whether another form of control
would be acceptable, namely whether it would be possible to
obtain receipts signed personally by the recipient for each
parcel which would act as proof of delivery. For this
purpose, we forwarded, by way of experiment, 50 parcels of
Swiss origin, containing a receipt form, addressed personally
to 50 designated prisoners in various concentration camps and

./.

ICRC
GENERAL CONCERN PAPER

814.2 I.R.C.-PACIFIC

Dr. McClelland's file

ICRC (S) for Concentration
Camps

Part 1

document
ICRC. R.G.

IR/COPIE
Early appeal
of ICRC

re: relief shipments to "unassimilated"
detainees in concentration camps
in German-held areas.

Note remise à :

Mr. James, le 24 août 1943
Mr. Livingston, le 25 août 1943.

August 24th, 1943.

Background

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JES/HL.

Despatch of standard food parcels to concentration
camps and prisons.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has persistently endeavoured to include foreign civilian prisoners, interned in German concentration camps, in the sphere of its activities. These prisoners are mainly nationals from occupied territories. Since the provisions of the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War do not, in the opinion of the German authorities, cover this class of prisoners, we are not - with certain exceptions - granted access to concentration camps; similarly, no lists of names are communicated to us. According to reliable information, however, these prisoners are in urgent need of additional food and we consequently deem it our duty to submit this need for the earnest consideration of the Governments and the National Red Cross Societies concerned with a view to forwarding to these civilian prisoners standard food parcels similar to those received by prisoners of war and persons regarded as civilian internees. The permission for prisoners in concentration camps to receive individual parcels has already been secured from the competent authorities in Germany, subject, however, to the condition that the prisoners concerned were not interned on the grounds of having committed a serious criminal offence and that their names and addresses in the concentration camps are known. It has thus been possible to obtain about 150 names and addresses, mainly of Norwegians, but also certain Poles, Dutchmen, etc., and it is anticipated that further names and addresses would be forthcoming if the scheme for the regular despatch of food parcels were put into practice.

However, the ruling laid down by the Joint Anglo-American Committee for Economic Warfare prohibits the sending of American and British Red Cross standard food parcels to persons other than prisoners of war and persons regarded as civilian internees; such consignments are subordinated to the condition that the camps concerned be regularly visited by delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross and that lists of names be supplied. Since this form of control is unfortunately not feasible in the case of concentration camps, we have endeavoured to ascertain whether another form of control would be acceptable, namely whether it would be possible to obtain receipts signed personally by the recipient for each parcel which would act as proof of delivery. For this purpose, we forwarded, by way of experiment, 50 parcels of Swiss origin, containing a receipt form, addressed personally to 50 designated prisoners in various concentration camps and

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814.2 I.R.C. - PAGES 1000

ICRC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McCl... AS File

ICRC (Geneva) to Concentration Camps

10/1

document
ICRC.

R.G.
2nd
1944

prisons in Germany. The result was beyond all expectation. In less than 6 weeks over two thirds of the receipts, duly signed by the recipients, had been returned to us. This result is all the more striking as, owing to the constant changes in the camps, it was to be expected that a certain percentage of the addressees could not be reached.

Unfortunately no more parcels are now available for these civilian prisoners, and we have no hope of obtaining further permits for the export of food from Switzerland. The International Committee of the Red Cross ventures to suggest, therefore, that the Economic Warfare Authorities might, in view of the particularly difficult position of such prisoners from occupied territories in the concentration camps, consider the possibility, as an exceptional measure, to waive the requirement concerning the visits to camps and the supply of lists for purposes of control, and be satisfied with a control provided by means of personal receipts. The first measure to be taken would consist in sending to those prisoners whose names are at present known to us - whose numbers do not exceed two hundred - monthly food parcels that would be placed at our disposal by oversea countries. Should additional names come to our knowledge, we should report these in due course and suggest a corresponding increase in the number of parcels. According to our estimate, the total number of recipients would for the moment not exceed a few hundred.

This is not
as ICRC is
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whole for
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The International Committee would greatly appreciate hearing the views of the competent authorities in regard to the scheme outlined above.

ICRC
GENERAL CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS

McCalla's File

ICRC (ICRC) for Geneva

document
ICRC.

~~IR~~ R.G.
2. submit
by the
file

delegations 1566 of March 6th | See also ICRC
March 1944
file
WKB is ✓ ✓ Stock pile proposal
contained in this wire
Ref to letter of Feb 29th from ICRC
containing following information requested
by WKB.

- A) gen. possibilities & proposals for relief
of Jewish refugees & persecuted groups.
- B) proposals for relief of prisoners &
occupied countries - concentration
camps - Germany.
- C) plan for relief of child war-victims
in Slovenia & Serbia.

- 1) ICRC states shipments to J.U.stelle in
Cracow, Theresienstadt & Rumani's go
thru - uncertain (Wormbush) camps
in Upper Serbia & France. ICRC proposes
to try test shipments thru untried channels.
- 2) ICRC - may keep Hung & Rum. purchases
to min & buy - neutral countries.
ICRC desires to know if it can count on
additional funds.
- 3) ✓ avoid purchase in enemy territories
& ICRC apprehensive of abuse entailed by expenditure
foreign exchange in e. territory. ICRC proposes
stock pile. Underline need a quick act

is in

~~IR~~
IR-RG
We still have an
answer to
Schwarzbuch's
inquiry about the
line of IR

Bergues

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AMERICA
VR 1944
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concentration
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ived from Washington

Yours sincerely,

Francis B. James

Francis B. James
Special Representative
American Red Cross.

814.2 I.R.C.-PACKAGES

814.2 I.R.C. JEWISH RELIEF (CONCENTRATION CAMPS)

ICRC GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McDell's file

Direct to (cases) for concentration

Ps 1

AMER

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Request: (IRC) parcels for 1000 Polish men & women, 1450 Hungarians, 1000 Dutch
* Rank & benefitting enemy far less than if free exchange were expanded in e territ. for relief in Transistria.

C. 1. Allowing exit of 80,000 children evacuated from Croatia to Belgrade & other Serb towns. Same applies to Slovenia where 100,000 children suffer "nourishment" need fortifying foods.

Legs 2051 of Apr. 1st.

- ① IRC signals dwindling possibilities purchase foodstuffs in Balkans & occupied Hungary & Slovakia.
- ② IRC urges, if NKVD's plans to rescue certain groups are not to be too late action by taking on food & clothing parcel stockpile proposal of 1366. Parcels to be stored Geneva & NKVD control.
- ③ Need & aid to prisoners in c-camps & to children - certain parts Europe emphasized
* Acceptance of IRC proposals strongly recommended by Legation *

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on Washington

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LR-R4
We still have an
American
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...along the
line 3/10

814.2 I.R.C.-FACEBOOK
814.2 I.R.C. JEWISH RELIEF (CONCENTRATION CAMPS)

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McCl... FILE

IR... (C) for Concentration
Camps in Germany & Poland

Pl. 1

AMERIC
G

Check on

3147 of May 17th containing
disappointingly negative response

Long letter of Schwarzenberg's outlining
reasons why impossible for the to
ask Germans to assimilate categories
such as to Geneva Convention
2 others.

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ational
Washington

814.2 I.R.C.-FACEBOOK
814.2 I.R.C. JEWISH RELIEF (CONCENTRATION CAMPS)

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClellan's File

1941-1942 (1942) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and France - Camps

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RR
KR-R6

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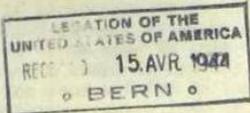

AMERICAN RED CROSS
GENEVA

Re: test shipments by ICRC to
detainees in concentration camps in
Germany.

Background: Relief
for 'unassimilated' categories
in Germany.

Hôtel des Bergues

Reagan/Pow
Concentration
Camps



April 14th 1944.

Dan Reagan Esquire,
Commercial Attaché,
American Legation,
B E R N E . -
=====

Dear Dan,

Following our conversation this morning,
I attach hereto copies of my letter of September 1st
and November 1st last year referring to concentration
camps, together with copy of the memorandum referred to
in my letter of September 1st. I also attach copy of my
letter of February 7th of this year to the International
Committee quoting the reply which I received from Washington
under date of November 30th 1943.

Yours sincerely,

Francis B. James

Francis B. James
Special Representative
American Red Cross.

document
ICRC.

~~HR~~
RG.
2 copies
copy
telegram

~~HR~~
LR-RG
We still have an
answer to
Schwarzhuber's
inquiry along the
line. JPR

814.2 I.R.C.-PAGEONE

814.2 I.R.C. JEWISH RELIEF (CONCENTRATION CAMPS)

ICRC GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McCall's file

1944 (copy) for concentration
camps

814.1

it document
ICRC.

RG.
2nd edit
Lyon
telegrams

1944 D. 1

Copy.-
No. 110.

Letter of September 1st from Mr. James to Mr. Mitchell

Last Fall I was approached by the Committee requesting permission that it be authorised to use a small number of Amcross standard food parcels which it had purchased from us for a despatch to be made to some 50 individuals located in several concentration camps in Germany. At this time, I cabled Washington asking for your opinion on the matter and received a reply that under existing regulations of both the Ministry and the Board of Economic Warfare, such utilisation could not be authorised, unless these individuals were in camps in which the internees were considered as definitely assimilated under the Geneva Convention.

The Committee has been for some time studying the question of possible aid to internees of various nationalities in concentration camps where internees cannot be considered as assimilated, and has succeeded in forwarding parcels to 50 individuals in various concentration camps. The foodstuffs contained in these packages were purchased in Switzerland and financed through independent sources.

I attach hereto a memorandum just given me by the Committee concerning the results obtained from this first despatch, together with photostatic copy of the 31 receipts obtained for the 50 parcels despatched, which the Committee prepared at my request.

Further, I attach a large photostatic copy of one receipt which is particularly interesting, in view of the fact that a relative of the signer lives in Geneva and has recognised the signature on the receipt as authentic.

As you know, the Committee is lacking a great deal of information concerning the names, nationalities, and so forth of thousands of these people in concentration camps, and concerning the ultimate destination of many thousands of individuals who have been deported from their homes by the occupying powers.

The receipts obtained from the forwarding of a few parcels which have gone through give some information, however, in respect of a certain number of individual cases.

While the results obtained in securing approximately receipts from two thirds of the individuals to whom parcels were sent is, in the opinion of the Committee, surprisingly good, it was pointed out that even better results might have been obtained if some 8 or 10 packages had not been forwarded as test cases to some actual prisons.

I attach hereto the remarks reproduced in a note by the Secretariat of the Committee from Dr. Marti, its principal Delegate in Germany.

I pass on the above information to you in order that you may be currently informed regarding the activities of the Committee concerning persons in concentration camps, and would be very pleased to have your and the competent authorities views on this subject.

Director of Bureau of Foreign
Questions, American Embassy
Washington

814.2 I.R.C.-PARAGRAPHS

GENEVA CONVENTION

McCallister's file

7000 (100) to Geneva
Committee on Concentration Camps

PL 1

it document
ICRC.

R.G.
2 min
Lester
Tilgman

POW nurse - concentration
camps.

COPY

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

Ref: G.44/S. Geneva, August 24th, 1943
JES/HL

Despatch of standard food parcels to concentration
camps and prisons.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has persistently endeavoured to include foreign civilian prisoners, interned in German concentration camps, in the sphere of its activities. These prisoners are mainly nationals from occupied territories. Since the provisions of the Geneva Convention on Prisoners of War do not, in the opinion of the German authorities, cover this class of prisoners, we are not - with certain exceptions - granted access to concentration camps; similarly, no lists of names are communicated to us. According to reliable information, however, these prisoners are in urgent need of additional food and we consequently deem it our duty to submit this need for the earnest consideration of the Governments and the National Red Cross Societies concerned with a view to forwarding to these civilian prisoners standard food parcels similar to those received by prisoners of war and persons regarded as civilian internees. The permission for prisoners in concentration camps to receive individual parcels has already been secured from the competent authorities in Germany, subject, however, to the condition that the prisoners concerned were not interned on the grounds of having committed a serious criminal offence and that their names and addresses in the concentration camps are known. It has thus been possible to obtain about 150 names and addresses, mainly of Norwegians, but also certain Poles, Dutchmen, etc., and it is anticipated that further names and addresses would be forthcoming if the scheme for the regular despatch of food parcels were put into practice.

However, the ruling laid down by the Joint Anglo-American Committee for Economic Warfare prohibits the sending of American and British Red Cross standard food parcels to persons other than prisoners of war and persons regarded as civilian internees; such consignments are subordinated to the condition that the camps concerned be regularly visited by delegates of the International Committee of the Red Cross and that lists of names be supplied. Since this form of control is unfortunately not feasible in the case of concentration camps, we have endeavoured to ascertain whether another form of control would be acceptable, namely whether it would be possible to obtain receipts signed personally by the recipient for each parcel which would act as proof of delivery. For this purpose, we forwarded, by way of experiment, 50 parcels of Swiss origin, containing a receipt form, addressed personally to 50 designated prisoners in various concentration camps and prisons in Germany. The result was beyond all expectation. In less than 6 weeks over two thirds of the receipts, duly signed by the recipients, had been returned to us. This result is all the more striking as, owing to the constant changes in the camps, it was to be expected that a certain percentage of the addressees could not be reached.

Unfortunately no more parcels are now available for these civilian prisoners, and we have no hope of obtaining further permits for

814.2 I.R.C. - PAGES 1000

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McCallum's File

1000 (1000) for Concentration
camps

Pl. 1

document
ICRC.

R.G.
2. submit
letter
telegram

LABOR

Copy.-

Letter no.150

Letter of November 1st from Mr. James
to Mr. Mitchell

Dear Mr. Mitchell,

I wish to refer to my letter No.110 of September 1 concerning parcels which had been sent to concentration camps by the International Committee. I have just received a further communication from the Committee in which they state:

"Further to our note of August 24, we have now received almost all the receipts concerning the 50 parcels which were sent as a test to prisons and concentration camps. These receipts were all signed by the addressees.

This test, which was made to see if the method of control by receipts was satisfactory, has consequently been perfectly successful."

The American Red Cross has followed the practice of not intervening in the decisions of the governing authorities and we are not prepared to urge them to agree to the suggestion of the I.C.R.C. as far as we are concerned, however, the I.C.R.C. should not approach the governing authorities directly, although we can hold our peace over the American action, upon the opinion of the International Committee involved, opposing the shipment of such parcels through the business, has been indicated as recently as this current month.

I believe you have already apprised the Executive Committee without special results, as that it appears there is little chance that we can do at this moment concerning this problem.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
814.2 I.R.C.-PARAGRAPHS
McCallister's file
Deer's file (case) for concentration
Camps in Germany and German occupied
territories
Part 1

document
1000.

R.G.
2nd
Lyon
Tel...

Discomaging formalism!

Copy.-

Letter of February 7th from Mr. James to the
International Committee

I wish to refer to your letter of August 24 1943 concerning parcels sent to concentration camps. As you know, I sent all the information given in this letter, together with the photostatic copies of the receipts received, to my headquarters in Washington. I have just had a reply from them which I quote hereunder:

"Reference is made to your letter of September 1st regarding the desire of the I.R.C.C. to secure packages from the ARC which they could in turn forward to civilians in concentration camps in Germany. Your letter with its attachments from the I.R.C.C. has been given careful examination here, and the question has been discussed with Mlle. Ferrière.

We are, of course, in sympathy with the objective of providing necessary food for such persons, but the question is one which relates primarily to the position of the blockading authorities. The persons involved do not enjoy the protection of the Prisoners of War Convention, and consequently they are regarded by the blockading authorities in the same light as the civilian populations of enemy controlled territory. The fact that the I.R.C.C. is able to obtain receipts from the persons in question would not, we are sure, be construed as a circumstance changing this basic position. In view of this situation, therefore, the proposal, even though now involving an extremely small number of packages, raises the whole question of the despatch of food supplies through the blockade.

The American Red Cross has followed the practice of not endeavouring to influence the decisions of the blockading authorities and we are not, therefore prepared to urge them to agree to the suggestion of the I.R.C.C. We see no reason, however, why the I.R.C.C. should not approach the blockading authorities directly, although we can hold out little hope for favorable action, since the position of the Governmental authorities involved, opposing the shipment of such packages through the blockade, has been reiterated as recently as this current month.

This is where
WRB comes
in!

I believe you have already approached the blockading authorities without successful results, so that it appears there is little further that we can do at this moment concerning this problem.

WRB
GENERAL CONCERN

814.2 I.R.C.-PARCELS

McDell...

TO: ...
...
...

document
1000.

R.G.
to include
London
telegram
R

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department Date: April 20, 2 p. m., 1944.

No: 2508

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to: (C.L.)

Paraphrase

Please refer to paragraph B 1 of the Legation's 1366 of March 6.

With regard to test shipments of food parcels to Allied nationals in concentration camps in Germany, the Department is requested to see the letter dated September 1, 1943, from Mr. James, the Special Representative in Geneva of the American Red Cross, to Mr. Mitchell, the director of Insular and Foreign Operations of the American Red Cross.

HARRISON

\$15.88
DJR:RCG:nf
In triplicate

814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McCall's File

Index of (cases) for Geneva
Geneva to Germany and Germany to Geneva
under 1944

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-75
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

document
ICRC.

R.G.
2nd
system
telegram
R

ICRC Packages for
concentration camps
May 1944.

Hôtel des Bergues

May 4/44

May 4th 1944.

See Dept's 1845.

Dan Reagan Esquire,
Commercial Attaché,
American Legation,
BERNE. . . -
=====

Dear Dan,

Following my letter of April 14th, I attach hereto copy of the last memorandum from Mr. Schwarzenberg, dated April 26th, concerning proposed action of his section. I am forwarding this to Washington in my letter number 324 of today's date to Mr. Ryan, and if you so desire you are certainly at liberty to refer to this letter in any of your communications to Washington.

My best regards to you and Boonie,

Yours sincerely,

Francis B. James
Special Representative
American Red Cross.

814.2 INTER-RED CROSS (PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS)
814.2 I.R.C.-FACTORS

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McCall's File

Remembering
Jews can't raise money in
Hungary - confiscated.
Control on packages more absolute
than on money
Fact, must on formal application, convention
POW camps receive only once a year.
Cigarettes, value of. You can already visit camp commanders.

ICRC (USA) for American
American Legation and German Legation
under 1944



LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REF ID: A66111 - 5 MAI 1944
BERN

Hôtel des Bergues

Important document from ICRC.

*R.G. 2nd Unit
Lyon
Télégram
R*

May 4/44

Reagan/Pow concentration camps

May 4th 1944.

See Dept's 1845

Dan Reagan Esquire,
Commercial Attaché,
American Legation,
BERNE . . .

Dear Dan,

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My best regards to you and Boonie,

Yours sincerely,

James

Francis B. James
Special Representative
American Red Cross.

614.2 INTERNAL RED CROSS (PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS)

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClellan's File

7021.1 (Case) for American Red Cross
Division of Government and German Affairs
under 1944

*Remembering
Jews can't raise money in
Hungary - confiscated.*

*Control on packages more absolute
than on money*

*But, used on formal application, convention
POW camps were seen only once a year.*

Cigarettes, value of | One can already visit camp commanders.

Copy.-
ZA/00 G.85

April 26th 1944

Note for Mr. James

Last summer the International Committee of the Red Cross drew your attention and that of Mr. Livingston to the need for assisting civilian deportees from occupied countries in Europe. Our appeal was also sent to the British Red Cross in London.

Knowing the very precarious position of certain categories of civilians in the occupied countries or deported from there, the International Committee have constantly endeavoured to bring to notice how very urgent their need of help was.

These individuals who are not protected by the Geneva Convention relative to prisoners of war, are deprived of their liberty and their plight is similar - if not more pitiful - than that of prisoners of war and civilian internees properly speaking. Chief among these are the political prisoners who are nationals of German-occupied countries and who are in concentration camps in difficult circumstances as regards food and clothing.

It is a matter of regret that the blockade authorities have not considered it feasible to allow these categories of especially unfortunate war-victims to be supplied from overseas, alleging that only persons to whom the Geneva Convention relative to prisoners of war is applicable should benefit by this privilege, the others to be assimilated to populations of occupied countries who are not supplied by the Allies either. The International Committee do not feel they can share this viewpoint which makes relief entirely subordinate to decision by the detaining authorities.

Judging that the blockade authorities are not opposed on principle to this category of war-victims' receiving assistance, but that they are concerned mainly 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 provided for under the Convention of Geneva, the latter being unfortunately inapplicable in the present instance.

These guarantees are as follows: 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, with the request that acknowledgments be returned to us personally by the beneficiaries. Our delegates have been able to establish personal contact with several of these camps (Oranienburg, Dachau, Ravensbrück, and others to follow), and to ascertain on the spot that the parcels had actually been 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, Czech, Greek and other deportees in certain 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.

We have also had confirmation from the families of the deportees that our parcels have arrived safely, the detainees having written home expressing their gratitude for parcels received from Geneva.

*2 new parcels to
Geneva
100 - 50
100 - 50*

N.B. 1

*British give
precise relative
amount to sender
of food.*

*WKS - send money; but warn it - to packages
No permission
suffers - for
Got to face problem - narcotics
Balkan food report*

WRG
GENERAL CONGRESS PLENARY
814.2 I.R.C. - PAGES 1000
M. McCall's file
J. (L.S.) for Geneva
under 1000

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 been able to deliver to certain detainees have as a matter of fact acted like a snowball, and the next-of-kin in the home countries of the deportees, having been notified by letters from the camps, are now advising us spontaneously of the names and addressees of the deportees. Thus we possess the names, and we would ask you to treat this as strictly confidential, of a large number of Norwegians, Dutch, and Poles, who are political prisoners in the concentration camps. Consignments could therefore be organised systematically and we even hope to 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.

We submitted on behalf of the Commission Mixte de Secours de la Croix-Rouge internationale, to the War Refugee Board at Washington another particularly distressing category of war victims.

From accurate information received from Belgrade, we hear that there are at present in Belgrade and several other Serbian towns more than 80,000 children who have escaped from the areas which used to be included in Yugoslavia and which are now attached to Croatia. These refugee children are in a critical condition; they are undernourished and require clothing. Their health condition is pitiful. It would be necessary to organise emergency relief action for their benefit.

The same may be said of children in Slovenia (the northern portion of Yugoslavia). This area was first annexed by Italy, who undertook to supply it with food. 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. There is a complete shortage of products such as milk, sugar, chocolate, ovaltine, and other strengthening foods. Here too relief consignments are urgently required.

As you know, the War Refugee Board have undertaken relief work for the Jews, which is most gratifying, and we note with satisfaction that they have adopted certain practical suggestions which we made last December to the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees in London. It should be noted that when we submitted this scheme to the Intergovernmental Committee, we stressed the fact that any plan should be carried out in behalf of "persecuted groups, irrespective of race or creed." We are gratified to see that the War Refugee Board have adopted this viewpoint and have agreed to this conception in any relief work which they may ask us to do. This rule should prevail, for various practical reasons and also on grounds of principle.

