War Refugee Board
American Legation
Bern, Switzerland

I. INTERNATIONAL RESCUE AND RELIEF
COMMITTEE (E. HERTHOLZ)
March - November 1944

II. JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE
February - November 1944

****

Juris-Mappe Nr. 1000 (32 x 24 cm)
Kaiser & Co. A.-G., Bern
March 14, 9 p.m., 1944

Dear Mr. Reagan,

I should like to advise you that in connection with this case of a license for a Jewish family to travel, the Department of Justice has decided to issue the necessary papers.

If there is any further information required, please let me know.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

International Rescue and Relief Committee

March, April, May 1944

in triplicate
in triplicate

15 March 44

Mr. Rahm—

Please tell Mr. Cooper...
You are requested to advise René Bertholet, 14 Waserstrasse, Zurich, that the Treasury has issued license No. W-2138 to the International Rescue and Relief Committee, New York City, for the purpose of effecting relief and evacuation operations in enemy territory and territory occupied by the enemy. The text of this license is identical in all respects with those issued to the World Jewish Congress, the Union of Orthodox Rabbis and the American Joint Distribution Committee (see Department’s 584, of February 21), with the exception that the license to the International Relief and Rescue Committee specifies in paragraph (b) that the total sum authorized for the six months period beginning February 15 (repeat February 15) 1944, shall not exceed Swiss francs 255,000, or the equivalent in dollars thereof.

The operations covered by this license are approved by the Department, the Treasury and the War Refugee Board.

/Inm

in triplicate

Received C:\DJR
For Action
Answered 4/40
No. 21387
For International Red Cross and Relief Committee file

Extract from telegram no. 851 March 15 from Department in 848 American Committee for Christian Refugees Inc.

Mr. René Eberhard,
14 December, 1917.

Dear Sir:

"...The licenses mentioned above together with all others identified with them are to be construed as specifically permitting operations looking only towards effecting the relief of persecuted persons in territory occupied by the enemy."

Authorization is hereby granted to your representative in Switzerland, together with such assistants as he may appoint, to proceed to General Headquarters, to which may be addressed by the applicant on matters which may be granted by the expedient on necessary to communicate with persons in enemy territory or in territory occupied by the enemy for the purpose of arranging the evacuation of persons in such territory. Wives or legal representatives may be authorized to exercise any necessary acts, including the payment of funds to persons in enemy territory or in territory occupied by the enemy who may have provided service or help in connection with the protectorate. For the purpose of evacuation the necessary legal instruments for the purpose of evacuation are also hereby granted from the Committee.

The above-mentioned persons are hereby authorized, subject to such trusts, conditions, or restrictions as my be found necessary, to proceed to Switzerland or to any of the neutral countries for the purpose of arranging the evacuation of persons in enemy territory or in territory occupied by the enemy who may have provided service or help in connection with the protectorate."

September last demandez si possibilité envoyer argent Ernesto stop Si Salvesini dans l'impossibilité envoyer argent à Ernesto.
Dear Sir:

The Department has received from the Department of State, Washington, D.C., a telegram directing it to communicate to you, as the representative of the Swiss International Rescue and Relief Committee, New York, City, the text of the following license, No. W-2139, which has been issued to this organization by the Treasury Department with the approval of the Department of State and the War Refugee Board:

"(A) Authorization is hereby granted to your representative in Switzerland, together with such agents as he may appoint, notwithstanding exchange standing General Rule No. 11, by any means to which may be deemed by him expedient or necessary, to communicate with persons in enemy territory or in territory occupied by the enemy, for the purpose of arranging the evacuation of persons in such territory, whose lives may be in imminent danger to such persons or on account of their relative safety as may be in your representative's opinion, and until such time as such evacuation is possible, to arrange for the safeguarding and maintenance of such persons, and to pursue any other action which may be appropriate for said purposes, including the payment of funds to persons in enemy territory or in territory occupied by the enemy who may have provided assistance or goods in connection with the evacuation. For the purpose of acquiring the necessary local currency for the purposes of any such notes, provided that such reasonable controls are taken by your representative to prevent such notes or exchange from being acquired by persons from whom the enemy may receive them.

B. "
financing the operations referred to above, the following three methods are authorized, provided that method number 3 should not be used if it is not feasible to obtain the local currency by either of the other two methods mentioned: the dollar equivalent thereof.

(1) By purchasing in Switzerland the currency or exchange of the country in which the operations are to take place, provided that the sellers of such currency have held it since before the date as of which such country was frozen by this Government, or that, if the currency was acquired subsequently thereto, the acquisition took place under circumstances from which the enemy did not benefit, your representative when possible to consult with the American Legation, Bern. Sellers of such local currency or exchange may be reimbursed in Swiss francs at the prevailing unofficial rate of exchange in Switzerland.

(2) By purchasing in enemy or enemy-occupied territory the local currency or exchange of the country in which the operations are to take place, provided reimbursement is to be made only after the war. By the establishment on your books in the United States of a blocked account, reimbursement subsequent to the war to the sellers of such local currency or exchange may be insured; or such blocked account may be in a bank in the United States or Switzerland, provided that without specific approval of the Treasury in each case there shall be no assignment of any interest in such blocked account or payment from it.

(3) By purchasing in enemy or enemy-occupied territory the necessary local funds, goods, services, or exchange, reimbursement to be made in foreign exchange or free currency, provided that such reasonable steps as are possible are taken by your representative to prevent such notes or exchange from being acquired by persons from whom the enemy may receive them.

B.
"(b) The total sums paid out from any blocked account which is established in pursuance of this license, plus the claims established against it, shall not, during the six months period beginning February 15, 1944, exceed 255,000 Swiss francs or the dollar equivalent thereof.

"(c) Your representative should report fully to the American Legation Bern on the financial transactions which are completed under this license, and should insure to whatever extent possible that the persons from whom the exchange or local currency is purchased are acceptable to the Legation. Your representative should be satisfied, so far as possible, that any payments made to such persons will not be of benefit to the enemy.

"(d) Periodic reports on the operations carried out pursuant to this license should be filed by your representative with the American Legation."

It would be appreciated if you would acknowledge to the Legation the receipt of this letter and confirm your understanding of the terms of the license quoted above.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan
Consul General
Commercial Attaché.

[Signature]

BIR/ROA/imp
VISA Dossier.

A true copy
of the original.
Zürich, March 16, 1944.

The Honorable Leland Harrison, American Minister, Bern.

Sir:

I have the honor to refer to Mr. Getsinger's telephonic request and to enclose herewith the visa dossier of René BERTHOLET.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Sam E. Woods
American Consul General

Enclosure: Visa dossier.
March 30, 1944
Bern, March 21, 1944

For: The Minister
From: A. Woods

Dear Mr. Woods:

I am returning herewith with thanks the visa dossier of René BERTHOLET which was transmitted to the Legation under cover of your letter of March 15th.

Sincerely yours,
For the Minister:
Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché

Enclosure

Sam E. Woods, Esquire,
American Consul General,
Zurich.

A true copy of the signed original.

September dernier demandez si possibilité envoyez
stop Si Salvemini dans l'impossibilité envoyer argent à Ernesto
MEMORANDUM

To: The Minister

From: A. W. D.

I have discussed with René Berthelet the attached telegram and the draft of letter. He quite agrees that it would be entirely in order for him to call at the Consulate General in Zürich to receive the license and a copy of the telegram and he suggests, if agreeable to the Consul General, that he be convoked at 10 o'clock on Monday, April 3rd. I shall be in Zürich this afternoon and I shall discuss the matter in detail with F.J. and arrange for him to be present when René calls on Mr. Woods.
Please see your memorandum.

RECEIVED

Date: March 24, 1944

To: 980

Received: March 25, 8 a.m.