Our concern being to make any future action of the War Refugee Board as effective as possible, while satisfying the conditions laid down by the blockade, we suggested to the former that they ship to Switzerland sufficiently large numbers of food and clothing parcels to enable us to meet without delay the requirements of the various categories of persecuted groups whom the War Refugee Board wishes to

Stock file preparation

814.2 I.R.C.-PAGEONE
 GENERAL CONSPIRACY
 McClellan's file
 I.R.C. (Case) for...
 ...

3.

help, i.e. each time the need arose. It seems indispensable for us to be able to extend some help at once to such and such a category of individuals, without having to wait each time for relief consignments to come from overseas.

Experience has proved that often lengthy negotiations with the Governments involved, as well as the blockade authorities, are necessary before permission is assured to include a fresh category of beneficiaries in any relief action; once this is achieved, the next step is to procure relief parcels, which also takes time. When finally relief consignments reach Geneva, it is sometimes too late to help. We therefore suggested to the War Refugee Board that a reserve should be built up in Switzerland, these stocks to remain the property of the donors, and to be drawn upon by us only with the permission, say, of the representative of the War Refugee Board or of some other authorised body.

In conclusion, this is a summary of our viewpoint as regards political prisoners:

The ruling laid down by the blockade authorities permits of supplying foodstuffs only to civilians to whom the Convention on prisoners of war is applicable. Deportees in concentration camps are therefore not entitled to such supplies. If, however, the Allied authorities now agree to sending relief through the blockade in behalf of Jews who are not protected by the Convention either, and are not even detained in camps, why exclude from this favoured measure civilian deportees belonging to occupied countries who are in camps where we are able to exercise a certain degree of control over distribution. The International Committee do not feel they can take part in any one-sided action and it is out of a sense of justice that they emphasise the need for extending likewise to deportees any work undertaken to help "refugees".

N.B.

* But only funds which can be authorized unilaterally by Americans

GENERAL CONSPIRACIES

814.2 I.R.G.-PACIFIC

McDell's file

2001 R (Case) for American

No. 8302

to Despatch No. 8203 dated May 17, 1944 from American Legation, Bern)

COPY

Despatch No. 8203

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
Agence Centrale des Prisonniers de Guerre

Rappeler dans la réponse: had made Genève, May 12th, 1944
G.59/7 G.59/4

My dear Mr. Minister: In the first place, we must admit that application by our Committee to the German authorities in this matter would be to thank you sincerely for your kind letter of 2 May 1944, in which you reproduce a message from the War Refugee Board, requesting the International Committee of the Red Cross to approach certain Governments with a view to obtaining for Jews and other persons interned treatment comparable with that which is accorded to civilian internees to whom the Geneva Convention relative to the treatment of prisoners of war is applied by analogy, or, failing such treatment, that such persons be placed on an equal footing with civilian internees as regards permission to receive relief.

Unfortunately, not one of these approaches has been successful. In the first place, to point out that steps of this nature by the International Committee would go far beyond the limits of their traditional capacity and that the Governments to whom such a request might be addressed would not fail to view this proposal from that particular angle, and moreover would constitute serious menace not only to the provisions of the International agreements the International Committee have only a slender basis upon which to found their humanitarian activities. The latter are, therefore, dependent upon the good will of belligerent States, and can only take practical shape in so far as they are accepted or solicited by the Governments concerned. We consequently, the International Committee of the Red Cross might lay themselves open to the objection that they were going beyond the limits of their competence, and trespassing upon the internal concerns of a State, should they attempt to act on behalf of certain categories of persons whom that State considered to be subject exclusively to its domestic legislation. Any such attempt by the International Committee of the Red Cross would at once place the exceptional position of the International Committee of the Red Cross as neutral intermediary between belligerent countries precludes their seeking other solutions than those which offer practical hope of realization, through appropriate action in quarters where the best results may be expected. To suppose that any steps of this kind would not only be altogether fruitless, but might even do more harm than the proposal contained in point (1) of the message from the War Refugee Board has, we may add, been submitted to the authorities in Washington and to the Intergovernmental Committee in London. After careful consideration several problems and thorough exploration of all avenues in other words, the International Committee are, in other words, Mr. Beland Harrison, the themselves strictly to relief work, with American Minister, circumstances prescribe, Legation of the United States of America, Bern, relief of civilian war victims,

Irrespective

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

814.2 I.R.C.-FACRONS

McCallum's file

IRACI (1) (2) for Geneva

COSS
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ments,

under 1944

several occasions to the International Committee of the Red Cross by the World Jewish Congress. On each occasion, the International Committee was obliged to answer that the numerous endeavours they had made on behalf of the Jews had invariably met with a negative answer, with the exception of certain concessions with regard to relief measures. In connection, we are happy to stress the fact that the International Committee, under these circumstances, we must admit that application by our Committee to the German authorities in this matter would not only have no prospect of success, but might even, in the eyes of these authorities, appear--quite unjustifiably--dictated by political rather than by humanitarian motives.

We deeply regret having to confine ourselves to purely relief activities on behalf of persons who do not enjoy the protection of the Convention applicable to prisoners of war and civilian internees. This circumstance is not due to the absence of endeavours of all kinds by the Committee on behalf of such persons--irrespective of race--with a view to their assimilation with civilian internees, by reason of their enemy nationality. Unfortunately, none of these approaches has been successful. Our consideration on behalf of civilian war victims without distinction of race or creed.

As regards point (2), the International Committee is compelled, in view of experiences in this field, to admit likewise the fact that such application would be considered incompatible with the domestic legislation of the detaining Power, and moreover would constitute serious menace not only to the general activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross on behalf of prisoners of war and civilian internees, but also endanger the limited possibilities which we enjoy of assisting the few groups of persons who are not protected, either directly or by analogy, by international Conventions. The International Committee must, it will be remembered, take extreme care that a province, in which the belligerents have accepted our ministrations, should not be closed to future action. My dear Mr. Minister, if you would inform the War Refugee Board of the above reply, and request them the same observation applies to the proposal contained in the last paragraph of the message from the War Refugee Board "to rescue from the occupied areas Jews and other persons who are victims of persecution". Any such attempt by the International Committee of the Red Cross would at once have the most unfortunate consequences for their entire work--an eventuality which they cannot conscientiously envisage.

Since repeated and conclusive experience in this field leads us to suppose that any steps of this kind would not only be altogether fruitless, but might even do more harm than good, the International Committee must, to their regret, abide by the proposals they have already submitted to the authorities in Washington and to the Intergovernmental Committee in London. After careful consideration of the problem and thorough exploration of all avenues in other fields of action, the International Committee are, in other words, compelled to confine themselves strictly to relief work, within the limits which circumstances prescribe.

The scheme for the relief of civilian war victims,
irrespective

814.2 I.R.C.-FACED

GENERAL CONGRESS BUREAU

Mr. McClellan's File

Israel: Relief (Case) for Displaced Persons

cross
qua-
ments,

In sending
of these
papers

Despatch No. 8203
interment camps in Germany who do not come under the Geneva

irrespective of race and religion, with which the War Refugee Board is familiar, is to our mind, and for the present, the only province in which action by the International Committee can produce useful results. Moreover, the scope of such action can be widened, in obedience to conditions prevailing, it only in so far as publicity of any kind is avoided. In this connection, we are happy to stress the fact that the International Committee have achieved encouraging results in the field of relief work. It was largely due to the kind support given to our suggestions by the War Refugee Board a short time ago, that relief activities on behalf of Jews in certain countries could be undertaken. This work is worth being pursued.

As regards the other countries mentioned in the message of the War Refugee Board, and in which the International Committee are also engaged actively, here too we must confine ourselves to questions of purely material relief, and we shall be pleased to receive, as soon as possible, any assistance the War Refugee Board is able to give us, with a view to our taking practical action along the lines we have submitted to their consideration on behalf of civilian war victims without distinction of race or creed.

In certain countries of South-Eastern Europe, and as far as circumstances allowed, the International Committee have, nevertheless, been instrumental in facilitating Jewish migration to Palestine. On 5 May, 1944, we forwarded to the United States Legation at Bern a note (G.59/5) on the work done during the preceding months. In this respect also--the question concerns primarily safe-conducts--the degree of responsibility we are in a position to assume, depends not upon ourselves, but on the extent to which circumstances and the Governments interested permit.

The International Committee of the Red Cross would be extremely grateful to you, my dear Mr. Minister, if you would inform the War Refugee Board of the above reply, and request them to consider this communication as confidential, since any publicity given to these matters can be prejudicial to the same persons whom we are endeavouring to assist.

I remain, my dear Mr. Minister,
Yours sincerely,

MAX HUBER

recommends that I see Ball... to obtain his support on question of packages for President of the International, for others as well. Feels... Committee of the Red Cross. is located as IBC delegate there is inadequate to job. (Check over files on this whole matter. ... does not seem to be favorable

814.2 I.R.C.-FACTORS

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McDell's file

SS
a-
nts,

Index A... (used) for...
... and German...
... 1944

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department Date: May 27, 10 p. m., 1944.
No: 1845
Code: [redacted] Received: May 28, 9 a. m.

Paraphrase

In view of the disappointingly negative response contained in your 3147 of May 17, and further because of the desperate condition which prevails in internment camps generally, the War Refugee Board is interested in the stock pile proposal contained in your 1366 of March 6 and 2031 of April 1 and letter dated February 29 to you from the International Red Cross.

Therefore, the WRB would appreciate information along the following lines:

- (a) Would the benefit from such stocks be enjoyed exclusively by unassimilated groups?
- (b) Can you supply the names of camps where such programs could be undertaken, with the usual guarantees of distribution, and
- (c) What is the number of standard food parcels and clothing parcels that IRC facilities now existing could, by IRC estimates, distribute each month?

For McClelland from the War Refugee Board.

Cable No. 28 - WRB.

HULL

Saw Schwarzberg at length on this

/nf
In duplicate

*Copy in FA
+ 840.1 Jews in Europe*

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 25 1972**

ross
gua-
ments,

WRB-PAK

(70)

*Rep. June 17/44
Tel. No. 3877*

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McClelland's File

Topic: (one) for Executive

which Schwarzberg may make when he meets on Thursday.
Howard H. King, Jr.

75 m²

Sat May 27th

WRB-RSM

Wire from WRB received May 28th, in re: IRC's stock pile proposition:

(C.I.)

#1845

In view disappointingly negative reply contained in 3147 of May 17th, and further because of desperate conditions prevailing in internment camps in general, the WRB is interested in the stock pile proposition.

WRB would appreciate following information:

- 1) Would benefit from such stocks be enjoyed exclusively by unassimilated groups ?
- 2) Can names of camps be supplied where such programs can be undertaken, with the usual guarantess of distribution, and
- 3) What is the number of standard food parcels and clothing parcels that the IRC facilities now existing could, by IRC estimate distribute each month.

For McC. from WRB.

Order of questions

- a) answer.
- b) names of camps.
- c) no. of parcels.

Official demarche would not be advisable.

German consider deportees or "criminals" police - conversion can not apply to them. They can arrested for an act.

Question of control rather than assimilation now - so let's talk about control.

4 main camps: Buchenwald, Sachsenhausen - Oranienburg, Jueden & Ravensbrueck.

Rate of increase Oct. 1943 - 50 packages. June 1944 - 6000

No publicly whatsoever about possibility. Like delegates to West camps.

2.5 100,000
500,000
250,000

Should have a preliminary answer to 2198 of June 28th based on explanatory conversation

814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McClellan's file

Cross y guarantements,

which Schwarzenberg may make when he met on morning. Howard King, Jr.

Index: (C.I.) for Question

ican Consulate,
Switzerland.

Letter to Schwarzenberg

June 2nd

ICRC Package for
Concentration Camps
June 1944.

cas.
we best to attack them.
Paris brings news
Belgian report first of week

- 1. ~~Attempt~~ make stocks to support... at... for such a week control
- 2. ICRC can visit... in June - winter provisions -
- 3. Belgians seem to have any contact on their people in camps in Germany - know of their displacement. Perhaps via FB we could receive additional information.
- 4. S. has lots of cards from Warsaw giving names & addresses of Jews in concentration camps in German occupied territory.
- 5. Technically, tonnage is available -

\$ folk die frames remained in tents
 S. wants to start sending
 See Mr Lombard - diplomatically - head of S's division.
 Sent WKS cable ~~deploring~~ - ^{Red} stocks (send to IAS) JNK
 B. - call to Y moon
 S.S. - beach proposition for tomorrow.

To the
 Legation of the United States
 of America,
BERN

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
 B14.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
 M. Mitchell's file
 (used for concentration camps)

which Schwarzenberg may have seen...
 Howard Nivens, Jr.

Icon Consulate,
Switzerland.

DIP

7570
June 2nd

1. Matters to discuss with Schwarzenberg:

- ① Kamenian re question of Selmanowitz
- ② Question of shipments of food from overseas
- ③ " " How far to go & how best to attack him.

Pre. June 2nd
{ these people } deported, RE delegate to Paris brings news
know how → we see Schwarzenberg's report first of week

- ④ ~~Thought~~ - such stocks to support ourselves - for each such control
- ⑤ RE can visit ~~Thun~~ in June - written permission -
- ⑥ Selmanowitz can't have any control on their people in camps in Germany
know of their displacement. Perhaps via FB we could receive additional information.
- ⑦ S. has 1000 of cards from Warsaw giving name & address
of hole in concentration camps in German occupied territory.
- ⑧ Technically tonnage is available.

S. gets re frames remained in Soviet

S. wants to start sending

See Mr. Lombard - directly - head of S's division.

Send WKS cable ~~graphophone~~ - ^{food trucks / send to UAS}) YK

B. - call 11/2 noon

S. S. → beach preparation for tomorrow.

... connection to previous statements,

To the
Legation of the United States
of America,
BERN

The International Committee of the Red Cross
to the United States by the principal...
possibilities would arise of providing...

which Schwarzenberg may make when he meets
Howard Kiving, Jr.

GENERAL CONGRESS PAPER
814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
N. Mitchell is file
Ivan K... (use) for Geneva

ican Consulate,
Switzerland.



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse :
G.59/2 G.85
JES/mha/GB

GENÈVE, June 12th, 1944.
Palais du Conseil-Général

Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
REC'D JUN 13 1944
BERN

C.I.

Dear Sirs,

We beg to refer to the text of a message from the War Refugee Board which Mr. McClelland was kind enough to communicate personally to us on Friday, June 2, concerning the scheme for a stock of parcels in Switzerland.

We have pleasure in answering the questions put as follows :

Question No. 1 : Would benefit from such stocks be enjoyed exclusively by unassimilated groups ?

Reply : Yes.

Question No. 2 : Can names of camps be supplied where such programs can be undertaken, with the usual guarantees of distribution ?

Reply.- The names of the camps to which relief supplies should be forwarded, could be furnished confidentially to the War Refugee Board. In the case of the Jews, we should communicate to the War Refugee Board either the names of the ghettos, or the Jewish organisation which would itself undertake distribution. Supervisory measures could clearly not be identical with those stipulated by the Geneva Convention in the case of prisoner of war camps, since the privileges provided for by that Convention are not extended by the Detaining Power to deportees. Bearing in mind the wish of the donors that beneficiaries alone should profit by supplies sent, the International Committee of the Red Cross forward relief only when they can obtain the necessary guarantees. We refer in this connection to previous statements,

To the
Legation of the United States
of America,
BERN

814.2 I.R.C.-PARCLES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

McClelland's file

Execi (1944) for Geneva

WORB-RAM

which Schwarzenberg Bay Bank was to have
Howard Irving, Jr.

in particular to our letters of February 29 and March 27, 1944. The International Committee are prepared, on request, to supply the representatives of the War Refugee Board or of the blockade authorities in Switzerland with the evidence we may possess, now and at any future date, of the proper distribution of supplies.

Question No. 3 : What is the number of standard food parcels and clothing parcels that the International Red Cross facilities now existing could, by International Red Cross estimates, distribute each month ?

Reply.- a) Political prisoners in concentration camps and prisons.- The International Committee of the Red Cross are in a position to forward at present roughly 20,000 individual parcels each month, but they are of opinion that if the French deportees are to be included in this relief action, the above figures would have to be about ten times larger. A reserve of several hundred thousand parcels containing both food and underwear would therefore not be disproportionate, since provision should be made for the coming months.

b) Jews.- Theresienstadt alone could absorb up to 80,000 parcels a month, at the rate of a single parcel per head. Taking into account the requirements in Croatia, Poland and lastly Hungary - should relief-work for the Jews in that country become possible and necessary - several hundred thousand parcels per month would likewise be essential.

As the Legation of the United States are aware, the International Committee of the Red Cross desired to take action in time, before transport difficulties and other unforeseen events should occur which might at any moment prevent the supplies from reaching Switzerland. For this reason the International Committee of the Red Cross think fit to stress the need for building up, with all proper speed, as large a stock as possible of food parcels and of clothing, thus avoiding the danger of a recognisedly essential scheme being frustrated merely through lack of dispatch, and action on a scale bearing no relation to real needs. The International Committee of the Red Cross think proper to point out that, on the whole, requirements are increasing month by month.

Finally, the International Committee of the Red Cross wish to add that if contributions for Jewish relief can be made available in the United States by the principal Jewish organisations, similar possibilities would arise of procuring funds

General Correspondence
M. Medalla is file
Tucci R. (GWS) for Austria
Howard Living, Jr.
1944

which Schurraenberg say unto when to meet in ...
Howard Living, Jr.

over 100,000 French deportees according to minimum reliable estimates.

Inasmuch as provision should be made for coming difficult months, a reserve of several hundred thousand parcels containing food, clothing and shoes would not be disproportionate. As cigarettes are absolutely invaluable in facilitating the distribution of parcels in Germany and in territories occupied by that country, the recommendation is made that a few hundred cases of cigarettes be included.

2. At the rate of a single parcel to each person, Theresienstadt alone could absorb up to 80,000 parcels monthly. It is interesting to note in this respect that Intercross has received written permission from the Germans for one of their delegates to visit Theresienstadt this month.

Including the requirements of Croatia, Poland and Hungary, should sending of relief for Jews concentrated in that country become possible and necessary, it would be essential to have several hundred thousand parcels more per month.

This proposal is urgent, in view of the fact that requirements for both Jews and non-Jews are increasing each month. Even now the difficulties of European overland transport may be such as to prevent the supplies from reaching Switzerland. Such a stockpile in Switzerland would, on the other hand, be invaluable for saving endangered lives both now and later if it could be built up. It could constitute an advanced UNRRA stock.

With reference to this Mission's no. 2031 of April 1, the possibilities of purchasing foodstuffs in Europe, let alone clothing, are shrinking rapidly. Any purchases made in the Balkans, which hitherto were the principal remaining source for food suitable for packages, are now increasingly liable to benefit the enemy directly by giving him foreign exchange.

The desirability cannot be too strongly emphasized for general relief action on behalf of all persecuted and endangered groups, irrespective of race, nationality or creed. Intercross is willing to undertake such a general program but restricting assistance mostly to Jews as hitherto case, so far as the sending of funds sponsored by the WRB has been concerned, is liable to

jeopardize

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
814.2 I.A.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
McCallahan's file
Jesse R. (WRB) for Concentration Camps
under 1544

The above, of course, is subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, which Schwarzenberg may take when he next is in New York.
By R. H. [unclear] SEP 23 1942
Edward [unclear] Jr.

OPERATIONS TO INTERVIEW...
THE LEGATION...
IN ORDER TO...
ON DISTRIBUTION...
MILITARY...
PROPERTY...

jeopardize this entire humanitarian effort.

Intercross is advised that various Allied Governments in London and the French Committee of Liberation in Algiers, whose nationals are in Nazi hands, are ready to make generous contributions to this scheme if funds are required.

(With regard to the position of the British on the subject, it is pointed out that MEW is now permitting the sending of packages to unassimilated groups in France, for instance, in the notorious internment camp of Vernet, Ariège. The British position, however, has apparently not been favorable generally.)

The representative in Bern of the War Refugee Board recommends the stockpile plan described above unequivocally and he is convinced of the adequacy of controls of distribution offered by Intercross. In many cases these are superior to those available for assimilated groups.

From McClelland for the WRB.

HARRISON

RDMcC:nf
In quadruplicate
2 copies to AI

DRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
Mr. McClelland's file
Tells old (case) for answer
under 1944

The above, of course, is subject to the...
which Schwarzenberg may make when he meets on Thursday.
SEP 25 1972
Howard H. King, Jr.

lean Consulate,
va. Switzerland.

CASE FILE

Excellent

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Embassy, London

Date: June 27, 8 p.m., 1944

No: 187

Code:

Received: June 28, noon.



PARAPHRASE

Discussions took place recently in Washington between Mr. Foot, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Economic Warfare, on the one hand, and the Department and FEA on the other hand, as a result of which a decision has been reached to experiment with the sending of food parcels to those refugee, concentration and other civilian internment camps in which the International Red Cross Committee can exercise adequate supervision over the distribution and subsequent use of the food admitted through the blockade. Shipments of clothing will be considered in the event that the experiment with food should be successful. The Department, in its telegram No. 5013, of June 24, instructed the Embassy in this connection to authorize you to concert action with your British colleague in making an approach to the International Red Cross Committee along the lines indicated in the Ministry of Economic Warfare telegrams ARFAR 2197 and 2198, of June 24, to the British Legation at Bern.

in the future, when referring the Embassy to ARFAR telegrams from the British Legation, it would be helpful if, in addition to the ARFAR number, the Embassy could be supplied with an identifying phrase concerning the contents of the telegrams.

*M.C.C.
This is now
in my file
for the future*

WINANT

/nrm
in triplicate

Received CA 29/6/44 DJR
For Action R.D.W.
Reviewed July 6/44
No. 4304 (London 1167)

+ no copies in CA files

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

The above, of course, is subject to the which Schwarzenberg may make when he next on Thursday.

Howard Kiving, Jr.

814.2 I.R.C.-PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClellan's file

Take 219 (copy) for Geneva

GENERAL CONGRESS BUREAU

under 1944

lean Consulate,
va. Switzerland.

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

WRB ROM
(For action after consultation with CA 290)
Advised by RDAI that he can draft letter for forwarding to ORC
2/1

From: Department

Date: June 28, 10 p.m., 1944

No: 2198

Received: June 29, 8 p.m.

Code:

Received WRB
For Action
Answered July 6, 44
No. 43046 and 1167



PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 54. For Harrison and McClelland.

Legation's 1366 March 6, 2031 April 1, and 3877 June 17. Department's 1845 May 27 and 2102 June 19.

Discussions here between the Department, the War Refugee Board, Mr. Dingle Foot of MEW, and FEA have resulted in agreement to an experimental program of relief for distribution by the International Red Cross Committee to persons in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe, subject to distribution guarantees. The agreement calls for shipment to Intercross of 100,000 standard food parcels per month for three months, to be distributed in such camps, selection of which will be made after consultation with Intercross. The agreement reads, in part:

"Dispatch of relief foodstuffs may be made through the blockade, provided that the following guarantees are observed: A) Distribution is to be limited to persons who are confined in camps. B) Goods will be packed in such a way as to be suitable for individual distribution. C) The delegates of the International Red Cross Committee will undertake to distribute such packages personally. D) Subsequent visits will be made by the delegates in order to make sure that the goods have actually been used by the persons for whom they were intended. E) As a condition of further shipments, reports after each consignment will be required from Intercross."

If the foregoing conditions are observed, and if satisfactory evidence is received that the packages have reached the persons for whom they were intended, the two Governments will be prepared to extend the system to other internment camps in enemy Europe, subject to considerations of shipment and supply.

+840.1 News in Europe
++848 France - refugees

DECLASSIFIED Consideration
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

The above, of course, is subject to the which Schwarzenberg may make when he meets on Thursday.
SEP 25 1972
Howard King, Jr.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClelland's file

Intercross (Care) for Geneva

ican Consulate,
va. Switzerland.

Schwarzenberg of IGRO Jan 3/45

- 2 -

(No. 2198)

Consideration will be given to the question of adding clothing to food consignments, after the scheme has become operative with reference to the establishment by Intercross of effective supervision and control in these camps. Intercross will be asked to report on the state of clothing needs in the camps to which food is delivered. Prompt arrangements will be made here for obtaining the equivalent of 25,000 parcels of clothing, in anticipation of conducting an experiment in supplying clothing.

The Department has asked the relief sub-committee of the Joint Blockade Committee to request Intercross to approach the German authorities at once in order to ascertain: a) whether those authorities will, in principle, allow the distribution by Intercross of food packages and clothing parcels under the conditions which are set forth above in all camps in Europe under German control where there are persons confined who are not assimilated to the status of prisoners of war under the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention; and b) whether the German authorities will permit Intercross to make immediate distribution of food parcels under the above conditions in the following camps: Aubuechen, Audrancy, Auschwitz, Belsen, Bergau, Bergen, Birken, Cravensbrueck, Gredjani-Sallis, Josenora, Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg, Sarverstera Gradiska, Stostor (Dost), Theresienstadt, Walddach.

It is requested that you follow this matter closely after Intercross has received proposal of Joint Blockade Committee. Please report the date upon which Intercross receives the proposal and any developments that may occur during the time that Intercross has it under consideration. We shall be interested to receive any suggestions that you may wish to make in regard to the matter.

HULL

In sextuplicate WRB
re A1(2)
COPY IN FA CA 29R

General Correspondence
B14.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
Mr. McClellan's file

The above, of course, is subject to the SEP 25 1972
which Schwarzenberg may make when he next in Thursday.
Howard H. King, Jr.

Take 21st (C) for Geneva
Duesenberg, Germany and Geneva
after 1944

lean Consulate,
va. Switzerland.

Schwarzenberg of ICRC Jan 3/45 - RDMcC.

IRC Package
for C. Camps.

1st to Huber 7/1/44

(Duplicate)

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

SA 292 x
(was 250 x)
copy for action
RG-CH
They can't
through again
but later
little (should
appear from
Camps selected
- W. H. H.
Committee?)

From: Department

Date: June 28, 10 p.m., 1944

Code: ~~SECRET~~

No: 2198

Received: June 29, 8 p.m.

REPLICATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REF ID: A64110
BERN WRB

PARAPHRASE
Rep. July 6/44 - Tel 4304 (2.1167)

No. 54. For Harrison and McClelland.

Legation's 1366 March 6, 2031 April 1, and
3877 June 17. Department's 1845 May 27 and 2102
June 19.

Should have
been in
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in the
of month

Discussions here between the Department, the War Refugee Board, Mr. Dingle Foot of NEW, and FEA have resulted in agreement to an experimental program of relief for distribution by the International Red Cross Committee to persons in concentration and refugee camps in enemy Europe, subject to distribution guarantees. The agreement calls for shipment to Interross of 100,000 standard food parcels per month for three months, to be distributed in such camps, selection of which will be made after consultation with Interross. The agreement reads, in part:

"Dispatch of relief foodstuffs may be made through the blockade, provided that the following guarantees are observed: A) Distribution is to be limited to persons who are confined in camps. B) Goods will be packed in such a way as to be suitable for individual distribution. C) The delegates of the International Red Cross Committee will undertake to distribute such packages personally. D) Subsequent visits will be made by the delegates in order to make sure that the goods have actually been used by the persons for whom they were intended. E) As a condition of further shipments, reports after each consignment will be required from Interross."

If the foregoing conditions are observed, and if satisfactory evidence is received that the packages have reached the persons for whom they were intended, the two Governments will be prepared to extend the system to other internment camps in enemy Europe, subject to considerations of shipment and supply.

+ SAC.1
XX 248-
journ in Europe
France Refuges

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

Consideration

The above, of course, is subject to the agreement which Schwarzenberg may make when he next on Thursday.
Howard Hitting, Jr.

DRG
GENERAL COMMISSIONER
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClelland's file

Take 212 (cases) for Geneva
Camps in enemy and German
interior 1944

lean Consulate,
va. Switzerland.

org of ICRC Jan 3/45 - RDMcc.

- 2 -

(No. 2198)

Consideration will be given to the question of adding clothing to food consignments, after the scheme has become operative with reference to the establishment by Interross of effective supervision and control in these camps. Interross will be asked to report on the state of clothing needs in the camps to which food is delivered. Prompt arrangements will be made here for obtaining the equivalent of 25,000 parcels of clothing, in anticipation of conducting an experiment in supplying clothing.

The Department has asked the relief sub-committee of the Joint Blockade Committee to request Interross to approach the German authorities at once in order to ascertain: a) whether those authorities will, in principle, allow the distribution by Interross of food packages and clothing parcels under the conditions which are set forth above in all camps in Europe under German control where there are persons confined who are not assimilated to the status of prisoners of war under the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention; and b) whether the German authorities will permit Interross to make immediate distribution of food parcels under the above conditions in the following camps: Aubuechen, Audrancy, Auschwitz, Belsen, Bergau, Bergen, Birken, Cravensbrueck, Gredjani-Sallis, Josenora, Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg, Sarverstara, Gradiska, Stostar (Dost), Theresienstadt, Walddach.]

It is requested that you follow this matter closely after Interross has received proposal of Joint Blockade Committee. Please report the date upon which Interross receives the proposal and any developments that may occur during the time that Interross has it under consideration. We shall be interested to receive any suggestions that you may wish to make in regard to the matter.

HULL

In sextuplicate
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Not at all
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Why restricted
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814.2 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClellan's File

Take 21st (LWS) to Geneva
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... 1944

The above, of course, by ...
which Schwarzenberg may make when he next in ...
Howard Kibben, Jr.

ican Consulate,
ra. Switzerland.

URG of ICRG Jun 3/45 - RDMCo.

CRISTINA cargo

FOR INFORMATION

American Leg-Bern

JUL 2 1944

TELEGRAM SENT

To: SECSTATE WASHINGTON

Date: June 30, 1944

Code: clear

No. 213

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Charged to: Contingent
Expenses

JUL 4 - 1944

SUBJECT: Re Cargo Interross Vessel CRISTINA

BERN T

SECSTATE WASHINGTON

213 Thirtieth Departments 2102 19th to Bern concerning
cargo Interross vessel Cristina pgh

Lacking handling facilities Sets all salvaged cargo was
simply loaded freight cars despatched Geneva prd Since
June 20 approximately third have arrived prd Given
condition French rail and road communications Interross
Relief Division considers it utterly impossible divert
any of other cars which are somewhere enroute or even to
try distribution from here now prd Accordingly Interross
not even approaching German authorities for time being
prd If French conditions improve matter can be taken up
again but Consulate considers little likelihood fulfilment
proposal also due time required for imperative sorting
and reconditioning and necessity use salvaged canned
foods within relatively short period time prd sorting
work going ahead was inspected yesterday by Eiting and
James with Interross and Public Health representatives
prd James reporting this angle earliest

Squire

814.2
HE/mp.

- 2 copies to Mr. James
- Copy to Am. Leg. Bern
- Copy to Consulate General, Zurich
- 3 copies to Accounts

FILE
PP

The above, of course, is subject to the
which Schwarzenberg may make when he next in Thursday.
SEP 25 1972
Edward K. King, Jr.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. TELEGRAMS TRANSMITTED

Mr. McClellan's file

Take 21st (case) for Geneva

URG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Iran Consulate, *DTP*

Letter to Schwarzenberg of ICRC Jan 3/45 - RDMcC.

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

WFO RDM
Communicate to
ICRC

(1)

From: Department

Date: December 30, 5 p.m., 1944

No: 4401

Code: WRB *Jan 2, 45*

Received: December 31, 11 a.m.

The following for McClelland is WRB 345.

Amcross shipped for board on SS CARITAS II second half of December for off loading at Toulon a total of 10,112 cases containing 60,672 3 kilow WRB food parcels for consignment to ICRC for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps. Outer shipping cases are marked as described in our 4001 of November 25 and each contain 6 3 kilo parcels. This shipment includes 9,750 cases containing 58500 "K" parcels which do not contain receipt cards. Balance of 695 cases containing 2172 parcels include receipt cards as per wire photo September 21. This shipment concludes the initial WRB 300,000 3 kilo food parcel program.

2172
362
cases

1/11/45

STETTINIUS

This should be 362

1750
695
1045

6/58500
9750 - ek

Jh

copy in fa

10,112
9750
362

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief Cases for Geneva
Cases for Switzerland and Germany
after 1944

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

back
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 4-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972
Howard K. King, Jr.

American Consulate,
Geneva, Switzerland.

DJP
LR
JRM
2192

~~STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

July 4, 1944

DEPARTMENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF THE
CONSUL
BERN

MEMORANDUM

Distribution of Food Parcels to Prisoners
in Enemy Concentration Camps

Since last October Interross has been quietly
experimenting with nominally parcels to concentration
camps. This morning I met with Livingston and McGlelland
and discussed the various telegrams concerning the
possible distribution of food parcels to prisoners in
enemy concentration camps. It was decided that we
should call on Schwarzenberg informally and leave it

ICRC Package for
Concentration Camps
July 1944.

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that we have abandoned that position and are merely
insisting on adequate control of distribution and use.
Schwarzenberg was very frank and explained to us
exactly what Interross has been doing and has accom-
plished in the matter of prisoners in concentration
camps. It is essential, however, that no publicity
of any sort be given to this phase of the question or
in fact to the whole scheme since nothing they have
accomplished has been achieved through official channels.
For example, Interross delegates can visit four of the
main big camps, namely Dachau, Oranienburg, Buchenwald,
and Ravensbrück. These visits are not authorized
officially from Berlin but are accomplished unofficially
by the delegate and merely tolerated by the individual
camp commanders. For this reason the matter must be
kept strictly confidential. (In certain cases, on the
other hand, other camp commanders have flatly refused
to see the delegate or consider permitting any outside
help reaching the inmates.) For some time now the
delegates have been quietly getting in touch with indi-
vidual camp commanders and they have been able to go

With regard to the question of shipping, Interross
has had no experience in sending clothing to the back
of the camps but they do have some data on needs.

The above, of course, is subject to the usual
caution concerning any data which may be obtained from
this source.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 11-72
By R. H. Holt Date SEP 05 1972

DRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
I (cc) R. Mclelland for Geneva
American Consulate, Geneva
for 1944

814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

American Consulate,
Geneva, Switzerland.

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

July 4, 1944

OFFICE OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

MEMORANDUM

**Distribution of Food Parcels to Prisoners
in Enemy Concentration Camps**

Since last October Intercross has been quietly experimenting with productive parcels to concentration camps. This morning I met with Livingston and McClelland and discussed the various telegrams concerning the possible distribution of food parcels to prisoners in enemy concentration camps. It was decided that we should call on Schwarzenberg informally and leave it up to him whether he would want a memorandum.

This afternoon we all met in Schwarzenberg's office and discussed the whole matter freely. He asked to be allowed until Thursday to think over the question and discuss it with one or two of his colleagues, after which he would meet with us again and give us a considered opinion.

*quite in
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has CRC's
statement*

Schwarzenberg was extremely pleased at the progress which has been made since there is no longer any question of trying to apply the Red Cross convention to prisoners in concentration camps. Previous Allied insistence on this point had caused a deadlock, since the Germans would not hear of it. The German argument, of course, is that prisoners in concentration camps are criminals and subject to police rather than military control and therefore constitute an internal question and not one with which the Red Cross has anything to do. Now it would appear that we have abandoned that position and are merely insisting on adequate control of distribution and use.

Schwarzenberg was very frank and explained to us exactly what Intercross has been doing and has accomplished in the matter of prisoners in concentration camps. It is essential, however, that no publicity of any sort be given to this phase of the question or in fact to the whole scheme since nothing they have accomplished has been achieved through official channels. For example, Intercross delegates can visit four of the main big camps, namely Dachau, Oranienburg, Buchenwald, and Ravensbrück. These visits are not authorized officially from Berlin but are accomplished unofficially by the delegate and merely tolerated by the individual camp commanders. For this reason the matter must be kept strictly confidential. (In certain cases, on the other hand, other camp commanders have flatly refused to see the delegate or consider permitting any outside help reaching the inmates.) For some time now the delegates have been quietly getting in touch with individual camp commanders and they have been able to go

With regard to the question of clothing Intercross has had no experience in sending clothing to concentration camps but they do have some data on this.

The above, of course, is subject to the question of which Schwarzenberg may take when he goes on his

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks, Inc. SEP 25 1972

DJP
LR
JRM
2192

DRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Take 1 Relat (case) for Geneva
Camps in Germany and Germany
for 1944

844.2 TR-3-1424000 FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

TELEGRAM SENT

back to certain of the camps at will. It will be seen, however, that there is absolutely no question of asking the German authorities officially for permission to visit such camps since it was the opinion of all present that this would only result in a flat refusal and would probably jeopardize the unofficial gains already made.

Charged to:

Since last October Intercross has been quietly experimenting with nominative parcels to concentration camps against receipts. Schwarzenberg's opinion is that this system of individual packages sent against individual receipts is by far the best method of control. The experiments have resulted in definite checks on 85% of the parcels including not a few returned to Geneva with the receipt indicating that the individual had died. This system has revealed a high level of honesty on the part of the inmates and the camp authorities and has had the indirect result of providing Intercross with the names of others in the same camps in the following way: A receipt will come back indicating that the addressee has died and that the parcel has been turned over to three or four other persons, each of whom has signed the receipt, our British colleagues to Intercross. The letter is at present studying the question of distribution square. Intercross has gone to great pains to check signatures with families and to confirm the receipt and use of parcels through various special sources such as escapees, friendly guards, etc. Thus far Intercross has not heard of one instance of abuse from any of these sources, which is the reason why Schwarzenberg is so satisfied with the parcel-against-receipt system.

From our preliminary talks I should say that if Washington and London are really desirous of distribution to concentration camps they should not make any approach to the German authorities and should accept the Intercross assurance, which is probably forthcoming, that distribution and use can be controlled through the visits of delegates and through the personal receipt system. A stock of parcels should be sent over as soon as possible and the experiments made for three months as proposed. Conditions in Germany are such now that if distribution went wrong anywhere it would certainly come to the notice of Intercross or ourselves very quickly and thus the risk of large quantities of food being diverted from their intended destination would seem to be very small. In this connection Amcross would certainly object to landing any parcels from their stocks here as long as their communications through France remain suspended or subject to frequent interruption.

In replying to Washington and London it might be well to point out that the present question only concerns inmates of concentration camps and not refugee or civilian internment camps.

With regard to the question of clothing, Intercross has had no experience in sending clothing to concentration camps but they do have some data on needs.

The above, of course, is subject to the corrections which Schwarzenberg may make when we meet on Thursday.

HE/ah

Howard Elting, Jr.

A true copy of the signed original.
de

814.2 I.A.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

DRK
 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
 OF R. McCLELLAND
 Mr. McClelland's File
 (Switzerland)
 I will Relat (case) to Geneva
 Camps in Germany and German
 November 1944

SEP 23 1942

Copy sent to Mr. Tait on July 12, 1944

CASE FILE

For RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department Date: July 6, 1944, 9 p. m.
No: 4304 (London: 1187)
Code: ██████████ Charged to:

C.L.

Paraphrase

The telegram which follows is from McClelland for the War Refugee Board. It has been repeated to the Embassy in London with reference to the latter's no. 187 of June 27.

With reference to the Department's cable no. 2198 of June 28th, a joint approach was made in concert with our British colleagues to the International Committee of the Red Cross on July 4th. The substance of MEW'S telegrams ARFAR 2197 and 2198 of June 24th was communicated orally by our British colleagues to Intercross. The latter is at present studying the question of distribution guarantees requested and within a few days will submit a preliminary reply.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
In duplicate
Copy to RDM

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Order, 1-11-72
By: At. H. Parks Date: SEP 25 1972

(1) The packages would be Inter-cross parcels and thus more acceptable to the German authorities, at least to begin with, than parcels bearing the marks of a national Red Cross society.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Order, 1-11-72
By: R. H. Parks Date: SEP 25 1972 (2)

WRG
 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
 OF R. McCLELLAND
 Mr. McClelland's File
 (Switzerland)
 Inter-Cross (Care) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
 January 1944
 614.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
REC'D JUL 10 1944
BERN

MEMORANDUM

July 8, 1944.

To: Mr. McClelland
From: Mr. Tait

(C.I.)

I refer to your recent discussion at Geneva concerning the distribution of food parcels to prisoners in concentration camps which was the subject of Mr. Elting's memorandum of July 4, a copy of which was lately sent to you.

In further reference to Elting's memorandum mentioned above, I enclose a copy of Squire's letter to the Minister dated July 7 on this subject, together with copies of each of its two enclosures.

I should be glad if you will keep me currently informed on this matter and if you would be good enough to let me have copies of any telegrams which you may send.

Send G.T. copy of preliminary memo

G.T.

Enclosure:

Copy of letter dated July 7, 1944, from Mr. Squire, together with its two enclosures.

1. The packages would be InterCross parcels and thus more acceptable to the German authorities, at least to begin with, than parcels bearing the marks of a national Red Cross society.

*Please file all this in ITC
Packages for c. camps
Re: ITC's answer to WFB's
54 2 bepts 2198, June 28.*

814.2 I.F.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

*GENEVA CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND*

*Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)*

*ITC's Relief (Care) for Geneva
Camps in Germany and German
Prisoners 1944*

814.2
HE/dh

Rinc

Geneva, Switzerland, July 7, 1944

~~SECRET - CONFIDENTIAL~~

The Honorable
Leland Harrison,
American Minister,
Bern.

Attention: American Interests
Section

Sir:

I have the honor to invite reference to the Legation's letter of July 3 and the Consulate's memorandum of July 4 concerning the distribution of food parcels to prisoners in concentration camps. There are transmitted herewith copies of an additional memorandum on the subject and of an aide memoire prepared by the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Respectfully yours,

Paul C. Squire
American Consul

Enclosures:

Memorandum

July 7, 1944

Aide Memoire by International Committee

Mr. [Name] was invited to the meeting at which the aide memoire giving Intercross's position with respect to the proposal in question was presented. It had been approved by the Committee and its immediate chief.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

In triplicate

A true copy of
the signed original.
dh

(1) The packages would be Intercross parcels and thus more acceptable to the German authorities, at least to begin with, than parcels bearing the marks of a national Red Cross society.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

(2)

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

BRK
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. M. CLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Inter-Red Cross (was) for Geneva
Camps in Germany and German
November 1944

~~SECRETLY CONFIDENTIAL~~

EA/CO 3.59/2

American Consulate,
Geneva, Switzerland,
July 6, 1944

(2) The salvaged food would be distributed to feed a class of persons in real need to whom the fact that the goods have been salvaged will make little or no difference whereas complaints might well be forthcoming if this food were distributed to prisoners (including Americans) accustomed to receiving packages of the same foods in their original perfect condition.

MEMORANDUM
Distribution of Food Parcels to
Prisoners in Enemy Concentration
Camps

(3) The greatest practical advantage is that this food is available here in Geneva, whereas it is problematical as to what special packages could be sent through from the United States.

At his own request and without mentioning the matter to Livingston, Schwarzenberg came to see me to discuss the reply to be made to our demarche. I took the occasion to show him my memorandum of July 4 which he approved in its entirety. He pointed out, however, that HEV does not think much of the receipt system, because of some trouble about receipts from Italy a year or two ago. For this reason, it would seem advisable to minimize or better still to omit all mention of receipts and to stress the formal assurances which Inter-cross will give. After all, if Inter-cross and the Delegates use receipts as one of several methods of control that is their own internal affair. The salvaged food must be used within three months. Washington and London will have to move fast if they want to take advantage of the Cristina food.

Inter-cross will give us a separate reply on the clothing question in a few days.

July 7, 1944

Mr. Livingston and I called on Schwarzenberg by appointment this morning, at which time he handed us both an aide memoire giving Inter-cross's position with respect to the proposal in question. Schwarzenberg explained that it had been approved by Mr. Lombard of the Committee, his immediate chief.

CRISTINA

I raised the question of using the food salvaged from the Cristina for distribution in the concentration camps. Schwarzenberg declared that Inter-cross was fully equipped to take these goods and package them. He calculated very roughly that 10% of the salvaged foodstuffs could be made up into about 100,000 small parcels. This would be advantageous for the following reasons:

(1) The packages would be Inter-cross parcels and thus more acceptable to the German authorities, at least to begin with, than parcels bearing the marks of a national Red Cross society.

BRC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
Topic: Relief (Care) for Geneva
Camps in Germany and Denmark
November 1944

JES/GB

LA/OO G.59/2

le 7 juillet 1944.

(2) The salvaged food would be used at once to feed a class of persons in real need to whom the fact that the goods have been salvaged will make little or no difference whereas complaints might well be forthcoming if this food should be distributed to prisoners of war (particularly Americans) accustomed to receiving packages of the same foods in their original perfect condition.

(3) The biggest practical advantage is that this food is actually here in Geneva, whereas it is problematical as to when special packages could be sent through from the United States.

(4) If anything should go wrong with the distribution, the loss would be less than in any other case.

Later I discussed this with James, who has just sent off today a telegram (his number 534 of July 7) reporting on the goods from the Cristina which can be salvaged and suggesting that the food be sent in bulk for French prisoners. He agrees that this is a unique opportunity and would approve using some of the salvaged food for distribution in concentration camps but he fears that it will take too long to decide since the Cristina London will have to move fast if they want to take advantage of the Cristina food.

Intercross will give us a separate reply on the clothing question in a few days.

der. En effet, ces Autorités ne seraient pas prêtes à concéder des privilèges, dans la forme Howard E. King, Jr. Convention de Genève, puisqu'elles persistent à refuser l'application de ces détenus, même dans les détails, aux internés civils. C'est pourquoi nous sommes obligés de demander aux Autorités du blocus de ne pas insister sur telle

WR6

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. M. CLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Inter: Relief (Gene) for Geneva
Chap. in Germany and Geneva
November 1944

of war camps, but in the case of as specified the ICRC Delegates have numerous possibilities of visiting these points at the visits which they make regularly and on numerous occasions to these

JES/GB

ZA/00 G.59/2

le 7 juillet 1944.

réalité et de laisser à nos délégués la liberté de se servir des moyens de contrôle dont ils disposent et qui, seuls leurs permettront de juger si la distribution des secours

AIDE-MEMOIRE

Nous avons appris avec satisfaction que les Autorités du Blocus se sont décidées à envisager la possibilité de faire parvenir d'outre mer des secours à certains camps de prisonniers civils en Europe, à condition que le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge puisse exercer un contrôle serré.