At the request of the American Legation, Bern, and the Swiss Red Cross, Wasserstrasse 14, to address the War Refugee Board and the International Rescue and Relief Committee. The following important messages which had been held up and not forwarded because of the Swiss neutrality laws have been released:

and addressed to John W. Fehle for International Rescue and Relief Committee.

HULL

re

Rep. Apr. 6, 44
Tel. No. 2137

and addressed to John W. Fehle for International Rescue and Relief Committee.

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HULL

re
Date: March 24, 1944
No: 980
Received: March 25, 8 a.m.

Refugee Board
for René Bertholet, Wasserstrasse 14,
International Rescue and Relief Committee.

Having helpful cooperation of War Refugee
you transmit important messages which
may otherwise be delayed via American Legation Bern
and addressed to John W. Fehle for International
Rescue and Relief Committee."

HULL

Re

Days, Apr. 6, 44
Tel. No. 2137

que Willy Schwartz chevaux,
Suisse maman Stella Silvia enfants vont bien pour acte
septembre dernier demandez si possibilité envoyez aide financière
stop Si Salavini dans l'impossibilité envoyer argent à Ernesto.
From War Refugee Board.
Following for René Berthelet, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich, from International Rescue and Relief Committee.
"We receiving helpful cooperation of War Refugee Board and ask you transmit important messages which may otherwise be delayed via American Legation Bern and addressed to John W. Fehde for International Rescue and Relief Committee."

HULL

re

Rep. Apr. 6, 44
Tel. No. 9137

que Willy Schwartz dont une
Suisse maman Stella Silvia enfants vont bien peucette
septembre dernier demandez si possibilité envoyer aide financière
stop Si Salvemini dans l'impossibilité envoyé argent à Ernesto
Dear Sir:

I have today written to Mr. René Bertholet

Mr. René Bertholet,
14 Wasserstrasse,
Zurich.

I have today written to Mr. René Bertholet

Bern, April 1, 1944

Dear Mr. Bertholet,

I am writing to arrange for a call at the

Consulate. It would be appreciated if you would

arrange to call at the American Consulate

General, Bahnhofstrasse 3, Zurich, at 11 o'clock, on Monday, April 3, 1944, to receive a

communication which Mr. Woods, Consul General,

has been requested to deliver to you.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché
For the Minister.

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché

Enclosures

Sam Woods, Esquire,
American Consul General,
Zurich.

Que Willy conveys chez lui
Suisse maman Stella Silvia enfants vont bien peut-être
septembre dernier demandez si possibilité envoyer aide financière
stop Si Salvemini dans l'impossibilité envoyer argent à Ernesto
Bern, April 1, 1944

Mr. René Bertholet,
Dear Mr. Woods, Esquire,
Zurich,

I have today written to Mr. René Bertholet requesting that he arrange to call at the Consulate General on Monday morning April 3rd at 10 o’clock to receive from you the enclosed two letters. It is my understanding that Mr. Loofbourou intends to be present when Mr. Bertholet calls, but I would suggest that you telephone to Mr. Loofbourou to make certain that he is aware of these arrangements.

Sincerely yours,
For the Minister:
Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché

Enclosures

Sam E. Woods, Esquire,
American Consul General,
Zurich.
Mr. René Bertholet,
14 Wasserstrasse,
Zurich.

Dear Sir:

The Legation has been requested by the War
Refugee Board to deliver to you the following
telegraphic message from the International Rescue
and Relief Committee:

"We receiving helpful cooperation of
the War Refugees Board and ask you transmit
vital messages which may otherwise
be delayed via American Legation Bern
and addressed to John W. Fehle for
International Rescue and Relief Committee."

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché

Bern, April 1, 1944
Bern, March 16, 1944.

financing the operations referred to above, the following three methods are authorized, provided that such methods should not be used if it is feasible to obtain the local currency by either of the other two methods mentioned.

Mr. René Bartholes,
14 Vasistrasse,
Zürich.

Dear Sir:

The Department of State, Washington, D.C., has issued a license on the premise that the department has had no notice of the exigencies of the case prior to the date of the license, and the following license, No. 2-9-259, which has been issued to this organization by the Treasury Department with the approval of the Department of State and the War Refugee Board:

"(A) Authorization is hereby granted to your representative in Switzerland, together with such agents as he may appoint, notwithstanding General Ruling No. 22-4, by any means which may be deemed by him expedient or necessary, to communicate with persons in enemy territory or in territory occupied by the enemy for the purpose of arranging the evacuation of persons in such territory whose lives may be in imminent danger, to such areas of safety or relative safety as your representative may select, and until such time as such evacuation is possible, to arrange for the safeguarding and sustenance of such persons, and to pursue any other action which may be appropriate for said purposes, including the payment of funds to persons in enemy territory or in territory occupied by the enemy who may have provided services or goods in connection with the foregoing. For the purpose of acquiring the necessary local currency for the purpose of financing such action, provided that such reasonable steps as are possible are taken by your representative to prevent such persons or families from using acquired funds for their own use, you are authorized to dispose

que Willy Schwarten Sieh fünf Jahre Schlafende.

Suisse maman Stella Silvia enfants vont bien père déposé 24 septembre dernier demandez si possibilité envoyez aide financière stop Sil Salvemini dans l'impossibilité envoyez argent à Ernesto.
financing the operations referred to above, the following three methods are authorized, provided
that method number 3 should not be used if it is
feasible to obtain the local currency by either
one of the other two methods mentioned:
15, 1944, 805.390.204.1831111.

(1) By purchasing in Switzerland the
currency or exchange of the country in which
the operations are to take place, provided
the American representative is reasonably sure that
the seller of such currency have held it
since before the date as of which such country
was frozen by this Government, or that if the
currency was acquired subsequently thereto,
the acquisition took place under circumstances
from which the enemy did not benefit, your
representative may consult with the
American Legation, Bern. Sellers of such local
currency or exchange may be reimbursed in Swiss
francs at the prevailing unofficial rate of
exchange in Switzerland.

(2) By purchasing in enemy or enemy-
occupied territory the local currency or exchange
of the country in which the operations are to
take place, provided reimbursement is to be made
only after the war. By the establishment on
your books in the United States of a blocked
account, reimbursement subsequent to the war
to the sellers of such local currency or exchange
may be insured, or such blocked account may be in
a bank in the United States or Switzerland, pro-
vided that without specific approval of the
Treasury in each case there shall be no assignment
of any interest in such blocked account or payment
from it.

(3) By purchasing in enemy or enemy-
occupied territory the necessary local funds,
goods, services, or exchange, reimbursement
to be made in foreign exchange or free currency
notes, provided that such reasonable steps as
are possible are taken by your representative
to prevent such notes or exchange from being
acquired by persons from whom the enemy may
receive them.

B.

que Willy Schwartz chez Willy Schwartz 8th of July 24
Suise maman Stella Silvia enfants vont bien père décidé 24
septembre dernier demandez si possibilité envoyer aide financière
stop Si Salvemini dans l'impossibilité envoyer argent à Ernesto.
"(9) The total sums paid out from any blocked account which is established in pursuance of this license, plus the claims established against it, shall not, during the six months period beginning February 15, 1944, exceed 255,600 Swiss francs or the dollar equivalent thereof.

"(c) Your representative should report fully to the American Legation Bern on the financial transactions which are conducted under this license, and should insure that whatever amount possible that the persons from whom the exchange or local currency is purchased are acceptable to the Legation. Your representative should be satisfied, so far as possible, that any payments made to such persons will not be of benefit to the enemy.

"(d) Periodic reports on the operations carried out pursuant to this license should be filed by your representative with the American Legation."