Le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge est maintenant en mesure de faire parvenir des colis individuels dans certains camps de concentration et de visiter les camps prisonniers y recevant, d'une façon régulière, les colis qui leurs sont destinés. Les délégués du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge ont au cours de ces visites de demander formellement aux Autorités allemandes des facilités que ces Autorités sont décidées à ne pas accorder. En effet, ces Autorités ne seraient pas prêtes à concéder des privilèges, dans la forme prévue par la Convention de Genève, puisqu'elles persistent à refuser l'assimilation de ces détenus, même dans les détails, aux internés civils. C'est pourquoi nous sommes obligés de demander aux Autorités du blocus de ne pas insister sur telle

of war camps; but in the camps to be specified the ICRC Delegates have numerous possibilities of verifying (also outside of the visits which they make regularly on an analogous basis to those to

DRC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
ICRC Relief (Care) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

Translation of substance of ICRC's Aide-Mémoire of July 7

We have learned with satisfaction that the Allied Blockade Authorities have decided to seriously consider the possibility of sending relief supplies from overseas for civilian prisoners in certain camps in Europe provided the ICRC can exercise close control over the distribution of such relief goods.

Before answering the various questions raised in the course of our interview of July 4th. we would like to state that officially (formally) asking the German authorities for facilities they are determined not to grant would not be in the interest of the goal aimed at (to be attained), that is the desire to aid a category of particularly needy internees (detainees). As a matter of fact the German authorities would not be ready to concede such privileges as are provided for by the Geneva Convention, since they persist in their refusal to assimilate such detainees, even with respect to small details, to civil internees. For this reason we are compelled to ask the Blockade Authorities not to insist on one special form of control or another, but to take into account the realities of the situation and to allow our delegates the liberty of using the control methods which are available to them and which alone permit them to judge whether the distribution of relief goods has been satisfactorily carried out. On the other hand, in assuming responsibility for such distributions, we agree to immediately suspend all shipments if any irregularity in the satisfactory reception of relief goods by these for whom they are intended comes to our attention.

The ICRC is now in a position to assure the arrival of individual packages in certain concentration camps and to verify the regular reception by the prisoners for whom they are intended of such packages. The Delegates of the ICRC have been able in the past to make unofficial visits to these camps and there is no reason to believe that they will not be able to repeat such visits in the future.

It is no more possible to distribute packages individually in concentration camps, for practical reasons, than it is in prisoner of war camps; but in the camps to be specified the ICRC Delegates have numerous possibilities of verifying (also outside of the visits which they make regularly on an analogous basis to those to

2200

DRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

814.2

I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief Cases to Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

prisoners of war, and even more frequent - that relief goods are not diverted and are consumed by the persons for whom they are intended.

In certain cases the ICRC has almost all of the names of civilian prisoners of a certain nationality; in other cases only partial lists, although the total number at a given moment may be known. This state of affairs is to be expected in view of the continual fluctuation in arrests and liberations, particularly in the case of the French. The ICRC is not authorized to reveal either the number of names of civilian prisoners which it possesses or the information concerning camp strengths which it has been able to receive through confidential channels. In proposing, however, a maximum of 65,000 parcels (Theresienstadt included) to start out with, the ICRC implicitly indicates the approximate number of civilian prisoners to whom it can now deliver individual packages. As far as nationalities are concerned they are: Belgians, Frenchmen, Greeks, Dutchmen, Norwegians, Poles, Czechs and Yugoslavs. (The numbers of Danes, Letts, civilian Italians, Spaniards, Ukrainians and Russians present in certain camps are known; and we should appreciate advise as to whether these nationals should be included in relief shipments. We don't have nominative lists of these detainees.)

The ICRC proposes to send relief to the following camps:

- In Germany: Ravensbrück (women's camp)
- Buchenwald b/Weimar
- Dachau

- Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg
- Natzweiler

- In Croatia: Jasenovac
- Stara Gradisca
- Gredjani Salas.

(Check and see whether these camps are exclusively for Jews) If there are others, relief must be for all!

Some sort of organization has been received in principle in Great Britain who would like to handle it.

Shipments to the camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau in Upper Silesia are not advisable at the present moment. The situation of Bergen-Belsen (Kreis Celle b/Hannover) - camp for Jews in Germany - will be further investigated as well as that of Drancy (near Paris) and Compiègne. Our Delegate has been able to visit Drancy but we are not in a position to state that his visit can be repeated.

Theresienstadt is a ghetto in Bohemia and cannot be considered a camp. One of our Delegates visited it recently, but it is impossible to state whether this visit can be repeated in the near future. 35,000 packages a month would be necessary for Theresienstadt. Shipping

BRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Israel Relief (Care) to Geneva
Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

*Give
most of
this*

and customs' charges will have to be paid in all probability for all that is sent here. This is not the case for concentration camps.

If we do not know the total number of civilian prisoners in Germany, we nevertheless possess lists of a considerable number of deportees in camps and this number will increase as relief begins to be sent into these camps. For this reason the ICRC asks that the proposed number of 100,000 packages a month be sent to Geneva (as soon as this is possible since at the present moment all shipments for Geneva are stopped) which will permit them to scale the shipments over several months. The ICRC will, in any given month, only ship the number of packages which it is sure will reach their destinations safely; and for the current month the maximum number would be 30,000 packages.

For the ICRC :
Signed. Schwarzenberg
Director of the Division
of Special Assistance.

ICRC

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC: Relief (CARE) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
October 1944

CI

LR
JRH

MEMORANDUM

July 8, 1944.

To: Mr. Reagan

From: Mr. Tait

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REC'D 10 JUL 1944
BERN

Dear Dan:

In further reference to Elting's memorandum of July 4 regarding the distribution of food parcels to prisoners in concentration camps, a copy of which was lately sent to you, I enclose a copy of Squire's letter to the Minister dated July 7 on this subject, together with copies of each of its two enclosures.

G.T. *

Enclosure: *See in Memo to Mr. McClelland July 8/44*

Copy of letter dated July 7, 1944, from Mr. Squire, together with its two enclosures.

814.2 I.R.O. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WR6

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Track 1 Relief Cases for Geneva
Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

American Consulate,
Geneva, Switzerland
HE/dh

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Rec'd JUL 12 1944

MEMORANDUM

BERN

To: Mr. McClelland

July 11, 1944.

From: Mr. Tait

(C.I.)

I should like to attach, for your information, a copy of a memorandum prepared on July 8, 1944, by Mr. Elting regarding the correct names of the camps listed in the Department's telegram No. 2198 of June 28.

G. T.

Enclosure:

copy of memorandum.

Howard Elting, Jr.

American Consulate,
Geneva, Switzerland
HE/dh

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

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

General Correspondence
of R. McClelland
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
Index Relief Cases for Geneva
Camps in Germany and Geneva
November 1944

COPY
mak
13 JUL 1944
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re: *defining needs of concentration camp inmates*

July 8, 1944.

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Tolson
From: Mr. Tamm

Distribution of Food
in Concentration Camps

With regard to the Department's telegram concerning distribution of food in concentration camps, Schwarzenberg has provided me with the following corrected list of names of camps:

<u>Department's telegram</u>	<u>Intercross</u>
Aubuechen	Buchenwald (?)
Audrancoy	Drancy
Auschwitz	Auschwitz
Bergen	Bergen-Belsen
Belsen	Bernau am Chiemsee (?)
Bergau	Birkenau
Birken	Ravensbrück
Cravensbrueck	Gredjani Salas *
Gredjani-Sallis	Jasenovac *
Josenora	Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg
Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg	Stara-Gradiska *
Sarverstara	Unknown
Gradiska	Theresienstadt
Stostor (Dost)	Unknown
Theresienstadt	
Walddack	

* in Croatia

Howard Elting, Jr.

American Consulate,
Geneva, Switzerland
HE/dh

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By E. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

WRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
Index Relist (Case) for Geneva
Camps in Germany and Bremen
November 1944

RECEIVED
LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REF: 13 JUL 1944
• BERN •

Re: clothing needs of con-
centration camp inmates. LR-

MEMORANDUM

(C.I.)

July 12, 1944.

*Important
with ref. L. L. H.
Mr. McClelland
with draft
3/11*

To: Mr. Reagan
From: Mr. Tait

With reference to your interest in the distribution of relief supplies by the International Committee of the Red Cross to persons detained in concentration camps in Germany, I should like to now enclose a copy of a letter dated July 11, 1944, from the Consulate at Geneva. This letter has as an enclosure a copy of a letter dated July 10, from the International Committee which is likewise enclosed.

A copy of Geneva's letter has also been sent to Mr. McClelland and A.I. is taking no further action in the premises.

G. T.

Enclosures:

- copy of Letter from Consulate of July 11, 1944;
- copy of letter from International Red Cross Committee dated July 10.

814.2 I.R.C. - PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Index Relief (care) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

814.2
HE/jw

TRIPPLICATE

DEUX

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX ROUGE

Agence Centrale des Prisonniers de Guerre
Rappeler dans la réponse: Genève, le 10 juillet 1944.
Geneva, Switzerland,
July 11, 1944. Attention: American Interests Section

In triplicate

The Honorable
Leland Harrison,
American Minister,
Suite à B e r n. Attention: American Interests Section
Comité International de la Croix-Rouge se permet de
vous communiquer ce qui Attention: American Interests Section
Sir: Attention: American Interests Section

I have the honor to invite reference to the Legation's letter of July 3, 1944 concerning the distribution of food parcels to prisoners in concentration camps, and the related question of distribution of clothing. There is now enclosed a copy of a letter which has just been received from the International Committee of the Red Cross on the question of clothing. Attention: American Interests Section
The Legation's attention is particularly invited to the postscript wherein it is stated that only packages of 3 kilos or less, whether of food or clothing, are now admitted in concentration camps. Attention: American Interests Section

Respectfully yours,
Paul C. Squire
American Consul

En outre, notre Délégué nous informait que la plupart des personnes se trouvant au camp, n'ayant point de chaussettes s'entouraient les Paul C. Squire pour remédier à ce manque d'article. Attention: American Interests Section

Lors d'une nouvelle note de notre délégation du Attention: American Interests Section
Enclosure: copy of letter Attention: American Interests Section
informés par notre Délégué du besoin de sous-vêtements tels que "chaussettes, pullovers et chaussettes."

Mr. H. Hitting Jr.
Vice Consul
Consulat des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
B e r n

UR6
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
DE R McLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Intel: Relief (Care) to Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

DOCUMENTS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LIBRARY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

JUL 13 1944

MEMORANDUM

- 2 -

COPY

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX ROUGE

Agence Centrale des Prisonniers de Guerre

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA/OO G.44/S
JES/GB

Genève, le 10 juillet 1944.
Palais du Conseil Général

Monsieur le Consul,

Suite à son aide-mémoire du 7 juillet 1944, le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge se permet de vous communiquer ce qui suit au sujet de la situation vestimentaire des prisonniers civils en Allemagne.

En janvier 1944, notre délégation à Berlin nous transmettait quelques renseignements sur la situation des prisonniers civils au camp de Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg, et nous signalait qu'il était très nécessaire d'expédier des sous-vêtements, aux détenus. En hiver notamment, les baraques étaient peu chauffées et les prisonniers civils n'étaient pas autorisés à dormir avec leurs vêtements. Par contre, ils pouvaient porter les sous-vêtements, ce qui remplaçait les couvertures. Trois articles étaient surtout très demandés:

- 1.- sous-vêtements (caleçons et camisoles)
- 2.- pullovers
- 3.- gants solides remontant jusqu'à l'avant-bras protégeant les poignets.

En outre, notre Délégué nous informait que la plupart des personnes se trouvant au camp, n'ayant point de chaussettes s'entouraient les pieds de chiffons pour remédier à ce manque d'article.

Lors d'une nouvelle note de notre délégation du 25 mai 1944 au sujet de Buchenwald p/Weimar, nous étions informés par notre Délégué du besoin de sous-vêtements tels que "chemises, pullovers et chaussettes."

Mr. H. Elting Jr.
Vice Consul
Consulat des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
G e n è v e .

WRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Sachsenhausen)

Index: Relief Cases for Geneva
Camp in Sachsenhausen
November 1944

LOCATION OF THE PRISON STAYS
IN SWITZERLAND

NOV 17 1944

MEMORANDUM

- 2 -

Le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge n'a
procédé, jusqu'à présent, à aucun envoi de vêtements
et sous-vêtements à des prisonniers civils dans les camps
de concentration et ne possède, de ce fait, aucune expé-
rience au sujet de tels envois. Nous ne savons notamment
pas si les sous-vêtements usagés seraient retirés aux
prisonniers lors de la réception de nos éventuels envois,
cependant, les besoins vestimentaires signalés par nos
Délégués sont tels, que dans certains cas, les sous-vête-
ments semblent manquer totalement.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Consul, l'assurance
de notre considération la plus distinguée.

Copy of a letter
dated July 11, 1944, from the Consulate at Geneva. This
letter has as an enclosure

Albert Lombard

Membre du Comité
International de la Croix Rouge
(Albert Lombard)

also been sent
to Mr. Reagan and A.T. is taking no further action in
the premises.

P.S. D'après des informations récentes, seuls des colis
ne dépassant pas un maximum de 3 kgs sont admis dans
les camps; ceci est valable également pour des colis
de vivres.

there are also attached copies of telegrams
included in main wire on food packages
The FBI on Foreign Mail also regarding the for-
warding by the International Committee of Foodstuffs and
clothing to persons held in concentration camps in Germany.

3. 2.

Enclosures: see in Memo to Mr. [Name] July 12, 1944

copies of Geneva's letter and
enclosures;
copies of two telegrams dated June 24.

DRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

These Rels (cases) for Geneva
Camp in Germany and Geneva
November 1944

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
Rec'd JUL 12 1944
BERN

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. McClelland
From: Mr. Tait

July 12, 1944.

(10)

With reference to your interest in the distribution of relief supplies by the International Committee of the Red Cross to persons detained in concentration camps in Germany, I should like to now enclose a copy of a letter dated July 11, 1944, from the Consulate at Geneva. This letter has as an enclosure a copy of a letter dated July 10, from the International Committee which is likewise enclosed. A copy of Geneva's letter has also been sent to Mr. Reagan and A.I. is taking no further action in the premises.

In accordance with your conversation with Godley this morning, there are also attached copies of telegrams sent on June 24, 1944, to the British Legation at Bern by the British Foreign Office also regarding the forwarding by the International Committee of foodstuffs and clothing to persons held in concentration camps in Germany.

G. T.

Enclosures: *see in Memo to Mr. Reagan July 12/44*
copies of Geneva's letter and enclosures;
copies of two telegrams dated June 24.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

DRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
I take Relief Cases for Geneva
Cases in Germany and France
November 1944

July, 12, 1944.

To: Mr. Huddle
From: McClelland.

*Yes
The RFE
& British Reg.*

Attached is draft of a wire to the Dept. on the ICRC parcels to prisoners in concentration camps proposition. It is largely based on the ICRC's "aide-mémoire" which I also enclose, although I imagine you have already seen it.

The proposition that the SS Christina goods might be used was worked out by Mr. Elting with Mr. James of Amcross, the latter having originally proposed that this stuff be used for French pows, although he is willing to recommend to Amcross that at least part of it be made available to the ICRC for this new package project if MEW agrees.

Do you think I should discuss this answer with the British and try to get a line on what they are sending off, since the success of the whole question depends a great deal on London's reaction to the ICRC's present proposals?

7/24/44

July 14, 1944.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

ment's telegram
London's 187
distribution of
concentration
the Legation's
July 6 - 9 p.m.,
me copies of
h you may have
n and if you
f any new develop-

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

*WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)*

*Index: Relief (uses) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Denmark
December 1944*

MEMORANDUM

July 13, 1944.

CA
Mr. Reagan

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REC'D 13 JUL 1944
• BERN •

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
July 14, 1944.

Dear Mr. Reagan:

I would appreciate it if you would read over this draft wire and give me the benefit of any suggestions or opinions which you have on the matter. Do you know who in the British Legation will be handling this, since we would like to coordinate our reply with theirs.

R.D.M.

R.D.M.

July 13. I have not seen Mr. Wi. Archer 2197 and 2198 as I have not checked British Club. Others it looks like can be found in #1 as marked. I.R. is not. I presume it is West Hill, since he has corresponded with TAT on subject, Sullivan. The British Commercial Attache

ment's telegram
London's 187
distribution of
concentration
the Legation's
of July 6 - 9 p.m.,
I enclose copies of
which you may have
on and if you
of any new develop-

F.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Suffolk)
I enclose 1st copy for Com. [unclear]
[unclear] and [unclear]
[unclear] 1944

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Rec'd JUL 17 1944

BERN

MEMORANDUM

July 14, 1944.

To: Mr. McClelland

From: Mr. Tait

(C.L.)

Dear Mr. McClelland:

With reference to the Department's telegram No. 2198 of June 28 - 10 p.m. and London's 187 of June 27 - 8 p.m. regarding the distribution of food parcels to prisoners in enemy concentration camps, which was the subject of the Legation's telegram No. 4304 (London 1167) of July 6 - 9 p.m., I should be glad if you would send me copies of any subsequent communications which you may have exchanged with Washington or London and if you would keep me currently informed of any new developments on this subject.

[Handwritten signature]

G.T.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

DR6
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
I see: Relief (cases) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

Mrs. L. Please file Draft Telegram ICRC packages for C. Camps

July 17/44.

SECSTATE
WASHINGTON

-2-

should receive new garments in the future. We can only state that the need brought to our attention by our Delegates is such that, in certain cases, the detainees have no underwear whatever."

Intercross will investigate further the possibility of distributions of such clothing and report to us as soon as possible.

A summary of the above memorandum has been sent to MEW by the British Legation here.
Repeated to London.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
In duplicate
Copy to RDM

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
IACCI Relief Cases to Geneva
August 1944
November 1944

Wrc. 1. ~~Please file~~ Draft Telegram ICRC packages for C Camps.

July 17/44.

SECSTATE
WASHINGTON

~~DRAFT~~

~~SECRET~~ For WR13 from McClelland and 4304 of July 6
Legation's 3877 of June 17, Sept's 2198 of
June 28.

ICRC submitted aide-memoire to our British colleagues and ourselves on July 7 giving committee's reaction to questions raised in Sept's 2198 and to those contained in MEW's telegrams ARFAR 2197 and 2198 of June 24.

Whole project under consideration refers only to aid for political prisoners in concentration camps and to deportees and not to civilian internees accumulated to Geneva Convention.

Following is substance of ICRC's aide-memoire:

ICRC convinced that an official approach to German authorities requesting formal permission to distribute relief packages generally to unaccumulated persons confined in camps would not only be flatly refused but would jeopardize practical results heretofore achieved and desired in future. German authorities have consistently refused to assimilate such detainees to status of prisoners of war or civilian internees, considering them criminals and control over them an internal affair.

(Legation concurs with this point of view)

directly or
by analogy

Despite this official German attitude the ICRC is able, in the case of certain concentration camps, to assure the delivery of individual packages and to verify regularly that the prisoners for whom they are intended receive them. The ICRC's delegates have on the part been able to make unofficial visits to these

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

614.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WR13
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief Cases for Concentration Camps in Germany and German-occupied Poland 1944

(2)

Camps and have no reason to doubt that they will be able to repeat such visits in the future.

It is no more possible to have packages distributed personally and individually ^{by a delegate} in concentration camps, for practical reasons, that this in prisoners of war camps. In the camps to be specified, the ICRC's delegates have numerous possibilities of verifying fact that relief goods are not diverted and are consumed by intended beneficiaries, both by means of visits which will be made regularly on a basis analogous, as regards frequency, to those to prisoners of war and through controls exercised independently of such visits.

For these reasons ICRC is compelled to ask Blockade Authorities not to insist on one special form of control or another but to take into account realities of the situation and to allow committee's delegates liberty of using control methods available to them and which alone permit them to judge whether distribution of relief goods is satisfactorily carried out. On other hand, in assuming responsibility for such distributions, ICRC agrees to immediately suspend all shipments if any irregularities in satisfactory reception of relief goods come to its attention.

ICRC possesses names of almost all civilian prisoners of certain nationality groups; for other nationals only partial lists, although their total number at a given moment is known. ICRC is not authorized to reveal other number of names of civilian prisoners in its possession or information concerning camps strengths which it has been able to procure through strictly confidential channels. In proposing, however, to undertake delivery of a maximum of 30,000 parcels

DRG

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

DE R. McLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief (CWS) for Geneva
Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

for concentration camps during initial months and 35,000 to Theresienstadt (which cannot be considered a camp but rather a ghetto) committee implicitly indicates approximate number of civilian prisoners to whom it can at present deliver individual parcels.

Principal nationals involved are Belgian, French, Greek, Dutch, Norwegian, Czech and Yugoslav.

ICRC proposes to deliver individual parcels to following camps in Germany: Ravensbrueck (women's camp), Buchenwald & Weimar, Dachau, Sachsenhausen - Oranienburg and Natzweiler. Question of ^{similar} distributions to camps of: Jasenovac, Stara Gradiska, and Gredjani Salas in Croatia is being examined. These camps can be visited by ICRC but Croat authorities hesitate to permit distribution relief if only Jews are to benefit. Shipments to camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau in Upper Silesia are not advisable at present moment. Situation of Bergen-Belsen, Drancy and Compiègne will be further investigated. ICRC delegates have been able to visit ^{both} Drancy and ^{recently} Theresienstadt ^{such} visits can be repeated. and Theresienstadt

ICRC will limit distribution to persons confined in camps, will package goods suitably for individual distribution, and will submit reports of distribution of each consignment of parcels.

Although ICRC it at present only able to undertake distribution of 65,000 parcels ^{for first months} to ~~political prisoners in Germany~~ committee recommends shipment of initial consignment of 100,000 parcels since rapid increase in number of names of political prisoners known is to be expected as soon as sending of parcels gets under way.

(3)

ICRC

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

DE R. McLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief Cases for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
November 1944

End of ICRC report.

(4)

In view of present transportation difficulties, it is suggested after consultation with James of Amcross, Geneva, that part of reclaimable portion of food stuffs from cargo of Christina (roughly 65 percent of 80,000 standard food parcels) which has already arrived in Switzerland be used for this relief project for prisoners in concentration camps in Germany. ICRC is equipped and ready make up batch smaller parcels with these salvaged goods. This food must be consumed within 3 months so decision of Blockade Authorities is urgent.

Repeated to London.

2

WRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC: Relief (cases) for Geneva
Camps in Germany and Germany
19 - December 1944

Light's Conditions

- A. ~~Goods~~ limited to persons confined in camps.
- B. ~~Goods~~ to be packed suitable for individual distribution.
- * C. Delegates of ICRC will distribute packages individually.
- D. Later control visits will be made by ICRC delegates.
- E. Reports will be required from ICRC after each consignment.