It would be appreciated if you would acknowledge to the Legation the receipt of this letter and confirm your understanding of the terms of the license quoted above.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché

MR/RCG/Imp

Daniel J. Reagan, Secretaire,
Commercial Attaché / American Legation, Bern.
Dear Mr. Reagan:

I have received your letter of April 1, 1944 with the two letters for Mr. René Bertholet which have been delivered to him. Mr. Bertholet has asked me to send you the enclosed telegram which was given him with the request that it be transmitted through the Legation.

Sincerely yours,

Sam E. Woods
American Consul General

Daniel J. Reagan, Esquire,
Commercial Attaché,
American Legation, Bern.
To JOHN BEHLE

Frank Kingdom
International Relief and Rescue Committee
2 West 43 street
New York

Nous avons reçu votre envoi de 10 000 dollars par l'intermédiaire Banque Nationale Suisse bien reçu au courant officiel stop. Je vous ai fait renvoyer votre virement de 10 000 dollars effectué par l'intermédiaire de Union Bank of Switzerland car impossible obtenir de la Banque Nationale Suisse déblocage virgule Banque Nationale Suisse ne débloque plus depuis la réfugiés que sous recommandation Département Politique Suisse qui examine chaque cas réfugié et ne donne avis favorable que si réfugié entré en Suisse avant premier janvier 1942 stop A l'avenir ne faites plus d'envoies en dollars bloqués mais procédez comme pour virement effectué par intermédiaire Banque Nationale Suisse ou comme pour virements antérieurs stop. Bien reçu vos n° 22 23 et 24 stop.

Continuons assistance Hanina Lehr élève stop Monsieur et Madame Isaac Einstein se trouvent toujours à Casablanca et sont en bonne santé nous les ravitaillions avec colis stop Faisons le nécessaire pour Modigliani et ses amis avons envoyé grosse somme d'argent pour ceux qui se trouvent en France stop Sophie XX XX XX Kramský se trouve toujours dans un sanatorium à Nice faisons notre possible stop. Femme de Fritz Simson se trouve Interniertenheim Brissago et fils dans une famille à Ascona les autres parents sont restés en France sommes sans nouvelles depuis longtemps stop. Béla Lampel et famille chez Professeur Ferrière Les Frères Vevey. A besoin de 250 francs par mois pour vivre en dehors du camp et continuer travail scientifique stop. Efforts recherches pour trouver Hélène Hessel stop Jenny Rodner et enfant libérés du camp et se trouvent Kinderheim Ratschiller Beatenberg Canton Berne recevons régulièrement nouvelles de son mari qui se trouve en France et que nous assistons stop. sommes en contact avec Grete Locher Refugee Children Home Ittenschütz Zürich stop Assistants Bica Gouréitch 57 Gladbachstr. Zürich stop Envoyons colis ravitaillement Elisabeth Schilder stop Faisons l'impossible pour aider Alfred Wolfenstein espérons vous envoyer bientôt nouvelles stop. Prennez contact avec Walter Marceau l'Hotel 1356 Hyde Park Blvd. Chicago pour que nous puissions aider Ingrid stop. Demandez Sachs Schwartz si Eugène manque ? Rue Gauthier Genève et venant d'Italie écrivain appartient à sa famille et si nous devons l'assister stop. Conditions libération des camps d'internés sont les suivantes deux points assez d'argent pour vivre soit un minimum de francs 150 par mois et par personne virgule être âgé de plus de 60 ans virgule maladie virgule manque avec enfant en dehors de six ans stop libération temporaire dans une assez large mesure pour études et travaux scientifiques stop. Libération avec autorisation de travail rétabli est une exception rare sauf pour travail de domestique ou d’ouvrier agricole stop. Aide nous a permis de libérer ou de contribuer à la libération d'environ 60 cas stop. Remettons à Professeur Libman Hersch 2 500 dollars par mois pour ces amis immédiats en Suisse stop. En France ete vous d'accord stop. Indiquez nous quel autre cas du Jewish Labor Committee devons nous assister et dans quelle mesure stop. Informez Albert F. Schwartz 231 West 23 street Holland Mich. que Willy Schwartz chez Fimi Daro Bellinson est arrivé seul en Suisse maman Stella Silvia enfants vont bien père décédé 23 septembre dernier demande si possibilité envoyez aide financière stop. Si Salvesini dans l'impossibilité envoyez argent à Ernesto.
Committee, it would appear appropriate, to inquire from Woods whether this telegram originated from Bertholet or someone else and, if the latter, from whom.

The first portion of this draft telegram refers to the dollars received from the INRG under its license and should of course be transmitted.

It would appear that the balance of the telegram, however, relates to a number of specific cases which would appear to have been handled prior to the license accorded Bertholet. Do you consider that the latter portion constitutes an "important" message under the terms of Department's telegram 980 of March 24th and, as such, should be transmitted by the Legation? If Bertholet has, as would appear probable, been transmitting directly telegrams of this character, would it not be more appropriate for him to continue to do so?

It is possible that the Legation or Mr. Dulles may consider that the transmission of this telegram by the Legation is in order. In that event, we would naturally prefer to have it submitted by Bertholet in English rather than take the responsibility of the translation here.

I would appreciate your comments.

D. J. R.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 26 1972

little to begin with.

5.
Memorandum to Mr. Dulles

Wood's letter of April 3rd attached encloses a draft telegram which he states "was given him (Bertholet) with the request that it be transmitted through the legation". While it is signed Bertholet and addressed to the International Rescue and Relief Committee, it would appear appropriate, if you agree, to inquire from Wood whether this telegram originated from Bertholet or someone else and, if the latter, from whom.

The first portion of this draft telegram refers to the dollars received from the IRRC under its license and should of course be transmitted.

It would appear that the balance of the telegram, however, relates to a number of specific cases which would appear to have been handled prior to the license accorded Bertholet. Do you consider that the latter portion constitutes an "important" message under the terms of Department's telegram 980 of March 24th and, as such, should be transmitted by the legation? If Bertholet has, as would appear probable, been transmitting directly telegrams of this character, would it not be more appropriate for him to continue to do so?

It is possible that the Legation or Mr. Dulles may consider that the transmission of this telegram by the Legation is in order. In that event, we would naturally prefer to have it submitted by Bertholet in English rather than take the responsibility of the translation here.

I would appreciate your comments.

D. R. R.

little to begin with.
MEMENTO

Individual Cases Raised by Kohli re Dollar Remittances from the United States in Interview with Mr. Reagan.

1. René BERTHOLET, Zurich.

Kohli said that Bertholet, who was unknown to them, had asked for $10,000 without giving any reason as to why he wanted the money. When asked he spoke of his “committee” and of the refugees at his charge in Switzerland since 1942. He said that the matter was too complicated and that he would give up his attempt to get the money. Kohli said that then an American Treasury license came through for the amount.

Nothing further was said, and Mr. Reagan merely at first pretended to draw a blank as to who Bertholet was.

2. Hettie SUETO

Kohli said that Mr. Reagan had stated in his letter that the Legation had "no objection" to Hettie Suto’s receiving Swiss francs against dollars for her relief work. Kohli asked whether that meant that the matter was just of no interest to us or whether it was something we want done. Mr. Reagan said that it meant for the Swiss to do it.

3. UNITED PRESS, Zurich.

Mr. Reagan was shown Popper’s letter of March 27, in which the letter said that his bureau needed an additional 4,000 francs a month. Mr. Reagan said that we had not yet received a copy of this letter and that he would be interested in checking Popper’s table of figures to see if this extra amount is really necessary. Kohli only wants to O.K. the additional amount if it is for useful purpose. (Mr. Reagan asked me to telephone to Popper to make sure we get a copy of the letter of March 27).

4. ARCHENHARD, Bern.

Archenhard has already been told that his request for larger monthly remittances has been approved by the Swiss as well as by us. Mr. Reagan explained that as an economical Frenchman Archenhard had merely asked for too little to begin with.

5.
E. FREUND-BERG—World Council of
Christian Churches, Geneva.

Kohli said that F's request had already been
accepted in principle, and that they really gave assent
without bothering us, as Swiss interests were involved.

Kohli several times in speaking of question of
individual cases stressed the fact that it should not
be in the interests of the American Treasury to grant
too large licenses to private persons either for of-
official rate or for free francs in New York. The Swiss,
he said, are opposed to private persons having too much
money with which to be lavish in bars, public places,
etc. (Although he mentioned no names, he obviously had
in mind some of the American women who request really
large sums per month and some of the other wealthy for-
eigners who are not satisfied with reasonable amounts
at the official rates).

L. D. R.

April 4, 1944.
Memorandum for the Files

April 5, 1944

With reference to Mr. Woods' letter of April 3rd with which was enclosed a draft telegram which Mr. René Bertholet asked to be transmitted through the Legation to the International Rescue and Relief Committee, New York, at the suggestion of Mr. Huddle, I telephoned to Mr. Woods this afternoon and asked him to request Mr. Bertholet:

1. to submit all draft telegrams for transmission with a signed request that they be sent through the Legation;

2. that such telegrams be submitted in English;

and

3. to inform him whether the portion of this telegram following the reference to the dollars received under his license represented an "important" message under the terms of Department's telegram 980 of March 24th, whether he had previously transmitted telegrams of this character and, if so, how, and whether he would have future telegrams of this character to send, to give some idea of the possible number and whether it would be appropriate and feasible to continue sending such messages in the manner which he had heretofore employed.

Mr. Woods stated he would call Mr. Bertholet in and report as soon as possible. I informed Mr. Woods that we would hold this draft telegram pending the receipt of the English text and would be guided in the transmission of part or whole thereof by the replies given by Mr. Bertholet to the above questions.

Yours,

D. J. R.
Reference is made to your no. 839 of March 14 and no. 980 March 24.

The messages contained in the above telegrams were delivered to Berthollet through the Consulate General at Zürich on April 3.

HARRISON

DJR:RGG:mf

In triplicate
Cable No. 7 to Bern from the War Refugee Board.

The message which follows is signed by Frank Kingdon, International Rescue and Relief Committee, and is for René Bertholet, 14 Waserstrasse, in Zurich:

"Your license W-2139 according details communicated to you by the American Legation in Bern sending you dollars 10,000. Reply at once through the Legation on activities and any financial or other difficulties."

From the War Refugee Board to Minister Harrison.

HULL
Bern, April 29, 1944.

It would be appreciated if you would deliver the enclosed letter of today's date to Mr. Bertholet and inform the Legation by telephone when this has been done.

Sincerely yours,
For the Minister:

Sam E. Woods, Esquire,
American Consul General,
Zürich.

Daniel J. Heagan,
Commercial Attaché,

Enclosure as stated.

By R. H. Fuchs Date: SEP 26 1972

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
Barn, April 29, 1944.

Mr. René Bertholet,
14, Wasserstrasse,
Zürich.

Dear Sir:

The Legation has been requested to deliver to you the following message transmitted through the War Refugee Board from Frank Kingdon, of the International Rescue and Relief Committee:

"Your license W-2138 according details communicated to you by the American Legation in Bern sending you dollars 10,000. Reply at once through the Legation on activities and any financial or other difficulties."

It would be appreciated if you would acknowledge the receipt of the present letter.

Very truly yours,

Daniel J. Reagan,
Commercial Attaché.
Have checked with Miss Blaché who finds the names checked below correct:

- S. Perrières
- René Bertholet
- Dr. Liebnann Horsch

No record of Ciser or Curvic
Schwarz appears once as Sacha Schwarz
No Schwarz

- Eugene Anagnine
- Ernesto Rossi

No record of Battisti (or possibly Ernesto Battisti)

(See enclosure to Mr. Woods' letter of April 3 in attached dossier)

Mr. McLeod:

In advising Mr. Battisti, you might tell him that it is uncertain regarding any of the names. The Negation would like to have the telegram in order to verify them.

In duplicate

re Copy 7a
Let to Berthelot - Let to Woods
5/26 RDM/mib

[Teletype]

RECEIVED

From:
Department

Date: May 24, 1944, 5 p.m.

No. 1997

Code:

Received: May 25, 3 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

Please deliver the following message to René Berthelot, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich, from the International Rescue and Relief Committee. This is WRB 25.

Our No. 27, Suzanne Ferriere, International Red Cross, Geneva, for cooperation at once. Payments of $2,500 per month for Jewish labor cases satisfactory but should cover all cases Cicer Schwaer and Hereh. The amount of $10,000 should (repeat not) be paid to Curvie, since it is probable that that has been arranged separately by Jewish "Vor" Committee. Your Nos. 9 and 10 have been received. Please grant limited assistance to Eugene Anagnine and advise us of the address in Switzerland of Mrs. Cesare Arnes Pecattistie. In accordance with the agreement which we made with Salvestini, grant the equivalent of $150 and continue help Ernesto Rossel. Please reply by cable via Fells, War Refugee Board.

HULL

In duplicate
re Copy in TA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 111.73

By H. H. Fulks Date SEP 26 1972
By Courier

Bern, May 26, 1944.

Bern, May 26, 1944.

Dear Mr. Berthelet:

I take pleasure in quoting below a message dated May 12, 1944, which has been received for you from the International Rescue and Relief Committee:

"Dear Mr. Woods:"

It will be appreciated if you will arrange for the International Red Cross delivery of the enclosed letter addressed to Mr. René Berthelet, Waserstrasse 14, Zurich, which contains a message and draft. The amount of $10,000 should not be received through the intermediary of the Department of State at Washington from the International Rescue and Relief Committee, but shall be paid to Mrs. Carmen E. Deam, New York, in accordance with an agreement which we make with you. Sincerely yours. [Signature]

If you happen to require further information concerning the persons to whom the letter is addressed, please cable my address, Rossell D. McClelland, American Consul General, American Legation, Geneva, Switzerland, to which address you should also reply by cable. The name "survio" in line six, the American Minister, may be considered correct, as the Director of the OCB in Geneva.

Enclosure:

Letter to Mr. Berthelet.

Sincerely yours,

Rossell D. McClelland, American Consul General, American Legation, Geneva, Switzerland.

Sam E. Woods, Esquire, Special Assistant to the American Minister.

American Legation, Geneva, Switzerland.

May 26.
Bern, May 26, 1944.

Dear Mr. Berthelet:

I take pleasure in quoting below a message dated May 25, 1944 which has been received for you from the International Rescue and Relief Committee:

"Susanne Perrière, International Red Cross, Geneva, for cooperation at once. Payments of $2,500 per month for Jewish labor cases satisfactory but should cover all cases Ciser Schwar and Hersh. The amount of $10,000 should not be paid to Curvic, since it is probable that that has been arranged separately by Jewish Labor Committee. Your Nos. 9 and 10 have been received. Please grant limited assistance to Eugene Anagnioti and advise us of the address in Switzerland of Mrs. Cesare Ernesto Pullatti. In accordance with the agreement which we made with Salvanini, grant the equivalent of $150 and continue help Ernesto Rossi. Please reply by cable via Pahlke, War Refugee Board."

If you happen to require further information concerning the names of the persons mentioned in this telegram, the Legation would be happy to endeavor to verify them. The name "Curvic" in line six, I imagine, should really be "Gurvic", the Director of the OSIS in Geneva.

Sincerely yours,

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

Mr. René Berthelet,
Waserstrasse 14,
Zurich.
Je vous adresse avec la présente un télégramme pour le comité (International Rescue and Relief Committee) que dirige Monsieur Frank Kingdom à New-York. Je fais passer ce télégramme par vos services selon la demande de Monsieur Frank Kingdom.