(ICRC can give guarantees & produce satisfactory evidence that packages have reached persons for whom they are intended)

MEW's Conditions

- A.) Goods to be packed suitable for individual distribution.
- * B.) ICRC will undertake distribution personally by its delegates.
- C.) Subsequent control visits by ICRC delegates.
- D.) ICRC reports after each consignment.
- E.) ~~Goods~~ limited to persons confined in camps.

British wish to know names of camps, no of internees, how often can ICRC delegates visit them

British leave way open for "Christians" suggestion.

If we are really desirous of obtaining a practical result no official approach to German authorities should be made. Such a request would be flatly refused on grounds that internees in C. C. are prisoners - a criminal-police case, rather than in military sense and control over them, as such, is an internal affair of the German State. (Germans) constantly refused to accumulate them. In view of amount of food involved risk is very small that much food is diverted from its intended destination.

ICRC assemble data on clothing needs of 15 large camps where they are willing to undertake distrib. food parcels. (It perhaps be good not to let feel in London - Wash. that ICRC is ready at any moment to break its neck or purgare itself to do this distrib. They should play a little hand to get a limit no. camps suggested.

BRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC: Relief Cases for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
- 1 - December 1944

ICRC's annex, 2 counterproposals, + CRISTINA goods
KEY WIRE! [CASE FILE] proposition For RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

21

To: Department Date: July 18, 1944, 8 a. m.
Code: [REDACTED] No: 4578 (London: 1262)
Charged to:

Paraphrase

Reference is made to the Legation's 3877 of June 17 and 4304 of July 6, as well as the Department's 2198 of June 28.

On July 7 the ICRC submitted an aide-mémoire to our British colleagues and ourselves. The reaction of the Committee to the questions raised in the Department's 2198 and to those contained in MEW's telegrams ARFAR 2197 and 2198 of June 24 are given in the aide-mémoire.

The entire project under consideration refers only to aid for political prisoners who are in concentration camps and to deportees; it does not have reference to civilian internees assimilated to the Geneva Convention.

The substance of the aforementioned aide-mémoire from the ICRC is given hereafter: It is the conviction of Intercross that an official approach to the German authorities requesting formal permission to distribute relief packages generally to unassimilated persons who are confined in camps would not only be flatly refused but also would jeopardize the practical results achieved heretofore and desired in the future. The German authorities have consistently refused to assimilate such detainees to the status of prisoners of war or civilian internees, either directly or by analogy. (During the July 4 interview, an Intercross collaborator stated orally that the German answer to the request for assimilation of such detainees has always been that they were considered "criminals" and that control over them was an internal affair.)

In spite of this official German attitude, Intercross is able, in the case of certain concentration camps, to assure delivery of individual packages and to make regular verification that they are received by the prisoners for whom intended. In the past, delegates

NOTE

→ no copies in CA files

of
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By E. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

ICRC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
Mr. Mclelland's file
(Switzerland)
IACI Relief (cases) for Geneva
Cases in Germany and German
-1- December 1944

of Intercross have been able to visit these camps unofficially and they have no reason to doubt that in the future they will be able to repeat such visits.

For practical reasons, it is no more possible to have packages distributed personally and individually by a delegate in concentration camps than it is in camps for prisoners of war. In the camps to be specified, delegates of Intercross have numerous possibilities of verifying the fact that relief goods are not diverted and that they are consumed by the intended beneficiaries. This can be done both by means of visits which will be made regularly on a basis analogous to those to POWs, as regards frequency, and through controls exercised independently of such visits.

Intercross is compelled, for these reasons, to ask the Blockade Authorities not to insist on one special form of control or another but to take into account the realities of the situation and to allow the delegates of the Committee the liberty of employing methods of control which are available to them and which alone permit them to judge whether the distribution of relief goods is carried out satisfactorily. In assuming responsibility for such distributions, Intercross agrees, on the other hand, to suspend at once all shipments if any irregularities in the satisfactory reception of relief goods come to its attention.

Intercross has in its possession the names of almost all civilian prisoners of certain nationality groups; it has only partial lists for other nationals, though their total number at a given moment is known. Intercross is not authorized to disclose either the number of names of civilian prisoners it possesses or information concerning the strength of the camps, which it has been able to procure through channels of strictly confidential character. However, in proposing to undertake the delivery of a maximum of 30,000 parcels for concentration camps and 35,000 parcels to Theresienstadt (this cannot be considered a camp but rather a ghetto) during the initial month, the Committee implicitly indicates the approximate number of civilian prisoners to whom it can deliver individual parcels at the present time. Czech, Belgian, French, Yugoslav, Greek, Norwegian and Dutch are the principal nationals involved.

The ICRC proposes to deliver individual parcels to these

BRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
DE R. McLELLAND
BIA.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
M. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
I.R.C. Relief (cases) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
-1- December 1944

these camps in Germany: Dachau, Natzweiler, Sachsenhausen-Oranienburg, Ravensbrueck (camp for women), and Buchenwald bei Weimar. There is under examination the question of similar distributions to the following camps in Croatia: Jasenovac, Stara Gradiska and Gredjani Salas. Intercross can visit these camps but the authorities of Croatia hesitate to permit the distribution of relief if the only ones to benefit are Jews. At the present moment it is not advisable to make shipments to the camps of Auschwitz and Birkenau in Upper Silesia. The situation in Compiègne, Drancy and Bergen-Belsen will be investigated further. Delegates of Intercross ~~xxxxxxx~~ have been able to visit both Drancy and recently Theresienstadt but the Committee has no assurance that it can repeat such visits.

Distribution will be limited by Intercross to persons confined in camps. The goods will be suitably packaged for individual distribution by Intercross. The latter will submit reports of the distribution of each consignment of parcels.

Since a rapid increase in the number of names of political prisoners known is to be expected as soon as the sending of parcels gets under way, the Committee recommends that an initial consignment of 100,000 parcels be shipped, even though Intercross is now able to undertake the distribution of only 65,000 parcels for the first month.

Report from Intercross ends.

After consultation with James of the American Red Cross at Geneva, it is suggested that, in view of present difficulties in transportation, part of the reclaimable portion of foodstuffs from the cargo of the CHRISTINA (roughly 65% of 80,000 standard food parcels) which has already arrived in Switzerland be used for this relief project for prisoners in German concentration camps. Intercross is equipped to make up a batch of smaller parcels with these salvaged goods and is ready to do so. The decision of the Blockade Authorities is urgent in view of the fact that this food must be consumed within the space of three months.

From recent information received by Intercross it appears that only parcels weighing up to a maximum of three kilos, whether they contain food or clothing, will be accepted for delivery to concentration camps. If

parcels

BR6
 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
 DE R McLELLAND
 814.2 I.R.C. PARCELES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
 Mr. Mclelland's file
 (Switzerland)
 I.R.C. Relief (cases) for Geneva
 Camps in Germany and Germany
 17 - December 1944

parcels can be shipped from overseas for the above purpose and to be distributed by Interross, the latter states that such parcels must not bear any markings of the national Red Cross. This is so that Interross can affix its own labels.

Our action has been concerted with that of the British Legation. A similar summary of the aide-memoire from Interross and the suggestion regarding the CHRISTINA mentioned above have been wired to MEW by the British Legation here.

Repeated to London.
From McClelland for WRB.

HARRISON

EDM:nf
In duplicate
Copy to RIM

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
Index: Relief Cases to Geneva
Cases in Germany and France
11 - December 1944

For Amcross Geneva (James) 10RC food ps for camps.
CRISTINA

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: SECSTATE, Washington Date: July 20, 1944
No. 296
Code: clear (C.I.) Received: July 22, 1944 9 AM

SUBJECT: Message for Amcross, Geneva
from Amcross, Washington

N L T

AMERICAN CONSUL GENEVA

296 Twentieth for Amcross quote SW917 your 534 we greatly appreciate all efforts Interross has made with Cristina cargo under adverse circumstances Amcross prefers that none of the waterlogged merchandise even canned goods leave Switzerland for camps as rust process will continue and eventually damage goods to extent of endangering consumers air which reaches whole powdered milk or meats soon spoils contents therefore Amcross having received authority from original donors gives Interross entirely free hand to dispose by sale of all damaged goods including even those slightly damaged in Switzerland if used for constructive purpose they need not bicker long about price incase of goods consumable now but which should not be kept long on hand we would be glad to see these made available at moderate prices to Swiss authorities for use in Swiss refugee camps if certain goods appear absolutely safe we leave to discretion Interross sending same in respective

BRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R McLELLAND
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR DECONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
I.R.C. Relief (cases) to camps
Camps in Germany and Germany
- Berlin - 1944

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

No. 296

- 2 -

ratio three to one to French and Belgian warprisoner camps as Interross has suggested advising us of quantities so dispatched however where slightest doubt we prefer goods remain Switzerland please ask Interross to keep accounts so that in due time we can be advised expenses involved in (one) salvage operation sets (two) transportation if any sets to Switzerland (three) expenses Switzerland (four) quantities of supplies sold (five) total amount received from sale Amcross unquote

Hull

814.2
jw/mp

USRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

OF R. McLELLAND

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClelland's File

(Switzerland)

Index Relief Cases for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany

1-1-December 1944

Transmitted to Riegner on Mon, July 24th by hand - R320
Talked it over with ... support.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

WRB RDM
Delivered to
Riegner
July 25th by RDM

From: Department

Date: July 21, 4 p.m., 1944

No.: 2480

Code: [REDACTED]

CI

Received: July 22, 10 a.m.

Received WRB No. 2244 RDM
For Action
Answered
No.

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 79.

For Riegner from Dr. Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress.

"The Joint Relief Committee in London recently presented to the International Red Cross Committee a proposal for the shipment through the blockade of food parcels for distribution under Red Cross supervision to refugees in internment camps. FEA questions whether Intercross has had adequate staff to insure proper distribution in enemy countries. Please follow developments relating to this project; anything you can do to help insure its success will be appreciated."

HULL

In duplicate

re

Copy in FA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Pazka Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Trace: Relief (care) to Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany - December 1944

814.2-3.3. "CRISTINA"
PCS/1c

Handwritten: ✓
WA Rpt
Amc
WA Rpt
RDM

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
REG'D JUL 21 1944
BERN

ack'd by form

AMERICAN CONSULATE *(action required?)*

Geneva, Switzerland.
July 21, 1944.

The Honorable
Leland Harrison,
American Minister,
BERN.

Handwritten: Memo to
AAR & RDM

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to the Department's telegram No. 2102 of June 19, 1944, addressed to the Legation, containing instructions for this Consulate relative to the Red Cross cargo of the SS "CRISTINA", and to this Consulate's reply contained in its telegram No. 213 of June 30, a copy of which was forwarded to the Legation.

In this connection, the British Consul at Geneva informed me this morning over the telephone, of the British Legation's receipt of a telegram No. 2921 from the Ministry of Economic Warfare, to the effect that the MEW agrees with the suggestion to use a part of the food concerned, but that the clothing should be held. Mr. Livingston added that there was no clothing concerned.

My British colleague expressed his wish to be informed of any further action taken in order that we might act in concert.

Respectfully yours,

Paul C. Squire
Paul C. Squire
American Consul

Handwritten: Sale of Red Cross Supplies
(damaged) in Suisse.
#848 FRANCE-REFUGEES

Copy to Mr. James.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Vertical handwritten notes:
WRC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Vertical handwritten notes:
I act: Relief (cases) to Geneva
Cases in Germany and German
- 1 - December 1944

CASE FILE

For RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

CI

To: Department

Date: Geneva, July, 24th. 1944

No: 4857

Code: Dear Dr. Riegner:

Charged to:

The following cable for you from Dr. Kubowitski of the World Jewish Congress, reached me today:

The following cable for you from Dr. Kubowitski of the World Jewish Congress, reached me today: containing their recommendations for liquidation here "The Joint Relief Committee in London recently presented to the International Red Cross Committee a proposal for the shipment through the blockade of food parcels for distribution under Red Cross supervision to refugees in internment camps. FEA (Foreign Economic Administration) questions whether Intercross has had adequate staff to insure proper distributions in enemy countries. Please follow developments relating to this project; anything you can do to help insure its success will be appreciated."

It would be appreciated if you would send us a short note for our files acknowledging receipt of this cable.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell McClelland
Special Assistant to
The American Minister

RDM/lj

Dr. Berhart Riegner
World Jewish Congress,
37, Quai Wilson, Geneva.

814.2 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

DRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Israel Relief (uses) for Geneva
Change in Germany and Geneva
11 - December 1944

CASE FILE

Using permission re Cristina goods
For RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department PF Date: July 29, 1944.
 No: 4897
 Code: Clear - NLT Charged to:

From WRIS from McClelland.

Have recently seen AmCross' 296, July 20, containing their recommendations for liquidation here in Switzerland of salvaged cargo of standard food packages from the CRISTINA. In view increasing improbability that contemplated shipment of 100,000 parcels per month for three months or any part thereof can reach Switzerland due to increasing transportation difficulties if and when Joint Blockade Committee should authorize these shipments, I renew our request that exceptional permission be granted to utilize at least part of CRISTINA goods to make up packages for ICRC distribution to concentration camps in Germany and German-occupied territory. A decision must be reached in this matter in very near future as salvaged CRISTINA goods will only be fit for consumption up to about the end of September.

HARRISON

RDM:mjb:nf
Copy to RDM

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

*WRIS
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)*

ICRC Relief Cases to Concentration Camps in Germany and German-occupied territory - September 1944

CASE FILE

For RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department



Date: July 29, 9 p. m., 1944.

No: 4899

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:

Paraphrase

The reference for the Legation's 4897, July 29, with regard to food parcels, is the ante-penultimate paragraph of the Legation's 4578 of July 18.

For the WRB from McClelland.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
In duplicate
Copy to RDM

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-73
By H. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Track: Relief (cases) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
1-1-December 1944

ICRC Packages for
Concentration Camps.

August 1944.

~~CA 272 (10/2)~~
WRB-ROU LR

VED

st 3, 2 p.m., 1944

2663

August 4, 3 p.m.

(C.L.)

WRB No. 105. Reference your 4578 July 18.

For your information, we are repeating below a telegram sent by Department, WRB and FEA on July 31 to Embassy London for EWD.

"Department's airmail instruction 4234 June 23 and telegram 5013 June 24, and London's 5003 June 23.

"Department has been informed by Bern Legation of ICRC's response to the joint approach made on July 4 by the American and British representatives with regard to possible implementation of that section of the Berle-Foot agreement which concerns distribution of food parcels in concentration camps in areas occupied by the enemy.

"Substantially the same information is contained in cable No. 2865 of July 8 from the British Legation in Bern to MEW, a copy of which has been given to the Department by the British Embassy. In addition, however, we are informed that parcels for delivery to concentration camps, whether containing food or clothing, will be accepted by Germany only up to a maximum weight of three kilos. Moreover, national Red Cross markings must not appear on the parcels, although it seems that ICRC labels may be affixed on otherwise plain parcels.

"The alternate proposal made by Intercross is recognized as being substantially the same as the plan which they have advanced in the past with respect to delivery of food parcels to concentration camps. On economic warfare grounds, it is obvious that this method is far less satisfactory than the one which was set forth in the Berle-Foot agreement, in that it offers considerably less definite assurance that the

actual

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND

Mr. Mclelland's file
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief (cases) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany
1-1-December 1944

CASE FILE

CA 272 (London) LR
WRB-ROM

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department Date: August 3, 2 p.m., 1944
No: 2663
Received: August 4, 3 p.m.

Code: [redacted]
Forwarded WRB [redacted] 7/14/44
For Action
Answered
No.

PARAPHRASE

(C.L.)

WRB No. 105. Reference your 4578 July 18.

For your information, we are repeating below a telegram sent by Department, WRB and FEA on July 31 to Embassy London for EWD.

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actual

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Order, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

Inter: Relief (cases) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Germany - 11 - December 1944

addressees will receive and retain the parcels. However, ICRC claims to have very good success in obtaining signed receipts and it is completely satisfied that the addressees who sign receipts for the parcels actually benefit from them.

"We feel, however, that on account of the project's political and humanitarian aspects, the economic warfare considerations which have heretofore precluded our making packages available to Intercross for distribution under its plan should at this juncture largely be waived. The amount of food which might fall into enemy hands could not affect the outcome of the war nor prolong it. The desperate situation of the people detained in the concentration camps makes it increasingly necessary that some aid be given them, even though we may not receive tight guarantees that each package reaches the beneficiary for whom it is intended. We suggest, therefore, the granting of blockade authorization for shipment of 300,000 specially-prepared three-kilogram food parcels to the International Red Cross Committee for distribution on a trial basis under their plan outlined in cable No. 2865 of British Legation mentioned above. Transportation presents a serious problem, but we hope these parcels can be sent by the northern route we are trying to establish for the shipment of supplies for prisoners of war.

"McClelland in Geneva has inquired whether it would be possible to turn over to Intercross usable food items from Christina cargo, to be packaged in three-kilo parcels and forwarded to individual addressees in camps selected under the above-mentioned plan by the International Red Cross Committee. If the blockade authorities accept the Intercross plan in principle, we assume there would be no objection to McClelland's proposal for making use of the salvaged Christina cargo. Urgent action is required, in view of the necessity for early consumption of these items to avoid loss by spoilage.

"Please present this matter as soon as possible to the relief sub-committee and endeavor to secure a favorable reply."

STETTINIUS ACTING

In duplicate

re

copy in FA

*DRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPERS
ed
3
7
Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)
Ircel Relief (Care) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Denmark
11 - December 1944*

34/25 (a) 5/5
LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
Rec'd AUG 10 1944
Department
BERN

TELEGRAM SENT

British Consulate
Geneva
9th August 1944.

(91)

Dear Mr. Elting:

Good

With reference to our telephone talk this morning, I write to confirm that I have received a copy of a telegram from the Foreign Office to our Embassy in Washington stating that the British authorities agree to the despatch of 300,000 parcels to Lisbon or to Gothenburg and that they accept the proposals contained in Monsieur de Schwarzenberg's Aide Mémoire of July 7th.

The British authorities also agree to the use of the foodstuffs from the "Cristina", to be made up into individual parcels by the I.R.C.C.

The telegram also contains mention of the fact that this approval is based on a suggestion made by the State Department on July 31st to your Embassy in London.

As agreed, I have informed Monsieur de Schwarzenberg by telephone, who, needless to say, is delighted. I told him at the same time that you were being good enough to let Jimmie James and Mr. McClelland know.

With kind regards,
Yours very sincerely,

H. B. Livingston

Howard Elting, Esquire
American Consulate,
Geneva.

Parcels should contain only v. simplest foods (fats, animal condensed milk, canned meat)

814.2 I.R.C.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LPRG

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland

814.2 (1944) for Concentration
Camps and German
Warships 1944

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: August 11, 1944, 9 p. m.

No: 5228

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:

TO

Paraphrase

From McClelland for WRB with reference to your 2663 of August 3 and our 4897 of July 29.

With the approval of James, the American Red Cross representative at Geneva, Interross plans to allocate from 50 to 75 tons of salvaged foodstuffs from the CRISTINA to Interross' package program for concentration camps in Germany, to be parceled and shipped immediately. Could you, in principle, arrange to reimburse the American Red Cross for these goods or would you prefer that I reimburse Interross here in Switzerland out of funds of the WRB (refer to SW917 of July 20 from AMCROSS).

Should it prove possible to ship the projected 300,000 parcels, Interross cautions, on the basis of recent information from Germany, that the foodstuffs contained in them, while nutritive (with stress on fats), be of the simplest kind to forestall German criticism that prisoners in concentration camps are receiving "luxury goods" which are not available to the people of Germany.

HARRISON

RDM:nf

Copy to RDM

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parke Dets. SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland

Relist (uses) for Concentration
Camps and German Documents
November 1944

to RDMCC Aug. 14 LH1mk

CASE FILE

*WRB Note
(Inform CA file)*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: August 11, 6 p.m., 1944

No: 2769

Code: [REDACTED]

Received: August 12, 4 p.m.

Received WRB 11/19/44
For Action
Numbered
No.

CL

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 117. From Department and WRB for Harrison and McClelland.

Legation's 4578 July 18 and Department's 2663 August 3.

Standard!

Blockade authorities agree to Intercross proposal for the sending of three-kilo parcels to persons who are detained in concentration camps. It is likewise agreed that portion of reclaimed cargo of the CHRISTINA, to be packaged in Switzerland, may be used in the same manner. You are requested to inform ICRC immediately.

This authorization covers 300,000 parcels to be shipped from here. Plans for their preparation are now under way, and you will be kept informed of developments. As you may know, transportation at present is very difficult. It is hoped, however, that this obstacle will be surmounted by the establishment of a new prisoner of war supply route by way of Gothenburg. The blockade authorities wish to consider and to pass on the procedure which Intercross will follow in order to safeguard the packages that are sent from here between their shipment from Gothenburg and the affixing of labels. Intercross may wish to arrange for labels to be affixed at Gothenburg and parcels forwarded by mail from that point. It is suggested that you discuss this matter with the Committee.

Amcross W-917 for James, transmitted to Geneva in Department's No. 296 July 20, and referring to the reclaimed cargo of the CHRISTINA, is amended to provide for the use by ICRC of such portion of the usable items as in the Committee's discretion may be profitably used in three-kilo parcels for distribution in concentration camps to unassimilated groups.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972 A

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's File

Relief (WRB) for Concentration Camps and German Detainees
November 1944

A strict accounting procedure should be set up for all items which the International Red Cross Committee uses for this purpose, in order that computation may be made here of possible reimbursement to the French and Belgians on a prorata basis. Intercross should be requested to furnish you, for transmission here, such information as may become available with regard to the receipt or non-receipt of parcels, and also information relating to the camps in which distribution takes place and the number and nationality of the persons who benefit from the distribution. James should be advised of the above.

Foregoing repeated, for its information, to Embassy London.

STETTINIUS ACTING

In duplicate

re COPY IN FA

James has decided to that up 500 100 to 150 for WRS

DRB
 General Correspondence
 814.2
 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
 Mr. Mitchell
 Relief (and) for Concentration Camps
 August 1944



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Bern, August 14, 1944

CL

My dear Mr. McClelland:

After your departure we received Saturday a telegram for you from the War Refugee Board referring to your long telegram of July 18th last reporting the views of the War Refugee Board regarding parcels for concentration camps, and particularly your suggestion regarding the reclamation of cargo of CHRISTINA.

I enclose the letter for McClelland and shall be grateful if you will get it to him as promptly as possible--in any case before he leaves Geneva tomorrow morning. The present instructions inform you that our blockade authorities agree to accept parcels of interest for the handling of parcels for persons who are detained in concentration camps. It is likewise agreed that the cargo of reclaimed CHRISTINA, to be packaged in Switzerland may be used in the same manner. You are requested to inform the Intercross of this immediately.