Veuillez agréer, cher Monsieur, l'expression de ma considération distinguée.

Rene Bertholet.
To WRB.
For International Rescue Relief Committee. NYC
from Bertholet

John W. Fehle
War Refugee Board
For International Rescue and Relief Committee New-York

We are working in close cooperation with Professor Serger and Michel sometimes with Doctor Tchelonnoff for the cases of the Jewish Labor Committee.

With the agreement of Professor Serger I handed to Lazar Gurvich for
CSE Swiss francs 110,000 that is 10,000 dollars. 

Monthly budget for Professor Serger and Michel is Swiss francs 16,500 that is dollars 2,500. 

For extra expenses in France I handed to them Swiss francs 15,000.

Monthly budget for Casse Schwarz is approximately Swiss francs 17,500 for France Belgium and Switzerland.

IRAC budget in Switzerland is approximately Swiss francs 17,000.

We are still in contact with Paul to whom we sent about French francs 100,000 monthly to the Austrian Socialists.

The same amount to a friend of ours for the German Socialists.

About French francs 80,000 to the Italian Socialists.

We also assist directly from here some cases.

Work in France is extremely difficult.

In France there is the terrible question of the victims of the fight against the occupation. This question is only partly solved.

Would you agree that we give monthly 1 million French francs to an organization to which I have contact and which is busy with such cases.

Many Thanks for your help and confidence.

Rene Bertholet
Bern, May 29, 1944.

Mr. René Bertholet,
14 Wasserstrasse,
Zürich.

Dear Sir:

I should like to acknowledge receipt on May 27 of your undated letter referring to the Legation’s letter of April 29, 1944. Your letter has been referred to Mr. Roswell D. McCelland, Special Assistant to the Minister, and future communications should be addressed to Mr. McCelland.

I am also requested to inform Salome Frank, in care of Frieda Senn, Very truly yours,

E.H. Turich

Mr. McCelland has been unable to inform Daniel J. Reagan, in our Commercial Attaché, whether possible to rescue Albert Savin friends and other similar cases.

D.J.R/869/imp

Enc to

C.C.

A true copy of the signed original:

[Signature]
WB 32. Following is International Rescue and Relief Committee's No. 29, for delivery to Rene Bertholet, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich:

Have not received your No. 11. Our representative Leon Dennenberg can now be contacted in care of the American Embassy at Ankara. You are requested to inform Salomon Frank, in care of Frieda Sommer, Guggenstrasse 26, Zurich, that he was granted an American visa in Washington in October 1943. Please indicate what action has been taken for the cases mentioned in our 26 and 26. We should also like to be informed whether possible to rescue Lazar Gueric friends and other similar cases.

STETHINIUS ACTING

In triplicate

re Copy in + A
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: June 5, 6 p.m., 1944
No: 1922
Received: June 6, 9 a.m.

PARAPHRASE

WRB 32. Following is International Rescue and Relief Committee’s No. 29, for delivery to René Bertholet, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich:

Have not received your No. 11. Our representative Leon Denenberg can now be contacted in care of the American Embassy at Ankara. You are requested to inform Salomon Frank, in care of Frieda Sommer, Guggenstrasse 25, Zurich, that he was granted an American visa in Washington in October 1942. Please indicate what action has been taken for the cases mentioned in our 25 and 26. We should also like to be informed whether possible to rescue Lazar Gurvic friends and other similar cases.

STATIUS ACTING

In triplicate

re

copy in + A

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. W. Pfefferkorn SEP 26 1972
By Courier

Bern, June 8, 1944.

Your letter of the end of the month of May, enclosing a message for the U.S.C., has been transmitted to Kingdom. The American Legation at Bern refers to the Consul General at Zurich the enclosed letter for delivery to you:

Mr. René Bertholet, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich. Our representative has in person or has communicated the enclosed letter to Mr. René Bertholet. You are requested to inform Mr. Frank, in care of Frieda Sommer, Guggisstrasse 23, Zurich, that he was granted an American Visa in Washington in October 1942. Please indicate what action has been taken for the cases mentioned in our Enclosure 26. We should also like to be informed whether possible to reduce some of our friends to similar cases.

Sincerely yours,

RDM/SLR

[Signature]

R. D. McCollum, Special Assistant to the American Minister.

There is no difficulty in France of the cases of theCompression of the Occupation. This is the only in point. We will agree in sending the following:

Mr. René Bertholet, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich.

Two million in American dollars is in hand and available in 1947 with cases of this kind.

RDM/SLR

For your help and assistance we are very grateful.

These are to the U.S. for the International Refugee Self-Help Committee, New York (via Bern, Switzerland).
Bern, June 6, 1944.

Dear Mr. Berthelet:

Your letter of the end of the month of May, enclosing a message for the ISRC has been transmitted to Kingdom.

I have pleasure in quoting below a telegram, No. 29 from the International Rescue and Relief Committee, for you:

We have not received your No. 11. Our representative Leon Dusenberg can not be contacted the CUB in care of the American Embassy Ankara. You are requested to inform Salomon Frank, in care of Frieda Sommer, Huggugstrasse 25, Zurich, that he was granted an American visa in Washington for month is on October 1942. Please indicate what action has been taken for the cases mentioned in our 25 and 26. We should also like to be informed whether possible to rescue Lazar Gursky, and other similar cases.

The budget of the ISRC is approximately 17,000 Swiss francs monthly. For France we are in touch with Paul. We give him about 100,000 French francs a month. We give the Austrian socialists similar amounts and we give them also to a assistant of the German socialists. Rozwell D. McClelland, Special Assistant to assist some cases from here direct the American Ministries. There is the terrible question in France of the Jews, only in part. Would you agree to our case by direct action with Mr. Berthelet? Would you go to the Italian Socialists to help those cases that we have missed? For your help and confidence accept many thanks.

Above is to the ISRC for the International Rescue Relief Committee, New York City from Berthelet.

[$55.15]

[REU:m]
Following from McClelland.

"We are working in close cooperation with Professor Hersch and Michel sometimes with Dr. Tscheleff for cases of the Jewish Labor Committee.

I gave Lazar Gurvic 42,600 Swiss francs for the OSE with Professor Hersch's agreement. That amount is equal to $10,000.

The budget of Professor Hersch and Michel per month is 10,700 Swiss francs, or $2,500; I gave them 15,000 Swiss francs for extra expenses in France.

Oiser Schwarc's monthly budget for France, Belgium and Switzerland is 5,500 Swiss francs, approximately. I have given them 16,500 Swiss francs up to now.

The budget of the IRRC in Switzerland is approximately 17,000 Swiss francs monthly. For France we are still in touch with Paul. We give him about 100,000 French francs a month. We give the Austrian socialists similar amounts and we give them also to a friend of ours for the German socialists. About 50,000 French francs go to the Italian socialists. Also, we assist some cases from here directly. The work in France is extremely difficult and requires much tenacity.

There is the terrible question in France of the victims of the fight against the occupation. This questions is solved only in part. Would you agree to our giving monthly one million French francs to an organization with whom I am in contact and which is busy with cases of this kind?

For your help and confidence accept many thanks."

Above is to the W.R.B. for the International Rescue Relief Committee, New York City from Bertholet.

HARRISON

$65.15

RDM: mjb: In triplicate
Telegram Received

From: Department

Date: June 24, midnight, 1944
No: 2183

Code: [Redacted]

Received: June 25, 11 a.m.

Let to Bertholet 6/29/44

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 56.

For René Bertholet, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich,
from Frank Kingdon, International Rescue and Relief Committee.

Sending you hereafter for France and Switzerland a monthly amount of $15,000, which will not cover request million francs for relief in France. The remainder from the $15,000 can be employed wherever necessary, after old obligations have been covered, for relief and rescue only. Kindly inform Suzanne Ferrière in Geneva that money will soon be coming via Service Social for Spaniards. A request has been made for a reallocation from the war fund which will allow 5000 for purpose now and more later. Instructions have been sent Hersch to return the $10,000 which he received from you for Survio. Other expenditures are approved. Your very interesting report received with thanks.

HULL

In duplicate

re Copy in FA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dep't, lingerie 1-11-72
By R. H. Fuchs Date SEP 36 1972
Mr. René Bertholet,
Dear Wasserstrasse 14,
Zürich.

It would be appreciated if you would deliver that enclosed letter of today's date to Mr. René Bertholet, of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Switzerland, at the following address:

"Sending you herewith for France and Switzerland a monthly amount of 15,000 francs which will not cover the request for relief in France. The remainder from the 15,000 can be employed wherever necessary, after old obligations have been covered, for relief and rescue only. Kindly inform Suzanne Perrin in Geneva that money will soon be coming via Service Social for Spaniards. A request has been made for a reallocation from the war fund which will allow 5000 for purpose now and more later. Instructions have been sent to Hersch to return the 10,000 which he received from you for Curvia. Other expenditures are approved. Your very interesting report received with thanks.

It would be appreciated if you would acknowledge receipt of this letter.

Very truly yours,

Roswell McClendon
Special Assistant to the
American Minister.

R Mc/im
Bern, June 29, 1944.

via Courier

Dear Mr. Woods:

It would be appreciated if you would deliver the enclosed letter of today's date to Mr. René Bertholet, of the International Rescue and Relief Committee, and let me know by telephone when this has been done. Mr. Bertholet should be requested to send his reply through the Consulate.

Sincerely yours,

Per the Minister:

For the Minister:

License W-2150, American Committee for Joint Distribution Committee
License W-2126, Joint distribution Committee
License W-2106, Joint distribution Committee

Enclosure as stated.

In duplicate

Re:

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 11-72
By R. H. Fuchs Date SEP 26 1972

A true copy of the signed original.
PARAPHRASE

WRR No. 65. For McClelland.

Department, Treasury and WRR request that you obtain as soon as possible from the representatives in Switzerland of the organizations listed below a report giving the total dollar equivalent of the amount of free currency, if any, sent into enemy territory during period which ended June 1, pursuant to Section 1 (c) of respective Treasury licenses.

License W-2130, American Committee for Christian Refugees
License W-2138, International Rescue and Relief Committee
License W-2126, Jewish Labor Committee
License W-2106, Joint Distribution Committee
License W-2117, Union of Orthodox Rabbis
License W-2115, World Jews Congress.

Please obtain estimate if exact figures are not available.

HULL

In duplicate

re
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: July 6, midnight, 1944
No.: 2317
Received: July 7, 3 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

WRB 87. For McClelland.

Please deliver following to René Bertholet,
Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich, from International Rescue
and Relief Committee, signed Frank Kingdon.

Please establish contact at once by cable with
our representative Leon Denenberg, care of the
American Consulate in Istanbul. He is working on
rescue from Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria. Still
awaiting reply to our 56 and later case telegrams.
Transmitted 8,000 Service Social, and same amount
will be sent in the middle of July. Please ask
Ferrière to send all assistance possible via
Intercross to Largo Cabellero, Camp Oranienburg.

HUI.

In duplicate
re copy in FA
Bern, July 7, 1944.

Mr. René Bertholet
Wasserstrasse 14
Zürich.

Dear Mr. Bertholet:

A recent message has been received for you from the State Department, regretting the absence of a reply from you, at an early date, a report giving the total dollar equivalent of the amount of currency (it is presumed that this would have been Swiss francs), if any, which you may have sent into enemy or enemy-occupied territory during the period ending June 7, 1944, pursuant to paragraph A11 of the Treasury Department License No. 2158 issued to the International Rescue and Relief Committee and communicated to you in the Legation's letter of March 16, 1944. It is observed in this respect that the sending of currency into enemy-occupied territory for relief and particularly rescue operations was to have been resorted to only "in extremis", that is in the face of a serious emergency situation, when local currency could not be secured by the other methods outlined in paragraphs A (1 & 2) of your license, or when such local currency was inadequate to effect the desired rescue operations. Method A (3) should only then have been employed after prior consultation with the Legation, if this was physically possible, involving the necessary assurance on your part that reasonable steps would be taken by your representative in the country in question that such free currency would not benefit the enemy.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

A true copy of the signed original: RMOG/imp
Paraphrase

Dear Mr. Bertholet:

From the following message has been received for you from Frank Kingdon, of the International Rescue and Relief Committee, with the representative in Belgium of the Spanish Comité d'Union National, which has excellent contacts with Spanish groups: "Please establish contact at once by cable with our representative, Leon Denenberg, over the American Consulate in Istanbul. He is working on rescue from Rumania, Hungary, and Bulgaria. Still awaiting reply to our 26 and later camp telegrams, transmitted on the Service Social, and some amount will be sent in the middle of July. Please ask Sommerville to send all assistance possible via intercorts to Largo Caballero, Camp in Grumenburg."

It would be appreciated if you would acknowledge receipt of this wire. Sincerely yours,

(Roswell McLellan)

Special Assistant to the American Minister.

(By hand)

HANCOCK

RDM:msbj:nf
In duplicate
Copy to RDM
To: Department

Date: July 15, 9 a.m., 1944.

No.: 4544

Charged to:

Paraphrase

From McClendon. For REH for Frank Kingdon, International Rescue and Relief Committee.

During recent discussions with the representative in Switzerland of the Spanish Comité d’Union National, which has excellent contacts with Spanish groups in France and with whom I have been collaborating in getting endangered refugees out of France over the Pyrenees, the question arose of the disbursal of HRCC’s funds for relief of Spaniards in France solely through Ferrière’s Committee. Having worked with the Marseille, Lyon and Paris representatives of the Service Sociale d’Aide aux Enfugés in France during 1942-1943, I am closely acquainted with the possibilities of that service and feel the organizations is somewhat limited as a principal outlet. This is not a reflection on the SSAE, which is competent within the limits of its semi-official position with the prefectures. However, would it not be possible to undertake distribution on a wider basis since this is the only money available at present for Spaniards in France? I venture to suggest that part go through Ferrière, part through the Spanish CUN particularly for endangered political refugees in hiding, camps and prisons, and, finally, part through the American Friends Service Committee. The latter has extensive contacts with Spanish refugees in Toulouse, Montauban and Perpignan. Please give this suggestion your consideration. I would welcome an expression of your opinion thereon.

HARRISON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 26 1972
Barthelet told me on
Tre. July 25th that
he had transferred me
free currency to enemy
territory. As regards France
he had generally bought
French bank notes in S/land
and transferred them to France
(summed). He has never lost
anything.

July 1 and

Dias (License
and Relief
any free
during the

MISSION

Copies to RIM and CA-DJR

Joint Distribution Comm.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By M. H. Parks Date SEP 26 1972
Reference is made to your 2241 of July 1 and our 4749 of July 24.

Neither the Union of Orthodox Rabbis (License W-2117) nor the International Rescue and Relief Committee (License W-2138) has sent any free currency into territory of the enemy during the period ended June 1.

From McClelland. For the WRB.

HARRISON

RJM:mjb:mf
In triplicate
Copies to RJM and CA-DJR

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 26 1972
A license has been issued by Treasury to the International Rescue and Relief Committee, Inc., New York, authorizing the remittance of $50,000 monthly for six months in Swiss francs to René Berthelet, 14 Wasserstrasse, Zurich, for the continuation of relief to Spanish refugees in camps in southern France. Berthelet should be so informed. This license stipulates that Berthelet shall utilize the funds that are remitted under it only as authorized by WRB's Bern representative. These operations, which have the approval of the Department, Treasury, and WRB, are a continuation of those which were contemplated in Department's 740 March 6.
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: August 12, 5 p.m., 1944
No: 2775
Received: August 13, 10 a.m.