Sincerely yours,

LELAND HARRISON

It is further stated that this authorization covers 300,000 parcels to be shipped from the United States, that plans for their preparation are now under way, and that you will be kept informed of developments. While transportation is difficult, it is hoped that this obstacle can be overcome by the establishment of a prisoner of war supply route by way of Gothenburg. This is to be considered by the blockade authorities and thereafter they intend to discuss the matter with the procedure to be followed with a view to forwarding the packages from the United States by way of Gothenburg and the affixing of labels. Interross may wish to arrange for the affixing of labels at Gothenburg and for the forwarding of the parcels by mail from that point. W.R.B. suggests that you discuss this matter with Interross.

W.R.B. also informs you that Ameross W-917 for James Paul C. Squire, Esquire, Government's telegram No. 296 of July 20 to Geneva, regarding the reclaimed CHRISTINA cargo, is amended

Geneva.

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Care of American Consulate,
Geneva.

LH:mk

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
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WRG GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland

Relief (WRG) for Concentration Camps and German Detainees
November 1944



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

CL

Bern, August 14, 1944

File. For me in Geneva

with the cable
to prepare letters to
James & Schwarzenberg

My dear Mr. McClelland:

After your departure we received Saturday a telegram for you from the War Refugee Board referring to your long telegram of July 18th last reporting the views of the Intercross regarding parcels for concentration camps, and particularly your suggestion about the use of the reclaimed cargo of the S.S. CHRISTINA.

The present instructions inform you that our blockade authorities agree to the proposal of Intercross for the sending of three-kilo parcels to persons who are detained in concentration camps. It is likewise agreed that the portion of reclaimed cargo of the CHRISTINA, to be packaged in Switzerland, may be used in the same manner. You are requested to inform the Intercross of this immediately.

It is further stated that this authorization covers 300,000 parcels to be shipped from the United States, that plans for their preparation are now under way, and that you will be kept informed of developments. While transportation is difficult, it is hoped that this obstacle can be overcome by the establishment of a prisoner of war supply route by way of Gothenburg. This is to be considered by the blockade authorities and thereafter they intend to inform Intercross on the procedure to be followed with a view to safeguarding the packages from the United States between their shipment from Gothenburg and the affixing of labels. Intercross may wish to arrange for the affixing of labels at Gothenburg and for the forwarding of the parcels by mail from that point. W.R.B. suggests that you discuss this matter with Intercross.

W.R.B. also informs you that Amcross W-917 for James, transmitted in the Department's telegram No. 296 of July 20 to Geneva, regarding the reclaimed CHRISTINA cargo, is

amended

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Care of American Consulate,
Geneva.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
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USRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland File

Relief (USRB) for Concentration
Camps and German Detainees
November 1944

Called James on this

amended to provide for the use by Intercross of such portion of the usable items as in the Committee's discretion may be profitably used in three-kilo parcels for distribution in concentration camps to unassimilated groups. A strict accounting procedure should be set up by Intercross for all items that may be used for this purpose in order that computation may be made in the United States of possible reimbursement to the French and Belgians on a pro rata basis. Intercross should be requested to furnish you, for transmission here, such information as may become available with regard to the receipt or non-receipt of parcels, and also information relating to the camps in which distribution takes place and the number and nationality of the persons who benefit from the distribution. James should be advised of the above.

I have just been telephoning with Mr. Squire and happen to have missed you when you were in the Consulate. Mr. Squire tells me that you plan to return tomorrow morning and I have suggested to him that he let you know that I am sending him an urgent letter, which is this one, in the thought that you might like to have the information before you return here. If the matter is as urgent as it seems to be, you might wish to see Intercross tomorrow morning and pass on the information to Francis James, to whom please give my best regards.

Please remember me to Mrs. McClelland, and hoping that all is well with you,

Sincerely yours,

DRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
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Relief (uses) for Concentration
Camps and German Jews
December 1944

ICRC - P's for C. Camps.

(CL)

amended to provide for the use by Intercross of such portion of the usable items as in the Committee's discretion may be profitably used in three-kilo parcels. Bern, August 16, 1944. in concentration camps to unassimilated groups. A strict accounting procedure should be set up by Intercross for Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg: for this purpose in order that computation may be made in the United States of possible

Following our telephone conversation of yesterday, I am happy to send you the substance of the message which was received by the Legation on Saturday, August 12th, from the Department of State and the War Refugee Board, regarding parcels for persons detained in concentration camps in German territory. This message is in answer to your aide memoire of July 7th and to the proposal that a portion of the reclaimed cargo of the CRISTINA be used for this purpose. The instructions we have received state that the blockade authorities agree to the proposal of the ICRC to send three-kilo parcels to the concentration camps, and likewise agree that part of the CRISTINA cargo, to be packaged in Switzerland, may also be used.

This authorization further covers 300,000 parcels to be shipped from the United States, and states that plans for their preparation are now under way, and that the Legation will be kept informed of developments. While transportation is difficult, it is hoped that this obstacle can be overcome by the establishment of a prisoner of war supply route by way of Gothenburg. This is to be considered by the blockade authorities and thereafter they intend to inform ICRC on the procedure to be followed with a view to safeguarding the packages from the United States between their shipment from Gothenburg and the affixing of labels. The International Committee may wish to arrange for the affixing of labels at Gothenburg and for the forwarding of the parcels by mail from that point. The War Refugee Board would naturally appreciate your opinion concerning this Gothenburg proposition as soon as feasible.

We are also informed that the instructions which Mr. James received from the American Red Cross on July 20th concerning the liquidation of the CRISTINA cargo have been

amended

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Hotel Metropole,
Geneva.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
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WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
M. McCallum File

Relief (cases) for Concentration Camps
in Germany and German occupied territories
December 1944

GT

-2-

TELEGRAM SENT

WRB

been amended to provide for the use by Intercross of such portion of the usable items as in the Committee's discretion may be profitably used in three-kilo parcels for distribution in concentration camps to unassimilated groups. ICRC is being requested to set up a strict accounting procedure for all items that may be used for this purpose in order that computation may be made in the United States of possible reimbursement to the French and Belgians on a pro rata basis. ICRC is also being requested to furnish us, for transmission to the United States, with such information as may become available with regard to the receipt or non-receipt of parcels, and also information relating to the camps in which distribution takes place and the number and nationality of the persons who benefit from the distribution.

The Legation has been instructed by the Department of State to inform you of the above.

and more difficult. The food situation is very bad. In some concentration camps, Sincerely yours, are fed with the residue from the food distributed to Russian prisoners of war. The death rate and tuberculosis are on the increase. In the circumstances and in the belief that help might be sent through the ICRC following plan of the American Red Cross, the Geneva Committee plan, Roswell D. McClelland, to the Italian communities in Special Assistant to and to Fiorello La Guardia person the American Minister. detail regarding the tragic situation of the internees. I fully agree with this. The American Legation here is also giving the matter attention.

Repeated to the Department.

No. 273 of August 14, with reference to Magistrati's No. 268.

RDM/mjb

HARRISON

JKH:mjb:mf
In duplicate for WRB files.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
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WRB
 Geneva, Concentration Camps
 McClelland

Relief (WRB) for Concentration Camps
 and German...
 December 1944

CASE FILE

ICRC - Packages

WRB
Italian "pows"
in Germany

TELEGRAM SENT

To: AmDel, Rome

Date: August 17, 1944, 9 p. m.

No: 12 (Dept. 5351)

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:

Paraphrase

[REDACTED] from Magistrati. For RICFA.

Information from Germany and the ICRC communications emphasize that the problems of our military internees in Germany are becoming daily more serious and more difficult. The food situation is very bad. In some concentration camps, our soldiers are fed with the residue from the food distributed to Russian prisoners of war. The death rate and tuberculosis are on the increase. In the circumstances and in the belief that help might be sent through the ICRC following plan of the American Red Cross, the Geneva Committee plans to address a request to the Italian communities in the United States and to Fiorello La Guardia personally informing them in detail regarding the tragic situation of the internees. I fully agree with this. The American Legation here is also giving the matter attention.

Repeated to the Department.

No. 273 of August 16, with reference to Magistrati's no. 265.

HARRISON

JKH:mjb:nf
In duplicate for WRB files.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED

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I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
ITALIAN PRISONERS OF WAR-RELATIVE X CAMPS
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WRB
General Correspondence
No. 12

Relat (case) for Concentration
camps and German
December 1944

Lets. to Dr. de Schwarzenberg and
Mr. James 8/23 RDM/mjb

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From:

5.93

ICRC food parcels for
camps

1-110
p.m., 1944

Code:

3.00

8.93

parcel of 2 1/2 Kgs.

, 1 p.m.

Belgians might contribute
2 French to cost of packaging

Let me say average 6 frs per
2 1/2 Kg. or 2.5 Kg. parcel

$$50 \text{ Tons} = \frac{20000}{2.5} = 50,000 \text{ Kgs}$$

20,000 parcels at 6

$$\frac{120,000}{6} = 120,000 \text{ Frs.}$$

Conversation with Schwarzenberg
on Thurs. Aug. 24th/44.
Re "KRISTINA" goods

note

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

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WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McCallin's File

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Taylor Date SEP 25 1972

Relief (cases) for Concentration
camps and German
December 1944

Lets. to Dr. de Schwarzenberg and
Mr. James 8/23 RDM/mjb

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department Date: August 21, 6 p.m., 1944
No.: 2872
Code: Received: August 22, 1 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

(O.L.)

WRB No. 135. For McClelland.

Legation's 5228 August 11.

American Red Cross has authorized the use of
50 tons of foodstuffs salvaged from the CHRISTINA
for the Intercross program of concentration camp
parcels. You are hereby authorized to pay ICRC
for these fifty tons from War Refugee Board funds.

You are requested to notify WRB as to the exact
amount paid to Intercross, and to report on the
developments in this feeding program.

Note

HULL

In duplicate

re
Copy in F.A. *[Signature]*

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By B. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
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WRB
GENERAL CONGRESS PANDENKE
M. McClelland

Relat (uses) for Concentration
and German
November 1944

Tel. to Dept. 8/25 RDM/mjb



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse :

G.85
JES/GB

GENÈVE, August 21, 1944.

Palais du Conseil-Général

Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Dear Mr. McClelland,

Let me thank you most warmly for your letter of August 16 and the good news it contains. Would you be so kind as to transmit the best thanks of the International Red Cross Committee to the Authorities concerned in Washington for speeding up the matter and for accepting our proposals? I feel sure that the gratitude of the deportees who will profit by these shipments will be almost boundless, as they are badly in need of this relief.

We have at once arranged to make up 50 tons of the "Cristina" into 2 1/2 kg. parcels and I trust that we shall be able to start despatching them at latest in a fortnight.

As for the 300,000 parcels from the United States of America we shall see to it that our delegation at Goetheberg or possibly at the German port to which the relief will have to be shipped from Goetheberg, be entrusted with the forwarding of these parcels directly to the concentration camps after affixing of the labels. We shall let you know how this scheme is to be carried out.

We shall, of course, set up a strict accounting procedure and let you know exactly the nationalities and the number of individuals of every nationality who will profit by these consignments. As we agreed by telephone not only French and Belgian civilian prisoners should benefit by this scheme but other nationalities too. A provisional list of prisoners of different nationalities to whom we intend sending a first lot of the "Cristina" cargo is enclosed. This list does not comprise the individual parcels of which

./.

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the American Minister
Legation of the United States of America
29, Alpenstrasse
BERNE

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

GENERAL COMMISSARIATE

Mr. McClelland

Relief (1944) for Concentration
Camps and German
Prisoners 1944

National
voix collectifs enlégés

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE



GENÈVE August 21, 1944
Page de Couvert-Envers

2.

we shall despatch about 8000-10.000 at a time. These numbers are of course only approximate; they will change accordingly to the reports we get from our delegates on camp strengths which vary continually.

Thank you again for your great helpfulness in this matter, I am

Sincerely yours,

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge:

A. Schwab
Directeur de la Division
d'Assistance Spéciale

P.S. The names of the camps and their strengths are communicated to you as personal information and we should be grateful if you would treat this confidentially.

MRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's File

1944, Relief (USSR) for Concentration
Camps and German
December 1944

DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
 ONNIIERS DÉ GUERRE

21 août 1944.

vois collectifs envisagés pour la période du 15 août au 15 septembre 1944.

Nationalité	Sachsenhausen <i>Sachsenburg</i>	Ravensbrück	Buchenwald	Dachau	Hamburg <i>Hamburg (Hamburg)</i>	Mauthausen	Natzweiler	Total par nationalités
Belges	500	300	500	400	100	--	100	1.900
Français	500	300	1000	300	200	300	100	2.700
Grecs	200	--	--	100	--	--	--	300
Hollandais	500	200	400	400	300	--	100	1.900
Norvégiens							500	500
Polonais	500	300	400	1000	400	--	300	2.900
Tchèques	200	100	500	--	--	--	--	800
Totals →	2400	1200	2800	2200	1000	300	1100 <i>Total</i>	<u>11,000</u>

DRB
 GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum & Co.

(25) for Concentration
 and German doc
 number 1514

DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
ANNIERS DE GUERRE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

(61)

Bern, August 23, 1944.

Bern, August 23, 1944.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

Dear Mr. James: I have received a cable from the War Refugee Board stating that the American Red Cross has authorized the use of 50 tons of foodstuffs salvaged from the CRISTINA for the International Committee of the Red Cross' program of concentration camp parcels.

I have been authorized to pay for these foodstuffs from War Refugee Board funds at my disposal here in Switzerland. I have notified Dr. de Schwarzenberg of this fact and asked him to inform me of the exact amount owed at his convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Mr. Francis B. James,
American Red Cross,
Hotel des Bergues,
Geneva.

RDM/mjb

REM/mjb

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES-CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland's File

Handwritten initials

Handwritten notes at bottom right

DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
BONNIERS DE GUERRE

352

TELEGRAM RECEIVED



Bern, August 23, 1944.

Bern, August 23, 1944.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I have received a wire this morning from the War Refugee Board stating that the American Red Cross has authorized the use of 50 tons of foodstuffs salvaged from the CRISTINA for the International Committee of the Red Cross' program of concentration camp parcels.

I have been authorized to pay for these foodstuffs from War Refugee Board funds at my disposal here in Switzerland. I have notified Dr. de Schwarzenberg of this fact and asked him to inform me of the exact amount owed at his convenience.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,
International Committee of the Red Cross.

Mr. Francis B. James,
American Red Cross,
Hotel des Bergues,
Geneva.

RDM/mjb

RDM/mjb

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES-CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland's File

44

Special Assistant for Concentration Camps
and German Prisoners
August 1944

DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
ANNIERS DE GUERRE

352

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

(C.I.)

Date: August 23, 7 p.m., 1944

Bern, August 23, 1944.

No.:

Code:

Received: August 24, 7 p.m.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I have just received a cable from the War Refugee Board stating that the American Red Cross has authorized the use of 50 tons of foodstuffs salvaged from the CRISTINA for the International Red Cross program of parcels for concentration camps.

I have been authorized to pay the International Red Cross for these 50 tons from War Refugee Board funds at my disposal. Will you kindly notify me, therefore, at your convenience, of the amount which the War Refugee Board owes you.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.
Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Hotel Metropole,
Geneva.

RDM/mjb

HULL

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES-CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB

General Correspondence

Mr. McClelland's File

Handwritten signature/initials

DECLASSIFIED
DATE 08-11-2001 BY 60322

for Concentration
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I have had received a copy
Dear Mr. de Schwarzenberg:

Belg. v. 52 Jov

LA CROIX-ROUGE
ANNIERS DE GUERRE

352

GENÈVE. 1 SEPT 1944

Let. to de Schwarzenberg 8/25
RDM/mjb

CASE FILE

WRB RDM
- Inaction -

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: August 23, 7 p.m., 1944

No.: 2897

Code: [REDACTED]

Received: August 24, 7 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

10

WRB No. 139.

Department's 2769 August 11.

American Red Cross is shipping within the next three days for WRB via Gothenburg 15,000 three-kilo packages for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps by Intercross. In each parcel there is a receipt card, which is modeled after the POW receipt card of Amcross with the exception that the term "prisoner of war" is deleted and the name International Red Cross is substituted for American Red Cross.

It is suggested that Intercross prepare immediately 15,000 labels to be affixed to these packages at Gothenburg, the parcels then to go forward by the same facilities as Amcross POW packages to northern German ports, for postal despatch thence to detained persons. Immediate confirmation from Intercross of this proposed plan for handling the parcels or their substitute plan for handling them onward from Gothenburg, so that approval of the matter may be cleared with London, will be appreciated.

HULL

WRB
For Action RDM
Answered Aug. 26 1944
No. 5578

In duplicate

re copy in FA

see Sep. 6, No. 5859

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES-CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClellan

for Concentration
& German
1944

LA CROIX-ROUGE
ANNIERS DE GUERRE

352

GENÈVE, 1 SEPT. 1944

CASE FILE
TELEGRAM SENT

By Hand

CL

Date: August 26, 9 a. m., 1944.

To: Department

No: 6572
Bern, August 25, 1944.

Code

Charged to

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I have pleasure in quoting below a message which has been received for the International Committee of the Red Cross from the War Refugee Board:

"American Red Cross is shipping within the next three days for WRB via Gothenburg 15,000 three-kilo packages for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps by International Red Cross. In each parcel there is a receipt card, which is modeled after the POW receipt card of American Red Cross with the exception that the term "prisoner of war" is deleted and the name International Red Cross is substituted for American Red Cross.

"It is suggested that International Red Cross prepare immediately 15,000 labels to be affixed to these packages at Gothenburg, the parcels then to go forward by the same facilities as American Red Cross POW packages to northern German ports, for postal dispatch thence to detained persons."

It would be appreciated if you could confirm to us as soon as possible the details of your proposed plan for handling the parcels both in Gothenburg and later in whatever point in Germany through which they are cleared. This information is necessary so that approval of the British authorities in London may be obtained.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Hotel Metropole,
Geneva.

RDM/mjb

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES-CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CONGRESS PANDS/CKE

M. McClelland

WLL

for Concentration
German doc
1944

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CROIX-ROUGE
ANNIERS DE GUERRE

352

GENÈVE, 1 SEPT. 1944

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department
Date: August 26, 9 a. m., 1944.
No: 5578
Code: XXXXXXXXXX
Charged to:

Paraphrase

Reference is made to the Department's 2897 of August 23.

Intercross expresses its sincere thanks to the WRB and other authorities concerned in Washington for the sympathetic support of the proposals of the Committee and the dispatch with which permission was granted to use part of the cargo of the CRISTINA.

Intercross has at once begun to make up the 50 tons into 2 1/2 kilo parcels and plans to forward the first shipment of about 11,000 parcels within a fortnight to a similar number of political prisoners in the following camps: Buchenwald, Dachau, Hamburg, Natzweiler, Ravensbrueck, Sachsenhausen and the Mauthausen penitentiary. The preliminary lot will go to the following: Czechs, Poles, Norwegians, Dutch, Greeks, French and Belgians.

A strict account of the number of parcels shipped and delivered, the nationalities and location of the beneficiaries will be kept by Intercross. This account will be submitted to us at as regular intervals as is possible.

With regard to the shipment of 300,000 parcels from the United States, Intercross will instruct its delegation at Gothenberg, or possibly at the German port to which relief parcels will have to be shipped from Gothenberg, to supervise their forwarding directly to concentration camps after the parcels have been labeled and addressed. Technical developments in working out this procedure will be reported by Intercross.

From McClelland for WRB.

HARRISON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 25 1972**

RDM:mjb:nf
Copy to RDM

Copy to RDM

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES-CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland

Handwritten mark

for Concentration
German ...

CROIX-ROUGE
MIERS DE GUERRE
352
GENÈVE, 1 SEPT. 1944

WRB
General Correspondence

M. McClelland

814.2 I.R.C. PURCHASES-CONCENTRATION CAMPS



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Télog. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Rappeler dans la réponse:

G. 4/Sec. ZA/00
G. 59/7/WRB G. 85
JES/HL

RECEIVED BY THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
AUG 29 1944
BERN

GENÈVE, August 28, 1944.
Palais du Conseil-Général



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

Dear Mr. McClelland,

I thank you for your letter of August 23rd
informing us that you are authorized to pay us out of the
War Refugee Board's funds the price charged by Amcross for
its 50 tons from "Cristina" cargo.

As soon as we shall have drawn up the exact
amount despatched to the various camps we shall let you know
the sums expended according to the nationality of the
detainees.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Schwab

Legation of the United States of America,
B E R N

Concentration
Camps

INSTITUT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
 LIBRARY
 570 EAST 58TH STREET
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60637
 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES LEGATION
 GENEVE
 352

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
 AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE
 GENEVE, 1 SEPT 1944

Substance of telegram: Sept. 5th.



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
 AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Chèques postaux 1.5527
 Téléphone 4 23 05
 Télég. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Rappeler dans la réponse:

G.85 G.44/Sec.
 ZA/00 JES/HL

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
 OF AMERICA
 Rec'd SEP 1 1944
 BERN

GENÈVE, August 31, 1944.
 Palais du Conseil-Général

Dear Mr. McClelland,

(O.L.)

May I revert to the question of parcels to be despatched to concentration camps and to your letter of August 25.

We have arranged for our representatives who have just left for Gothenburg that everything should be duly prepared there for the taking over of the first batch of 15,000 parcels arriving with the "Gripsholm". They hope to get a group of workers ready to handle these parcels and affix the labels which we prepare at Geneva and send to Gothenburg. Our people in Gothenburg will be in possession of the lists of camps to which the parcels will be sent.

On the other hand, I have had bad news from Germany, in so far as recently orders have been issued to commanders of concentration camps to apply much stricter measures as far as relief is concerned. We shall have to reckon with increasing difficulties and in some cases we shall have to stop our consignments entirely. For instance, in the case of Buchenwald we shall probably be unable to send collective relief but only individual parcels.

As the control of parcels on the German side will be far more minute and, I am afraid, the Amcross receipt-cards which are included in every parcel will very probably not be admitted, despite deletion of the word "Amcross" and its substitution by CICR, I should be grateful if you would notify Washington in a discreet way that in future it should not include any receipt in the parcels, nor have any emblem or other sign affixed showing Amcross or War Refugee Board as the donor.

re labels receipt cards

We shall add our own labels at Gothenburg which - to date - are still tolerated by the secret police in the camps.

Thanking you for your kindness, I am

Sincerely yours,
 Pour le Comité International
 de la Croix Rouge:

[Signature]
 Directeur de la Division
 d'Assistance Spéciale

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland
 Special Assistant to the
 American Minister
 Legation of the United States of America,
 BERN

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's file

Jes: Relat (ues) for Concentration



Poland
COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse :

352

GENÈVE, 1 SEPT. 1944

Chiffres postaux I. 5587
Téléphone 4 23 06
Télégramme "INTERCROIXROUGE"

*In re Polish Airlines
in Camp of PRISZKOW
(Warsaw incident)*

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
Rec'd SEP 2 1944
BERN

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous envoyer ci-inclus, le
texte d'un communiqué que nous remettons aujourd'hui même

de nos

*1 CRC Package for
Concentration camps
September 1944*

International
age.

1 Annexe

*WRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE*

Mr. Maclella JS File

*Spec Relat (CWS) for Concentration
Camps
London 1944*



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse :

352

GENÈVE, 1 SEPT 1944

Ch. des Postes 1.557
Tél. 4 33 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Poland
In re Polish Civilians
in Camp of PRUSZKOW
(Warsaw incident)

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Rec'd SEP 2 1944
BERN

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous envoyer ci-inclus le
texte d'un communiqué que nous remettons aujourd'hui même
à la Presse.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de nos
sentiments distingués.

Ed. CHAPUISAT
Membre du Comité international
de la Croix-Rouge.

1 Annexe

LPRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClellan's file

Spec. Relat (case) for Geneva
... and Geneva Dec
... 1944



PRUSZKOW

Communiqué No 237 b

Genova, September 1st, 1944

THE RED CROSS AND POLISH CIVILIANS IN THE CAMP OF PRUSZKOW

On August 25, the representative in Geneva of the Polish Red Cross in London drew the attention of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the fact that roughly one hundred thousand inhabitants of Warsaw, chiefly women, children and old people, were assembled in the camp of Pruszkow, about twelve miles from Warsaw, without any food supplies, and consequently in a highly critical situation.

The representative of the Polish Red Cross was ready to furnish considerable sums for the purpose of organizing relief activities. Furthermore, the Swedish Red Cross offered to contribute towards this relief work a donation of 15.000 crowns.

Despite the importance of these contributions, the difficulties to be solved are not in the first place of a financial nature. The first task is to find the necessary relief supplies, to secure export permits from the countries where these goods are to be found, and lastly, to convey them with all possible speed to their destination.

Although the International Committee of the Red Cross are entrusted with the administration of stocks of foodstuffs, the latter remain the property of the national Red Cross societies who have placed them in the Committee's hands, for consignment according to instructions given by these Societies, and for the benefit of specific consignees. The International Committee have nevertheless made urgent application to these Societies, with a view to utilizing a part of these food supplies in behalf of the camp of Pruszkow.

Moreover, the Joint Relief Commission of the International Red Cross, - an organ of the International Committee of the Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies, - has taken all necessary steps to ensure the diversion to the camp of Pruszkow of 12 car-loads of food supplies now on their way from Switzerland to Cracow. Further consignments are being prepared by the said Commission.

The rapid transportation of relief to a camp which is in the immediate vicinity of military operations is beset by almost insurmountable obstacles. The despatch of planes and the parachuting of foodstuffs, for instance, can only be carried out with the consent of the belligerents and of all countries crossed in flight, and entails intricate negotiations. Moreover, even a powerful plane can carry only from two to five tons of relief. Supplies for 100,000 persons would therefore require a regular air fleet.

With a view to finding, if possible, a solution to these various problems, the International Committee of the Red Cross have sent a most urgent request to the Governments and national Red Cross Societies concerned, namely the Red Cross Societies of Germany, Great Britain, the United States of America and the U.S.S.R., upon whom depend in the first place the success of any relief action in behalf of the civilians in the camp of Pruszkow.

Lastly, the International Committee have taken the necessary steps to send out one of their delegates to the camp.

URG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McCalla's file

Intel. Riv. (G.S.) for Concentration
Camp and German Govt
September 1944

CASE FILE

Croatian camps see also ICRC Jewish Relief file

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

3

Date: September 2, 5 p.m., 1944

No: 5764

Code: Brown

O.I.

Charged to:

For WRB from McClelland.

Department's 2198, June 28.

ICRC just reported to us visit their Zagreb delegate, Schmidlin, made between July 13 and 17. Accompanied by Director General Police Department and Undersecretary for Work Camps in Ministry of Interior, to camps of Jasenovao, Jablanac, Stara Gradiska and Gredjani Salas in Croatia. Conditions these camps on whole tolerable though primitive. Health of internees is fair, but working hours in shop and field are long (7 to 12 and 14 to 19) for persons living on monotonous and often insufficient diet consisting mainly of corn meal and vegetables. Camps house men and women (strictly separated) both Christian and Jewish under strict "Ustachi" guard. There is an urgent and general need of clothing and shoes in all of these camps.

HARRISON

RDM/mjb:mk

Copy in FA

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland's file

ICRC Relief (uses) for Concentration Camps

and German documents 1944



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

ICRC Parcels for C. Camps.

352

Chèque
Télégramme
Téléphone

(C)

Geneva, September 4th. 1944.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

Allow me to forward to you the name of another internee in the camp of Bergen-Belsen: Mrs. Antoine BUCHSBAUM - which has been communicated to me by the Jewish Agency for Palestine, in the hope that packages can be sent to her.

I made up a short cable to the War Refugee Board on Friday based on the report of your Zagreb Delegate's visit to the camps of Jasenovac, Jablanac, Stara Gradiška and Gredjani Salas in Croatia, stressing in particular the urgent lack of clothing among the internees in all of these camps. I hope that it may be possible to persuade the WRB to forward an initial batch of clothing parcels (containing shoes as well) although in an earlier telegram on this subject they stated that "consideration will be given to the question of adding clothing to food consignments after the scheme has become operative with reference to the establishment by ICRC of effective supervision and control in these camps. ICRC will be asked to report on the state of clothing needs in the camps to which food is delivered (and, by the way, do you plan to send any parcels made up from the Cristina goods to these camps in Croatia?). Prompt arrangements will be made here for obtaining the equivalent of 25,000 parcels of clothing, in anticipation of conducting an experiment in supplying clothing." I should be happy, therefore, to wire to the WRB any further data which your delegates can collect regarding clothing needs in such camps.

I hope within a few days to have some sort of a detailed report on Bergen-Belsen from the Hungarian refugees at present in Montreux. I imagine that you will receive a copy of the same if one has not already been forwarded to you.

I will include tactful reference to the question of Amcross labels in future shipments of parcels for Germany in an early cable. Meanwhile, with kind personal regards, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Roswell McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

RDM/lj

914.2 IR.C. PARCELES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland's file

Israel Relief (WRB) for Concentration Camps

my and German docs
number 1544



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse :

352

GENÈVE, 4 SEPT. 1944

Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

CI



*Re: food procurement set for com. ICRC's
SAS discontinue supply of rest-of-the
panels (privately financed) for con-
centration camp inmates.*

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous envoyer ci-inclus le
texte d'un communiqué que nous remettons aujourd'hui même
à la Presse.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de nos
sentiments distingués.

Ed. CHAPUISAT
Membre du Comité international
de la Croix-Rouge.

1 Annexe

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

ICRC GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McDella is file

Inter-Rita (C) for Concentration
camp German
number 1944

*Feb: ICRC Packages for
C. Camps.*

n'existe qu'en français



C.I.

Communiqué No 238

Genève, le 4 septembre 1944

SERVICE DES "SECOURS INDIVIDUELS"
INTERRUPTION DES ENVOIS DE COLIS STANDARD NOMINATIFS

Le Service des "Secours Individuels" du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge qui a pu, jusqu'ici, grâce à des arrivages fréquents de colis, faire face aux demandes qui lui ont été présentées, informe toutes les personnes désireuses de faire des envois de colis standard, de provenance étrangère, aux prisonniers de guerre en Allemagne, qu'il doit, momentanément suspendre ses expéditions.

Toutes les mesures nécessaires ont été prises pour pallier cette pénurie. Néanmoins, dans les circonstances actuelles, le Service des "Secours Individuels" ne peut prévoir à quel moment le nouveau contingent de colis en commande, sera en sa possession. Il ne manquera pas d'aviser le public, par la voie de la presse, lorsqu'il sera en mesure de reprendre ses envois.

Les expéditions sont donc totalement arrêtées jusqu'à nouvel ordre.

increasingly strict control of all such parcels in concentration camps, Intercross respectfully recommends that in future no receipt cards be placed in parcels since it is forbidden to include any printed material whatever in packages. We will be kept informed of progress in this program by Intercross.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
Copy to RDM

In duplicate to AI

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Park SEP 25 1972

ICRC

GENERAL COMMISSIONER

Mr. McClellan is file

*These Relat (GWS) for Concentration
Camps and German
Prisoners 1944*

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: September 6, 10 a. m., 1944.

No: 5859

Code: [REDACTED]



Charged to:

Paraphrase

From McClelland for WRB with reference to the Department's 2897 of August 23.

According to reports from Intercross, instructions have been given to its delegates, who have already departed for Gothenburg, to make all necessary arrangements there to handle, label and reshipe the initial batch of 15,000 parcels arriving on the GRIPSHOLM for concentration camps in Germany.

Recent news from Intercross delegates in Germany indicates that commanders of concentration camps there have received orders to apply much stricter measures as far as relief for prisoners is concerned. As a result it will probably not be possible to send collective shipments, for instance, to the camp of Buchenwald, but only individual parcels. Consignments may have to be stopped entirely in some camps. In view of the increasingly strict control of all such parcels for concentration camps, Intercross respectfully recommends that in future no receipt cards be placed in parcels since it is forbidden to include any printed material whatever in packages. We will be kept informed of progress in this program by Intercross.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
Copy to RDM

In duplicate to AI

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Order 1-11-72
By R. H. Park SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland is file

These lists (as) for concentration camps
under 1944

1000 Parcels
for C. Camps.

Tel. to Dept.
Let. to Dr. de Schwarzenberg
9/8 RIM/mjb

HRB-R.S.M.

CASE FILE
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: September 7, 5 p.m., 1944

No.: 3091

Code: [REDACTED]

Received: September 8, 9 a.m.

Handwritten note:
8/14/44
22
Sep. 9, 1944
5971

PARAPHRASE

(1)

No. 161 from the War Refugee Board.
For McClelland.

In the opinion of representatives here of the World Jewish Congress, the program recently approved for 300,000 parcels for internment camps specified by the International Red Cross will not benefit many Jews and they suggest that the International Red Cross be urged to include the following camps in this program:

- Belgium - Breendonck and Mechelen
- Netherlands - Barneveld, Vucht and Westerbork
- Germany - Berga/Laim, Bergen Belsen, Birkenau, Faubruck, Graitaitz, Tomersdorf and Triereichwald
- Austria - Mauthausen
- Poland - Czestochowa, Deutachhorst, Jedizejof, Kariljec, Klimentov, Krakow-Fodgereze, Krychow, Sajeczyce, Sanok, Uher, Lutac, Ossawa, Oawlecin, Rejowice, Laziska and Wieliczka
- Slovakia - Serednad Vahun and Vyhne
- Protectorate - Altersheim Prague
- Northern Italy - Cesareo, Fossoli, Monte Ferrato and San Martino di Rosignano.

If you consider it advisable, kindly discuss with the International Red Cross the suggestion made by the World Jewish Congress.

HULL

In duplicate

re *copy in FA*

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Let. 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRC
GENERAL CONGRESS AND DEPT

Mr. McClelland's File

Israel, R.I. (USS) for Concentration
Camps and German Jews
Number 1944

ICRC Packages

Let. to Dr. Ullmann
-et. to deSchwarzenberg
9/14 RDM/mjb

DR. FRITZ ULLMANN

(C.I.)

Bern, 8. September 1944.

Bern, September 8, 1944.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

We have recently received a wire from the War Refugee Board incorporating certain suggestions which were to be expected sooner or later made by the World Jewish Congress. This organization urges that a number of camps where Jewish internees are located be included in the proposed parcel program. I am afraid that most of their suggestions are of a highly impractical nature, and pass them on to you for your appraisal. The "camps" they suggest are as follows:

- Belgium - Breendonck and Mechelen
- Netherlands - Barneveld, Vucht and Westerbork
- Germany - Berga/Laim, Bergen Belsen, Birkenau, Faubruck, Graitaitz, Tomersdorf and Triereichwald
- Austria - Mauthausen
- Poland - Czestochowa, Dautachhorst, Jedizejof, Kariljec, Klimentov, Krakow-Podgereze, Krychow, Sajeczyce, Sanok, Uher, Lutac, Ossawa, Oswiecim, Rejowice, Laziska and Wieliczka
- Slovakia - Serebnad Vahun and Vyhne
- Protectorate-Northern - Altersheim Prague
- Italy - Cesareo, Fossoli, Monte Ferrato and San Martino di Rosignano.

I should welcome any expression of opinion on your part.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Hotel Metropole,
Geneva.

RDM/mjb

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

ICRC General Correspondence

Mr. McClelland is file

ICRC (C.I.) for concentration camps

Thank you for your 2 letters... I have read... report furnished by your friends in... group... parts regarding... names of persons in...

Letter to...

January 1944

1000 Packages.

Let. to Dr. Ullmann
Let. to deSchwarzenberg
9/14 RDM/mjb

Dr. FRITZ ULLMANN

TELEGRAM SENT

SECTION DE TRAVAIL DE BERNE
SEP 9 1944
BERN

Genf, 8. September 1944.
41, rue des Pâquis

Send to ICRG.



Herrn
Roosevelt D. McClelland
Amerik. Gesandtschaft
B e r n
Elfenegasse 6

Sehr geehrter Herr McClelland,

Ich erhielt einige Adressen aus Bergen-Belsen und bitte Sie, diese fuer die Paketaendungen, von denen Sie mir sprachen, frödl. notieren zu wollen.

Ich danke Ihnen im voraus bestens und bin

mit vorzueglicher Hochachtung
Ihr ergebener

F. Ullmann
Dr. F. Ullmann

- Dr. Sarah Friedlaender, Block 11, (Aufenthaltslager Bergen-Belsen, Krs. Celle,)
- Paul Révész, Block 11b/ Arbeitslager Bergen-Belsen, Krs. Celle b/Hannover
- Dr. Otto Zlatner s. Familie, Block 11/ Aufenthaltslager Bergen-Belsen, Krs. Celle,
- Ing. E. Gottesmann, Block 11/ Aufenthaltslager Bergen-Belsen, Krs. Celle.

Thank you for your 2 letters of Sept 5th. I have read
 information, report furnished by your friends in
 Mont. Many group 6 could be with certain pertinent
 parts regarding b1s to 4/15. I have also passed on
 names of persons in b1s you sent me to ICRG for inclusion
 in pack. months but failed.
 Letter to Dr. Schwarzenberg.

LRG

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's File

ICRG R117 (Case) for Concentration Camps

9.4.1 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
B14.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Handwritten notes at bottom right edge.

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: September 9, 1944, 8 p. m.

No: 5971

Code: 

Charged to:

70

Paraphrase

Reference is made to the Department's 3091 of September 7th.

I will take up with Intercross, in an informal manner, the suggestions of the World Jewish Congress concerning "camps" whose inclusion they urge in the 300,000 parcel program. However, I cannot be very optimistic as to the possible results since at least 90% of the places mentioned are quite inaccessible to Intercross. Latter would be unable to exercise, even remotely, the minimum of control necessary over the distribution of parcels and their receipt.

From McClelland for WRB.

HARRISON

RDM:mjb:nf
Copy to RDM

Copied 7a

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP. 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL COMMISSARIATE
Mr. McClelland's file

Israel Relief (WRB) for Concentration
& Germany and German Dec
under 1944



ICRC Packages.

COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse:

G.44/Sec. 28/00
28/00

C.I.

GENEVE, September 15, 1944.
Bureau du Comité Central

Bern, September 14, 1944.

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the
Director of the United States of America

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I enclose herewith the names of four further persons
in the camp of Bergen-Belsen and would appreciate it if
you could include them on your package mailing list. They
are as follows:

- Dr. Sarah Friedlaender, Block 11
- Paul Révész, Block 11b
- Dr. Otto Zlatner s. Familie, Block 11
- Ing. E. Gottesmann, Block 11

(all in the Aufenthaltslager
Bergen-Belsen, Krs. Celle)

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Information supplied
by Dr. Fritz Kellmann

Germany: We are sending parcels to a number of
inmates at Bergen-Belsen and receipts come in regularly.
Dr. J. D. de Schwarzenberg, out of our scheme as well as the
other camps in Silesia - guarantees not being sufficient
Hotel Metropole, delivery of parcels. The other camps
mentioned are unknown to us; their spelling may be partly
incorrect. Perhaps the World Jewish Congress could give us
more precise data.

Rothausen is partly a penitentiary where parcels
do not reach the beneficiaries. On the other hand,

RDM/mjb

B14.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

ICRC

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland's file

Fritz Kellmann (was) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German-occupied
territories, September 1944

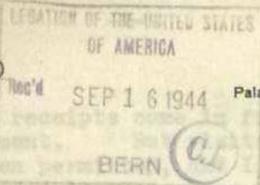


Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse:

G.44/Sec. ZA/00
JES/HL



GENÈVE, September 15, 1944.

Palais du Conseil-Général

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the
American Minister
Legation of the United States of America,
B e r n

*Dept's 3091, Sept 7th
Regt's 5971, Sept 9th
preliminary*

Dear Mr. McClelland,

May we refer to your letter of September 8, 1944, indicating a number of camps which, in the opinion of the World Jewish Congress, ought to be included in the parcel-scheme.

Belgium: no longer necessary.

Netherlands: We have tried several times to get parcels through to Vught and Westerbork. From Vught we have heard since then that parcels are not admitted. In the case of Westerbork too, results were absolutely negative, but we heard lately through the German Red Cross that collective relief could be sent there. The Commission Mixte is now examining the possibility of making use of this suggestion and, if feasible, would use a reserve of funds left over from the 100,000\$ of the Joint transferred by courtesy of the War Refugee Board. We have tried to approach Westerbork through Protestant circles in the Netherlands who, it was reported, were able to get into touch with this camp via Amsterdam. Our endeavours were unfortunately fruitless.

Germany: We are sending parcels to a number of inmates at Bergen-Belsen and receipts come in regularly. Birkenau has been ruled-out of our scheme as well as the other camps in Silesia - guarantees not being sufficient for the regular delivery of parcels. The other camps mentioned are unknown to us; their spelling may be partly incorrect; perhaps the World Jewish Congress could give us more precise data.

Mauthausen is partly a penitentiary where parcels do not reach the beneficiaries. On the other hand,

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

ICRC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's File

ICRC Relief (uses) for Concentration
Germany and German Occupied
November 1944

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

-2-

sometimes receipts come in from the camps attached to this establishment. But visits by our delegates have hitherto not been permitted, and I should not like to see this camp included in our scheme as long as we have no sufficient possibility of checking distribution.

Poland: is out of the question owing to the Russian advance. We cannot accept parcels for Oswiecim - we are not sufficiently sure of delivery.

Slovakia: We have no delegation in that country. Sered is said by the way to have been occupied by Free Forces and the inmates liberated.

Protectorate: We never have heard of an Altersheim Prague and believe there must be some mistake. Theresienstadt of course is regularly provided with our parcels.

Northern Italy: The camps containing Jews are in the hand of the German Police and so far all attempts to investigate them have lead to no result. But we are keeping them in mind and are planning a new demarche.

Sincerely yours,

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge:

R. G. Lawrence

Directeur de la Division
d'Assistance Spéciale

LRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCalla is file

Israel Relief (uses) for Germany and German Jews
number 1074

*ICRC Packages
to various technical points: markings,
labelling, receipt cards, etc.*

WRB ROM

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

*Phoned ROM
6:20 pm
18th*

From: Department Date: September 18, 9 p.m., 1944
No: 3208
Code: Brown Received: September 18, 10 a.m.

(C.L.)

The following for McClelland is WRB 174 and refers to your 5859 of September 6.

Packing of remaining 285,000 three-kilo parcels about to be begun by Amoross. One each of following items:

One pound oleomargarine, one pound powdered milk, 12 ounces meat, 8 ounces salmon or tuna, 8 ounces cheese, 7 ounces biscuits, 8 ounces sugar, 4 ounces chocolate, 2 ounces soap, and package of cigarettes in each individual parcel.

Instructions from Board regarding receipt cards to be enclosed each parcel desired by Amoross. Ascertain from Interross the substitute method by which actual receipt of parcels by beneficiaries shall be realized, if receipt cards such as were enclosed in each of original 15,000 parcels already shipped are unacceptable. Specific instructions concerning markings on outer shipping carton also desired by Amoross. Each outer shipping carton will contain six three-kilo parcels. Ascertain from Interross if markings on original shipment acceptable or their substitute. In order not to delay Amoross production, imperative we have immediate answer.

HULL

re

Copied in FA

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRG

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland's File

*Teel, R. (WRB) for Concentration
Germany and German Decree
November 1944*

Let. to Schwarzenber
Reply to Ullmann 9/25 RDM/mjb

Dr. FRITZ ULLMANN

(C.I.)

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
SEP 18 1944
BERN

Geneva, September 17th, 1944
44, rue des Pâquis

Mr.
Roswell McClelland
American Legation
B e r n
Elfenstrasse 6

Dear Sir,

I received a post-card from the family Sally and Herta Goldmann, Aufenthaltslager Bergen-Belsen, Krs. Celle and I beg you to note kindly the above-mentioned address and to send them some parcels, if possible.

Thanking you very much in advance, I remain,

Yrs. very truly

F. Ullmann
Dr. F. Ullmann

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
M. McClelland's file
Jacek, Rata (C.I.) for concentration
Germany and German Dec
number 1944

WRTS parcels in Göteborg



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA 00 - G. 85

GENÈVE, 20 Septembre 1944.

Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Télog. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

RM/PV/RR.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
REC'D SEP 21 1944
BERN

Palais du Conseil-Général

Monsieur McClelland,
Légation des Etats-Unis,
29, Alpenstrasse,
BERNE.

(C.L.)

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de nous référer à l'entretien téléphonique que nous avons eu le 18 septembre 1944 concernant la réception, à Göteborg, des colis de vivres parvenus par "SS GRIPSHOLM". A ce sujet, notre envoyé nous télégraphie les remarques suivantes:

1667
5000
" accusés reception interieur colis portent adresse recto
1erc geneva switzerland gebuerenfret postage free franc
de port stop unsixsisept cartons contiennent dixmilledeux
colis dont emballage trop grand contenu se deplace par con-
sequent et emballage interieur particulièrement sucre parti-
ellement abime donc repandu dans colis stop chaque carton
exterieurement mention relative a la dimension et a la re-
sistance du carton stop ces colis pourraient etre mis dans
papier emballage ficelles et expedies postalement stop
cinqmille colis sont emballes dans plus petits cartons conte-
nu est par consequent pas abime mais bande de surete trop
faible pour remise tels quels autorites postales devraient
donc etre munis de papier emballage et ficelles stop ces
colis portent exterieurement egalement mention relative a
dimension et garantie resistance en plus sur deux faces men-
tion suivante social treat champion food assorment packed by
social treat ni recouverte de papier et en plus non recou-
verte la mention for defense save and sell the empty carton
as wastepaper stop attendons instructions pour reemballage
eventuel et adresses pour reexpedition stop "

10,002

Pour votre information, nous vous transmettons,
en annexe, la copie de notre réponse à Göteborg.

.....

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRG

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McClelland's file

These Relief Cases for Concentration Camps in Germany and German occupied territories
December 1944

Nous sommes donc obligés de faire reconditionner tous les paquets à nos frais et afin d'éviter cet inconvénient lors du prochain arrivage (285.000 colis), nous vous serions reconnaissants s'il vous était possible de donner les instructions nécessaires à Amcross pour que la marchandise soit emballée dans des cartons de dimensions correspondantes et sur lesquels ne doivent figurer aucune inscription en anglais.