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 118.

Department's 239 March 14.

Section 2 of license W-2138 has been amended by the Treasury to read in substance as follows:

"Under this license's terms, the entire sum of money which is expended or set up in blocked accounts or which is otherwise obligated shall be not in excess of the dollar amount (or foreign currency equivalent) which is authorized by specific Treasury license for use under the present license."

This amendment should be brought to the attention of the International Rescue and Relief Committee's Swiss representative, René Bertholet.

The above amendment, which has the approval of the Department, Treasury, and WRB, relates to a specific Treasury license that was issued to the above-mentioned Committee, under which in addition to previously-licensed remittances there may be remitted to Bertholet the Swiss franc equivalent of $60,000 for use under license W-2138.

STEPPINIUS ACTING

In duplicate

re: H. R. P. D. A.
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: August 14, 8 p.m., 1944

No: 2792

Received: August 15, noon

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 120. For McClelland, from the International Rescue and Relief Committee.

With reference to your message about the distribution of IRRC funds for Spaniards in France, which was received on July 15, it is suggested that you consult with Rene Bertholet with regard to an arrangement between you for distributing through all groups which are in contact with Spanish refugees. License has accordingly been revised so that monthly payments can be made to Bertholet up to $5,000, part of which he can distribute himself and part to be allotted, subject to your approval, to each agency which possesses the necessary contacts. Unitarians suggest contacting Field for a possible contribution to the Spaniards. We shall appreciate your transmitting a copy of this message to Bertholet. Signed Frank Kingdon.

In duplicate
re
Cost in FA
Cher Monsieur,

Je vous confirme l'entretien que nous avons eu en mon temps et au cours duquel je vous ai déclaré que les sommes que j'envoie en France pour International Rescue and Relief Committee en faveur de réfugiés italiens, allemands et autrichiens ne sont jamais expédiées sous la forme de devises étrangères ou d'or.

Mes envois atteignent une somme moyenne de francs français 500 000 par mois. Ils sont effectués soit par transfert, soit par transport direct de billet (de Suisse en France).

J'ai vu Mlle Ferrière il y a quinze jours. Malheureusement les premiers 5 000 dollars qu'elle a envoyés au profit des réfugiés espagnols l'ont été à un cours assez défavorable. Je me suis mis d'accord avec Mlle Ferrière que les prochains envois passereraient éventuellement par mon intermédiaire et que l'on pourrait éventuellement en faire bénéficier d'autres organisations qui depuis le début se sont occupées activement de la question des réfugiés espagnols.

Veuillez agréer, Cher Monsieur, toutes mes bonnes salutations.

P.S. Je vous serai reconnaissant de transmettre le télégramme à Frank Kingdom.
Spanish refugees which we discussed a few weeks ago. I have recently received a wire from Mr. Kingston of the IRRC informing me that the license originally granted to Mademoiselle Perrier of the Service Sociale d'Aide aux Refugiés has been revised so that monthly payments can be made to you up to the amount of $5,000. I presume that Mademoiselle Perrier, at least theoretically, will use $2,000 per month to send to Spaniards through her organization in France.

Dear Mr. Bartholemy states that part of this $5,000 monthly should be distributed by you, while part is to be allocated subject to two messages for you from the International Refugees and Relief Committee in New York. The first one states that the Treasury Department has issued a license to the IRRC authorizing the remittance to you of $50,000 monthly for six months in Swiss francs for the continuation of relief to Spanish refugees in camps and elsewhere in southen France. The license stipulates that you shall utilize the funds remitted under it only as authorized by the Representative of the War Refugee Board in Bern.

We have also received a message with reference to Section 3 of the special Treasury license W-2138 issued to the IRRC, and which governs the various financial operations you carry out with funds remitted to you by this Committee. Section 3 of this license has been amended as follows:

"Under this license's terms, the entire sum of money which is expended or set up in blocked accounts or which is otherwise obligated shall be not in excess of the dollar amount (or foreign currency equivalent) which is authorized by specific Treasury license for use under the present license."

The above amendment relates to amounts which you may previously have received, and includes, in addition, the Swiss franc equivalent of $60,000.

In regard to the question of the most suitable distribution outlets in France for bringing effective relief to Spanish

Mr. René Bartholemy, Care of American Consulate General, Zurich.
Spanish refugees which we discussed a few weeks ago, I have recently received a wire from Mr. Kingdon of the INRO in-forming me that the license originally granted to Mademoiselle Ferrière of the Service Sociale d'Aide aux Emigrants has been revised so that monthly payments can be made to you up to the amount of $5,000. I presume that this amendment would leave Mademoiselle Ferrière, at least theoretically, with $2500 per month to send to Spaniards through her organization in France. Mr. Kingdon further states that part of this $5,000 monthly should be distributed by you, while part is to be allotted, subject to my approval, to relief agencies in France possessing the necessary contacts with Spanish refugees. It is suggested, in this respect, that we get in touch with Mr. Field of the Unitarian Service Committee in Geneva.

In view of these encouraging messages, particularly as regards the availability of badly needed funds for Spaniards, I trust that we shall be able to discuss this whole question thoroughly in the near future either here in Bern or in Geneva.

Sincerely yours,

$12.25

Roswell D. McClelland, Special Assistant to the American Minister.
To: Department  Date: August 17, 3 p.m., 1944.
No: 5337
Code:

Charged to:

Paraphrase

The following telegram is from McClelland for WRB and incorporates message from René Bertholet for Frank Kingdon, International Rescue and Relief Committee.

"I should like to spend the sum of $10,000.00 with Dr. Tchlenoff of OSE for special action in France and Hungary. Please send your approval telegraphically."

HARRISON

$12.25

RDMM: mf

Copy to RDMM
TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department
Code:

Date: August 23, 1944, 2 p.m.
No: 5502
Charged to:

Paraphrase

"1. At the end of June Danny was arrested by the Gestapo in the south of France and was probably taken to Germany. The Gestapo was well informed about the activity of the Marseille Committee up to November 1942. Kindly inform Fry of the foregoing.

2. Please inform members of the different families for whom we cabled previously by ordinary channels that money not sent through the Quakers or us goes to the Swiss Volksbank as compulsory savings for future emigration and it is not used for immediate assistance.

3. With the help of Mrs. Kaegi, I intend to open an office in France very soon. Your opinion and advice concerning this move are awaited."

The message quoted above is from René Berthelet and is for Frank Kingdom of the International Rescue and Relief Committee.

McClelland to WRB.

HARRISON

$30.30

Copy to HLM

Aug 24, 1944
Danny was arrested by Gestapo in south of France at the end of June. The Gestapo was well informed about his activity of the Committee of Marseille before November 1942. Danny probably to Germany. Please inform Fry.

Inform members of different families for whom we cabled before by the ordinary way that money which is not sent in through the Quakers or us goes to Swiss National Bank and is opened for future emigration and not used for immediate help. 

Have the intention to open very soon office in France with the help of Mrs. Kaezi. They are waiting your meaning about the money. 

Await your opinion advice concerning this matter.

Rene Weisheipl.

In duplicate

re copy in FA
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: August 28, 9 p.m., 1944
No.: 2971
Code: [Handwritten code]
Received: August 29, 2 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 146. Please deliver following message to René Bertholet from International Rescue and Relief Committee.

"Approve $10,000 for rescue action in Hungary and France with Dr. Tehlen-foase. Please get in touch with Leo Dennenberg, care of the American Consul at Istanbul, regarding rescue work in Hungary. We have received no cables from you since the end of June."

HULL

In duplicate

re Copy in FA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date, SEP 26 1972
Mr. Rene Bertholet,  
Waserstrasse 14,  
Zurich.

Dear Mr. Bertholet:

The Legation has received the following message for you from the International Rescue and Relief Committee, now where it will be located. Would like to have former staff members, especially Paul, if they are available. Approve $10,000 for rescue action in Hungary and France, with Dr. Fischhoff as soon as possible. Please get in touch with Leo Rosenzweig. We are care of the American Consulate at Istanbul. The Legation has assiduous regard for rescue work in Hungary. We have received no cables from you since the end of June. There has been no news from any of the legation staff. We have received no news from you since the end of June.

It would be appreciated if you would acknowledge the receipt of this letter.

Very truly yours,

Roswell McClelland,  
Special Assistant to  
the American Minister.  
Also, to have the American addresses of such relatives. Efforts are under way for affecting the rescue of such persons.

W. H. M.  
International Rescue and Relief Committee.

In duplicate

A true copy of the signed original.
PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 187. Following message is for René Bertholet in Zurich.

Received your message of August 23. Expect that you will do everything for Danny. We approve of your plan for opening an office in France shortly. Please let us know where it will be located. Would like to have former staff members, especially Paul, if they are available. Have you others to suggest? Planning to send American co-workers of French descent as soon as we can. Do you have contact with Entrel’aide? We shall appreciate being kept informed of the development of your project. Do you have the last known addresses of all protégés in France, or do you need lists? You should try to locate as many of them as you can, and report regularly their whereabouts and needs. Jewish Labor Committee requests that contact be established with their friends in France and that they be sent any available Jewish Labor Committee money, also that further relief needs their cases France be cabled. Please send us the names and the last known addresses of all persons either parents, husbands, wives or minor unmarried children of American citizens or the wives and minor children of aliens who have been permanently admitted to the United States, who are known to be in enemy or enemy-occupied territory. We should also like to have the American addresses of such relatives. Efforts are under way for effecting the rescue of such persons.

HULL

In duplicate

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By H. H. Parks Date _SPD 26 1972_
Via Courier

Date: October 7, 1944

No: Bern, September 7, 1944

No: October 10, 3 p.m.

Dear Mr. Bertholet:

I have pleasure in quoting below a telegram which has been received from the International Rescue and Relief Committee for you through the facilities of the War Refugee Board:

"Received your message of August 23. Expect that you will do everything for Danny. We approve of your plan for opening an office in France shortly. Please let us know where it will be located. Would like to have former staff members, especially Paul, if they are available. Have you others to suggest? Planning to send American co-workers of French descent as soon as we can.

Do you have contact with Extr'-aide? We shall appreciate being kept informed of the development of your project. Do you have the last known addresses of all protégés in France, or do you need lists? You should try to locate as many of them as you can, and report regularly their whereabouts and needs. Jewish Labor Committee requests that contact be established with their friends in France and that they be sent any available Jewish Labor Committee money, also that further relief needs their cases France be cabled. Please send us the names and the last known addresses of all persons, either parents, husbands, wives or minor children of aliens who have been permanently admitted to the United States, who are known to be in enemy or enemy-occupied territory. We should also like to have the American addresses of such relatives. Efforts are under way for effecting the rescue of such persons."

Sincerely yours,

Mr. René Bertholet, Care American Consulate General, Zurich.

Roswell D. McClelland, Special Assistant to the American Minister
Kindly deliver a paraphrase of the message below, from Sheba Strunsky of the International Rescue and Relief Committee, to René Bertholet, 14 Wasserstrasse, Zürich.

"Anxiously await your report on French affairs. We have already contacted Guépin and Mayer with regard to the French work. Please communicate with them. Consult Guiseppettiostergi 10 Avenue de la Croisette, in Geneva, for the names of Spanish refugees in need of help. Request from Fabian address of Mrs. Gruss, Formerly with the American Consulate at Marseilles. I understand that she distributed our funds after Fabian's departure. Danny's family has heard that he is safe. Please cable us each week and if you are not available arrange for someone else to cable."

The foregoing is cable no. 803 from WRB.

HULL

/nd
In duplicate
Copy to RM

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 26 1972
Bern, October 11, 1944.

Dear Mr. Bertholot:

I am pleased to quote below a message which has been received for you from Sheba Strunsky of the International Rescue and Relief Committee through the facilities of the Department of State and the War Refugee Board:

"Anxiously await your report on French office. We have already contacted Gulgua and Mayer with regard to the French work. Please communicate with them. Consult Quispelshostberg 10 Avenue de la Croisette, in Geneva, for the names of Spanish refugees in need of help. Request from Fabian address of Mrs. Grass, formerly with the American Consulate at Marseilles. I understand that she distributed our funds after Fabian's departure. Danny's family has heard that he is safe. Please cable us each week and if you are not available arrange for someone else to cable."

Sincerely yours,

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

Mr. Bené Bertholot,
14 Wasserstrasse,
Zurich.

RDM/mjb
LETTER TO BERTHOLET 10/26/44

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: October 24, midnight, 1944
Code: C6
No: 3626
Received: October 25, 9 a.m.

PARAPHRASE

No. 253 from the War Refugee Board.

Please deliver the following message through McDowell, to Rene Bertholet, Wasserstrasse 14, Zurich:

"I wish to commend your excellent report. I have sent a cable to Gaugeli requesting him to appoint an acceptable Frenchman as our temporary representative in Paris after clearance with you and to inform us of the action he takes at the earliest opportunity. Sincerely,

INTERNATIONAL REFUGEES AND RELIEF COMMITTEE"

In duplicate

Copy in TA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. B. Fiske Date SEP 26-1972
Mr. René Bertholet,
Baserstrasse 14,
Zurich.

Dear Mr. Bertholet:

I am glad to transmit to you the following message just received for you from Sheba Strunsky of the International Rescue and Relief Committee:

"I much appreciate your excellent report. I have sent a cable to Guigui, requesting him to appoint an acceptable Frenchman as our temporary representative in Paris after clearance with you and to inform us of the action he takes at the earliest opportunity."

Sincerely yours,

Russell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: November 7, 2 p.m., 1944

No:

Received: November 8, 8 a.m.

Code:

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 236:

Kindly deliver to Mrs. Regina Keagy, Zippelstrasse 81, Zurich, the following message from the International Rescue and Relief Committee.

"No word received from René for many weeks. It is essential that we receive from you or René as soon as possible information about the composition and location of the French committees. Funds for France must be directly transmitted now. Name and address of French citizen in Zurich committee needed immediately. Have received excellent reports on your activities dated March and April. The funds which we send are all from the National War Fund, contributed to it by public and trade union federations, our portion being designated for pro-democratic political, intellectual, and labor refugees. We receive no private funds. Full explanation can be obtained from Galati. It is essential for us to receive more frequent cables from you. Frank, Louis and Sheba Strunsky."

STETTINIUS ACTING

In duplicate

ps

Copy 79

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1/31/45
By B. H. Parks, Date: SEP 26, 1972
Bern, November 9, 1944.

Mrs. Regina Kaegi-Fuchsman,  
Limmatstrasse 25,  
Zurich.

Dear Mrs. Kaegi:

I am glad to transmit the following message just received for you from Frank Kingdom and Sheba Strunsky of the International Rescue and Relief Committee:

"No word received from René for many weeks. It is essential that we receive from you or René as soon as possible information about the composition and location French committees. Funds for France must be directly transmitted now. Name and address of French citizen Nemeroff committee needed immediately. Have received excellent reports on your activities dated March and September. The funds which we send are all from the National War Fund, contributed to it by public and trade union federations, our portion being designated for pro-democratic political, intellectual, and labor refugees. We receive no private funds. Full explanation can be obtained from Ogilati. It is essential for us to receive more frequent cables from you."

Very truly yours,

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