En ce qui concerne les accusés de réception, le texte de ceux-ci devrait être rédigé en allemand au recto et en allemand et français au verso. Ces cartes seraient à inclure dans une partie des colis que nous réexpédierons en envois collectifs (185.000 colis). Le texte exact de ces cartes serait le suivant et nous vous prions de faire imprimer celles-ci aux Etats-Unis et de les mettre à l'intérieur des 185.000 colis mentionnés, à condition que vous soyez en mesure de transmettre le texte intégralement.

(Texte des quittances - accusés de réception)

Front

RECTO : gauche en haut **Comité International de la Croix-Rouge - G e n e v e .**

droite en haut **Gebührenfrei - Franc de port**

au centre **Zurück an das INTERNATIONALE KOMITEE VOM ROTEN KREUZ -Zentralstelle für Kriegsgefangene GENF Schweiz**

Back

VERSO: en-tête **EMPFANGSBESCHEINIGUNG - QUITTANCE**

gauche en haut **Sendung Nr. ZU
Envoi No. _____**

droite en haut **Erhalten am _____
Reçu le _____**

au centre **Unterschrift des Empfängers:
Signature du destinataire :
_____**

gauche en bas **Genau e Adresse (Block) _____**

droite en bas **Matrikelnummer ;
Numéro matricule : _____**

.....

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McCalla's file

Take 1 Rivet (case) for Concentration Camps
Germany and German
December 1944

Le solde de 100.000 colis que nous comptons utiliser pour des expéditions individuelles, devrait ne contenir aucune quittance intérieure, car l'étiquette cartonnée que nous apposerons à Göteborg à l'extérieur du paquet, sert d'accuse de réception. Au cas où il ne serait pas possible de confectionner les colis de cette manière avec les accusés de réception tels que nous vous l'avons indiqué ci-dessus, nous préfererions alors recevoir la totalité des 285.000 colis sans cartes-quitances.

Nous serions également reconnaissants que l'on évite d'appliquer des étiquettes ou impressions sur les caisses ou cartons contenant les colis. Nous serions ainsi en mesure de les employer pour la réexpédition de Göteborg en y collant les adresses des camps.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre considération la plus distinguée.

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge:

W. Schwagerlberg

Annexes.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRG

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

M. McDella's File

Israel Relief (I.R.C.) for Concentration
Germany and German Jews
December 1944



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Requiescete la réponse.

S. 23
J23/mha/38

GENÈVE, September 21, 1944.
Palais de la Croix-Rouge

SERVICE C.G.C.
ZA 00 - RM/RR

CHARGE COMITE
19 septembre 1944.

Re: Individual parcels from French North Africa.
elt Interoreixrouge stockholm
Reference: Our telephone conversation of September 19, 1944.

pour sueller votre l^e du 13/9 deuxième partie stop
remerçons informations concernant réception 15002 colis
pour ecc stop pensons indispensable remballer contenu
dans cartons adhoc stop considérons emballage papier
insuffisant stop disposeriez vous maind'oeuvre nécessaire
au reconditionnement rapide 15002 colis ? tous frais
reconditionnement à débiter ecc stop pour votre infor-
mation avons expédié avec notes 151/ 154/ 155 Jeux deti-
quettes pour réexpédition 2163 colis pour pe catégorie
dix à ladresse no 1060 stop cet envoi numéro
centquatrevingt-trois a comprenant que colis individuels
des accusés réception intérieur colis sont inutiles stop
étiquette cartonnée sert quittance stop étiquettes pour
réexpédition solde suivront régulièrement stop

However, Interoreixrouge 39106
rép. télégramme reçu au Secours No. enreg. 3.6196 B-
traité par Secrétariat Secours. Date arr. 14.9.44

R. Moynier.

Mr. Roswell McNeill
Special Assistant to the American Minister
Legation of the United States of America
29, Alpenstrasse,
S. 23.23.3.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

URIC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McNeill's file

Israel Rivet (URS) for Concentration
Germany and German desert
November 1944



**COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE**

*French Colonial parcels - re their
reassignment to C. camp inmates.*

Rappeler dans la réponse :

G.85
JES/mha/GB

GENÈVE, September 21, 1944.

Palais du Conseil-Général

Chèques postaux 1, 5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

RECEIVED
DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
SEP 22 1944
BERN

(C.L.)

Re. : Individual parcels from French North Africa.

Reference : Our telephone conversation of September 19, 1944.

Dear Mr. McClelland,

A large number of food parcels intended for French prisoners of war and sent by relief organizations in French North Africa on behalf of the next-of-kin have been stocked for some considerable time in our warehouses in Switzerland.

These parcels containing various foodstuffs, such as canned fish and meat, dehydrated vegetables, chocolate and also tobacco and soap, were originally intended for French prisoners of war from North Africa who were scattered throughout prisoners of war camps in Germany, and chiefly for French colonial prisoners of war who were formerly in camps in France and cannot be reached now.

The Delegation of Red Cross Societies of the French Empire, acting for the "Commissariat aux prisonniers, déportés et réfugiés" (Comte de Leusse), would like to utilize 40,000 of these parcels, out of a total of approximately 260,000, for French political internees in Germany.

However, when these goods were shipped to Geneva, it was with the agreement of the blockade authorities, and they were intended for prisoners of war. These authorities will now have to give their consent to the shipment of the supplies to another category of war victims.

Mr. Roswell McClelland
Special Assistant to the American Minister
Legation of the United States of America
29, Alpenstrasse,
B e r n e

814.2 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

LRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
M. McClelland's File

ICRC Relief (C.R.S.) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and Germany
December 1944

* ... the ... parcels.



COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
LE COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

- 2 -

There is little hope of the 300.000 parcels of the War Refugee Board reaching the concentration camps in the near future, and even the 15.000 parcels already unloaded in Göteborg will require some time before arriving in Germany. The International Committee of the Red Cross would therefore be very grateful if you could use your influence with the relevant authorities to obtain their permission to utilize immediately 40.000 of these North African parcels which could be despatched at very short notice from Geneva.

These consignments to French political internees would be sent under the terms agreed to, and with the usual guarantees with which you are already familiar.

Please inform us if you are able to undertake all the necessary steps involved by this proposal, and whether in your opinion a similar letter should be sent to Mr. Sullivan and possibly to Mr. Reagan.

Thanking you in advance for your kind cooperation,

Yours sincerely,

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge,

J. Lelway en berey
Directeur de la Division
d'Assistance Spéciale

Repeat to London

*DRG
GENERAL CONGRESS PENDING*

Mr. McClellan's File

*IRCI: R114 (1945) for Concentration
in Germany and German Occupied
December 1944*

Re: receipts from Dachau for CRISTINA parcels.



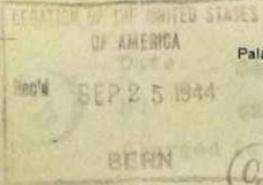
Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Télag. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA/00

JES/HL



GENÈVE, September 21, 1944.

Palais du Conseil-Général

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the
American Minister
Legation of the United States of America,
B e r n

Reference is made to our letter of September 17, 1944 and the Department's copy of September 7th.

~~Confidential~~

Dear Mr. McClelland,

As I was not able to reach you by telephone I just like to confirm that after having sent 3000 parcels out of CRISTINA cargo to the camp of Dachau receipts are coming in continuously in an extraordinary short time. They have brought us already about 6000 new names of deportees. We shall let you know how many names we got from that camp altogether once the inflow of receipts will have stopped.

Sincerely yours,

R. Schwab

Germany - parcels are being sent with regularity.
Poland - Birkenau and Gosciniec, as well as other camps in Silesia, have been ruled out as delivery guarantees are insufficient. The winter escape mentioned are not known to us. The spelling may be partly incorrect.

URC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

M. McClelland's file

Israel Relief (USA) for Concentration Camps in Germany and Eastern Europe
December 1944

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: September 21, 5 p. m., 1944.

No: 6265

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:



Paraphrase

Following is from McClelland for WRB.

Reference is made to our 5971 of September 9th and the Department's 3091 of September 7th.

We have now received a full report from Intercross in reply to the proposals of the World Jewish Congress as to the "camps" which might be included in the parcel program of Intercross. The following is the substance of the report in question:

- "1. Belgium - No longer necessary.
- 2. The Netherlands - We have made repeated attempts to get parcels through to Westerbork and Vught. We received news that no parcels were admitted to Vught and the results obtained in the case of Westerbork were also negative, although we recently heard through the German Red Cross that collective shipments could be sent there. the IRC Joint Relief Commission is closely examining this possibility and, if feasible, plans to use the funds left over from the JDC \$100,000 sent to Intercross. Attempts to get in touch with Westerbork through Protestant circles in the Netherlands were also fruitless.
- 3. Germany - Parcels are being sent to a number of internees in Bergen-Belsen and receipts come in with regularity.
- 4. Poland - Birkenau and Oswięcim, as well as other camps in Silesia, have been ruled out as delivery guarantees are insufficient. The other camps mentioned are not known to us. The spelling may be partly incorrect.

More

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By E. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)

Inter: Relief (uses) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German-occupied
December 1944

More precise data from WJC would be appreciated.

5. Austria - Mauthausen proper is a penitentiary where parcels do not reach beneficiaries, although some receipts have arrived from camps attached to this establishment. We have never been able to secure permission for one of our delegates to visit Mauthausen. So long as we have no satisfactory possibility of checking distribution, we are reluctant to include this camp in the parcel scheme.

6. Slovakia - We have no delegate in that country. It was reported recently that the Camp of Sered was occupied by Czech resistance and the internees liberated.

7. Protectorate - We have never heard of an 'Altersheim Prague' and believe there must be some mistake. Theresienstadt is provided with our parcels regularly.

8. Northern Italy - All camps containing Jews there are under the control of the Gestapo and, so far, all our attempts to either send in relief or make visits have been without result. We are continuing our efforts and are planning a new démarche at present."

Intercross message ends.

With reference to paragraph 5 above, I recently confidentially delegated a man returning to Austria who has the necessary contacts to send us as full a report as possible on concentration camps in that country and to feel out various camp commanders with a view to getting parcels to prisoners at least.

Regarding the Jews imprisoned in Northern Italy, I am constantly attempting, both independently and in conjunction with Dr. Riegner of the WJC to organize rescue operations. However, most camps where Jews are confined prior to deportation are located in areas where rescue operations by the Italian Resistance are geographically exceedingly difficult and risky. Resistance representatives here state that they are too ill equipped in arms, trucks, fuel, etc., to undertake such operations. Consequently, I have had to limit aid to sending funds to finance people in hiding, false papers, acquiescence local officials, under cover travel and similar aid.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
Copy to RDM

copy to RDM

Separate subject

Separate subject

*DRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND*

*Mr. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)*

*Israel Relief (USA) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Occupied
December 1944*

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: September 21, 1944, 6 p. m.

No: 6263

Code: Brown

Charged to:

For WRB from McClelland.

Department's 3208, September 16.

ICRC has just received report from its delegate in Gothenburg concerning 15,002 parcels which arrived on GRIPSHOLM. Regarding one lot comprising 1667 shipping cartons containing 10,002 parcels he states that individual parcel cartons were too large for contents which had moved around with result that considerable portion of sugar, for example, was lost. Balance of 5,000 parcels were packed in smaller cartons so that contents were intact, although tape encircling them was too weak to permit reshipping by mail without reconditioning. ICRC delegate further reports that outside of individual parcel cartons bore various texts in English which will make mailing into Germany for concentration camps difficult.

As regards packaging of future shipment of 285,000 parcels ICRC strongly recommends that individual parcel cartons be compact, sturdy, not too large for contents and bear on exterior no (repeat no) printing whatsoever in any language. Outer shipping carton should also be plain with exception of address: "Delegate of International Committee of the Red Cross, Gothenburg, Sweden."

Regarding receipt cards, those enclosed in original 15,002 parcels were unfortunately not entirely satisfactory. ICRC asks that Amcross have receipt cards printed according to sample being forwarded to Amcross by wirephoto September 22. Such receipt cards should be included in 185,000 parcels which will be sent into camps in collective shipments.

The balance of 100,000 parcels should contain no receipt cards whatsoever. ICRC will use these for

individual

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

M. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC: Relief (cases) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German-occupied
Poland
September 1944

individual mailing and will attach to each a special tag back of which constitutes a receipt to be returned to ICRC Geneva. Such tags have been used with considerable success so far.

Very encouraging results have been recently obtained with first batch of parcels made up from CRISTINA goods and ICRC has already gotten back about 1500 receipt cards from camp of Dachau alone each one bearing signatures and numbers of from one to 15 prisoners so that valuable data on at least five times number of prisoners as parcels sent has been received.

ICRC states that considerable difficulty is being encountered transshipping parcels from Gothenburg to Germany, concerning which I assume Amcross is keeping you posted.

Please express to Amcross ICRC's warm appreciation of their invaluable aid in making up these parcels.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
Copy to RDM

Copy in FA

844 2 T.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

USRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC: Relief (aid) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Occupied
December 1944

ICRC - Packages
force camps.

SEP 22/44

OHRENFREI
C DE PORT

3

1944.

OHRENFREI
DE PORT

GENF

SCHWEIZ

**INTERNATIONALE KOMITEE
VOM ROTEN KREUZ**

Zentralstelle für Kriegsgefangene

GENF

SCHWEIZ

HARRISON

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

DRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND

Mr. Mclelland's files
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief Cases for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German-occupied
December 1944

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972



GEBÜHRENFREI
FRANC DE PORT

Zurück an das

**INTERNATIONALE KOMITEE
VOM ROTEN KREUZ**

Zentralstelle für Kriegsgefangene

GENF

SCHWEIZ

RENPREI
DE PORT

1944.

**INTERNATIONALE KOMITEE
VOM ROTEN KREUZ**

Zentralstelle für Kriegsgefangene

The pictures are being sent today.
The photo graphs made them a
bit big, but I suppose it
is best for the sake of
clarity.
Wheat.

WRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

814.2 I.H.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClelland is file
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief (USA) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Occupied
December 1944

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

AMCROSS WASHINGTON FROM WRB MCCLELLAND

, 1944.



GEBÜHRENFREI
FRANC DE PORT

GEBÜHRENFREI
FRANC DE PORT

Zurück an das
**INTERNATIONALE KOMITEE
VOM ROTEN KREUZ**
Zentralstelle für Kriegsgefangene

GENEVE
SCHWEIZ

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. MCCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland is file
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief (aid) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German
December 1944

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

AMCROSS WASHINGTON FROM WRB MCCLELLAND

944.

EMPFANGSBESCHEINIGUNG
QUITTANCE

Sendung Nr : ZU
Envoi No

Erhalten am :
Reçu le

Unterschrift des Empfängers :
Signature du destinataire :

Genaue Adresse (Block)..... Matrikelnummer :
Numéro matricule

HARRISON

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. MCCLELLAND

814,2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

M. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

These 1st Aid (uses) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Occupied
Areas, 1941-1945, December 1941

AMCROSS WASHINGTON FROM WRB MCCLELLAND



GEBÜHRENFREI
FRANC DE PORT

Zurück an das
**INTERNATIONALE KOMITEE
VOM ROTEN KREUZ**
Zentralstelle für Kriegsgefangene

GENF
SCHWEIZ

HARRISON

81A, 2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

M. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 20 1972

ICRC Relief Cases for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German
December 1944

AMCROSS WASHINGTON FROM WRB MCCLELLAND

, 1944.

**EMPFANGSBESCHEINIGUNG
QUITTANCE**

P. 10039

Sendung Nr Erhalten am
Envoi No : ZU Reçu le :

Unterschrift des Empfängers :
Signature du destinataire :

Genaue Adresse (Block)..... Matrikelnummer
Numéro matricule :

HARRISON

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

M. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

Jack R. Rife (USA) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Decree
December 1941

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

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

Code: ~~SECRET~~

TO

No: 6305 (London: 1757)

Charged to:

Paraphrase

Repeated to London.

The Department should refer to its 2769 of August 11th in connection with the Legation's 6306 of today's date from McClelland for the War Refugee Board.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
Copy to RDM

copy in file

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

*WRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND*

*Mr. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)*

*Jack Keller (was) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Dec
September 1944*

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department Date: September 23, 11 a. m., 1944.
 No: 6305 (London 1758)
 Code: Brown Charged to:

In line with ICRC's food parcel program for political prisoners in concentration camps in Germany following request was received from ICRC on September 22d.

A stock of food parcels originally sent by relief organizations in French North Africa on behalf of next-of-kin has been stored in Switzerland for many months. These parcels were originally intended for French pows from North Africa scattered throughout prison camps in Germany and particularly for French colonial pows in camps in former German occupied France who cannot now be practically reached.

Delegation of Red Cross Societies of French Empire, acting for "Commissariat for Prisoners, Deportees and Refugees" (De Leusse) has expressed its urgent wish to ICRC to use 40,000 of these parcels out of total of approximately 260,000 for French political internees in Germany under the ICRC-WRB parcel program for this category of Nazi victims. But since these parcels were shipped to Switzerland in agreement with the Blockade Authorities for pows, special permission would be required, as in case of salvaged CRISTINA goods, to use them for a different category of beneficiaries.

In view of fact that some time will elapse before WRB's 285,000 parcels can reach camps in Germany, and that even 15,000 recently unloaded at Gothenburg cannot be dispatched immediately due to shipping difficulties, ICRC would be very grateful if, with support of WRB, the necessary authorization could be secured to use 40,000 of these parcels. I warmly second ICRC's request since these parcels could be forwarded to Germany at very short notice

to

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File (Switzerland)

IARC: Relief (WRB) for Concentration Camps in Germany and German Occupied Territories - September 1944

6305 (London 1757)

-2-

to take advantage of rapidly dwindling transport facilities.

Such parcels would naturally be distributed under terms agreed to and with ICRC guarantees as set forth in Legation's 4578, July 18 (1262 to London).

An early answer would be most appreciated.

Repeated to London.

HARRISON

RDM:nf
Copy to RDM

Copy in FA

WRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

ICRC Relief (1943) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German-occupied
Areas, April-December 1944

ICRC Packages

THE OFFICE OF THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION
JERUSALEM AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

C.I.

46

Bern, September 25, 1944.
Bern, September 25, 1944.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Dear Dr. Ullmann:
Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

In response to your letter of the 17th of September, I take the liberty of forwarding to you the names of two further persons in the camp of Bergen-Belsen to which I have recently received from Dr. Ullmann: the International Committee of the Red Cross with a request that they be included in the package mailing list. Sally and Herta Goldmann, Aufenthaltslager Bergen-Belsen, Krs. Celle.

It would be appreciated if you could include these persons on your list of package beneficiaries.

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

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Dr. F. Ullmann,
44 rue des Pâquis,

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg,
International Committee of the Red Cross,
Hotel Métropole,
Geneva.

RDM/mjb

RDM/mjb

ICRC
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)

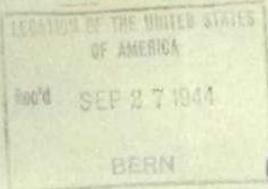
Israel Relief (ICRC) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German-occupied
Areas, Berlin, December 1944

הנהלת ההסתדרות הציונית והסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

**THE EXECUTIVE OF
THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION / THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE**

GENEVA OFFICE

Telephone : 291.74
Telegrams : Zionorg Genève
Letters : Zionist Organisation
37, quai Wilson, Genève (Suisse)
K/DT - 4/14



Genève, September 26th, 1944
37, quai Wilson

Dear Mr. McClelland,

With reference to my previous letters, I beg
to add the names of

Mrs. Leontine Teichthal
Mrs. Brauna Goldwasser
Mrs. Anna Steinberg

to those already communicated as internees in Bergen-Belsen.

We shall be extremely grateful for the kind
transmission of these names to the I.R.C.C. in order to
have them included in the parcels' list for Bergen-Belsen.

With many thanks
very sincerely

yours

M. Kahany
Dr. M. Kahany
Secretary General

Mr. Roswell Dr. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister,
B e r n

814.2 I.R.C.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

DRG
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's file
(Switzerland)

Israel Relief (C.A.S.) for Concentration
Camps and German Jews
- December 1944

Should send IRCC parcels.

parcels to Marseille
in relation to American -

(Wash.)

Do not insist on (C.I.) Heberg

Much more
Marseille

de 5
to Paris

No
Hungary but spaghetti

Lithuanian Jews

IVED

Bern, September 27, 1944. 1944

September 30, 11 a.m.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

We recently received a cable from the War Refugee Board reporting that according to information the Board has received several thousand Jews are stated to be held in the region of the East Prussian-Lithuanian frontier in a camp or locality by the name of "Krotzingen." Any information which you might have or might receive from your Delegates in Germany concerning such a camp would be appreciated as well as any efforts which could be undertaken by the International Red Cross Committee in this direction. The same cable also states that the deportation of 7500 Jews from Kaunas to East Prussia has been reported.

On returning to Bern I found a long letter from Mr. Kahany of the "Jewish Agency for Palestine" along with which he forwarded to me a list comprising some 175 names of Hungarian Jews belonging to the group of 1,366 still interned in Bergen-Belsen. He hopes that "it will be possible for you to arrange for them to receive parcels through the IRCC paid for by the War Refugee Board." In principle I should have no objection to this although I am not aware that the IRCC is forwarding any parcels to interned Jews which "are paid for by the WRB." The only parcel scheme for which the WRB will eventually pay is that involving the CRISTINA goods which are going to concentration camps for political prisoners in Germany rather than to Jews.

Please let me know whether there is any practical use in my forwarding these lists to you since Mr. Kahany is volunteering to send me a list of all 1,366 persons in Bergen-Belsen (that is, the Hungarians).

Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg
Comité International de la Croix-Rouge
Hotel Métropole - G e n e v a.

814.2 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's File
(Switzerland)

IRCCI Relief (C.I.R.) for Concentration Camps in Germany and German Occupied Areas, April - December 1944

Should send \$85,000
parcels to Marseille -
in relation to Amchov -
(Wash.)

Do not insist on Goteberg
much more probable &
Marseille will work.

De Lussac is going back
to Paris.

No more stuff from
Hungary but spaghettis.

Oct. 3rd

IVED

September 29, 8 p.m., 1944

361

September 30, 11 a.m.

PROGRAM (WRB)

set forth in your
recommended to
communicate direct

HULL

Received
WRB
Sep. 30/44
HULL

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McClellan's File

Israel Relief (WRB) for Concentration
Germany and German Occupied
April - December 1944

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: September 29, 8 p.m., 1944

Code: Brown

No: 3361

Received: September 30, 11 a.m.

(C.I.)

ICRC REQUEST RE FOOD PARCEL PROGRAM (WRB)

Favorable action on request set forth in your 6306, of September 23, has been recommended to London, with request that London communicate direct with Bern in regard thereto.

HULL

/nrm

Copy in FA

Received WRB Sep. 30/44
by [unclear]
[unclear]
[unclear]

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Mr. McCella's file

Telex Relief (WRB) for Concentration Camps in Germany and German occupied territories - December 1944