

Escape of Refugees and Escapees Across
French-Spanish Border

Reverse Filing

000581

ESCAPE OF REFUGEES AND ESCAPEES ACROSS FRENCH-SPANISH
BORDER

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5

000583

JUL 18 1944

Dear Col. Gerhardt:

I am sending you herewith a copy of a cable received from Madrid under date of July 12, 1944, which I believe will be of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

(Signature)

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Enclosure

Col. Harrison A. Gerhardt
Executive to the Assistant
Secretary of War,
Room 4E886,
Pentagon Building,
Washington, D.C.

FH:db 7/18/44 JJA -

000584

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

GEM-981
Distribution of
true reading only by
special arrangement.
[redacted] W)

Dated July 12, 1944

Rec'd 3:37 a.m., 13th.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

2426, July 12, 5 p.m.

The Military Attache has advised the Embassy
of the contents of a telegram which he has received
from Washington stating that there have been discussions
between War Department and War Refugee Board concerning
reports of interference by civilian Jewish refugees
with the escape of Allied airmen into Spain from German
territory.

This problem is one with which the Embassy has
been seriously concerned since early June when definite
evidence of such interference, together with information
that at least two groups of American and British air-
men had as consequence been intercepted by German
patrols, was brought to its attention. The matter was
reported by Military Attache to War Department at that
time and every effort has since been made to ascertain
the circumstances under which the reported interference
has taken

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 27 1972

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be classified "Secret".

7/18/44
Copy sent to
Col. Stewart
H.H.
has not advised
after discussion
with [redacted]

000585

-2-#2426, July 12, 5 p.m., from Madrid.

has taken place.

This question was also discussed at length with Mann of War Refugees Board upon his arrival in Spain and, in order to determine whether operations being carried on by Sequerra under Treasury license W-2155 were in any way responsible for the reported interference, Mann was asked to go to Barcelona to investigate such activities in cooperation with American Consulate General. Results of such investigation have indicated that it is highly unlikely that cases of interference with escape of Allied airmen can be traced to Sequerra's current operations which appear, in fact, to involve few or clandestine activities envisaged under above-stated license but in view of paramount importance attached to escape of such airmen, Sequerra has been impressed with necessity of avoiding any action leading to interference and has agreed to keep Consulate General Barcelona informed in detail concerning his activities.

It appears to be consensus on basis of available evidence that cases of interference so far reported have resulted from individual wealthy Jewish refugees having bought their way into convoys of escaping American and

-3-#2426, July 12, 5 p.m., from Madrid.

American and British flyers but it is suggested that organizations in United States concerned with rescue of civilian refugees from German occupied areas be warned that their activities must in no way be permitted to jeopardize the escape of Allied military personnel from such areas.

REPEATED TO LISBON AS 175.

BUTTERWORTH

MRM
WTD

000587



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1

1

000588

~~SECRET~~



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
WASHINGTON

15 July 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the report
submitted by the military attache which you
recently requested.

Sincerely,

HARRISON A. GERHARDT
Colonel, General Staff Corps
Executive to Ass't Secretary of War

Enc.

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-3-72

JAN 12 1973

~~SECRET~~

000589

SECRET

15 July 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the report
submitted by the military attache which you
recently requested.

Sincerely,

Signed

HARRISON A. GERHARDT
Colonel, General Staff Corps
Executive to Ass't Secretary of War

Enc.

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-72

JAN 12 1973

~~SECRET~~

000590

The Following Pages Are the Best Available

000591

482 ... from Charlton
... on subject of
... military refugees

ev ... American Army and Navy
... should an Allied invasion
... desirable to plan well in
... for eventualities.

on ... the British
... General Arseny
... Lieutenant Colonel
... British Army, Mr.
... representative, Mr. Glicker-
... and other relief

... large and
... early stages

000592

b. Patriotic French.

Except for small numbers, the majority may be expected to remain in France to assist. Those coming through would be old people and children, no estimate possible.

c. Collaborationist French.

Large number of these would probably seek refuge in Spain; number would probably approximate 3,000.

d. Native Germans.

espies; anti-Nazis, probably German agents or saboteurs - estimated number 700 to 1,000.

e. Non-Germans belonging to German Army or Todt Organization.

Estimates at 1,500 to 2,000.

f. to i. Other nationalities.

No estimate possible, but probably 1,000 or more.

The effect of Allied invasion in France upon Spain.

It is believed that any existing fears of invasion by the Germans would be dispelled immediately, and that the Allies could thenceforward expect increased cooperation from the Spanish.

The Spanish authorities fear the re-entry by Spanish Reds; this fear would, in all probability, be increased by an invasion. The military authorities are prepared to permit refugees to enter Spain, but they will be examined carefully before being made available for transfer. They have stated that plans are prepared to deal with approximately 25,000; concentration camps for this number are either ready or are in preparation.

Food.

The Spanish food situation is not good; they are disturbed by the necessity of feeding this extra number of people who, it is expected, will enter their country.

Housing.

In the past (during the French refugee evacuation through Spain to North Africa), balnearios (summer resorts) have been utilized; some of these are inaccessible (see inclosed map) but could be used; this will be further discussed and suitable arrangements can probably be made to select better locations more suitable for the proposed operation.

The following is a list of housing possibilities (see attached map). This is compiled as a result of past experiences in connection with similar activities during refugee operations.

No.

Name	Estimated pop'ly	On railroad or bus	Distance from nearest railroad town
Barajas	1,000	on railroad	
Madrid			
Carrizosa	2		
Sobron	2		
Heruaga	1,2		
Medilla			
Esteban			
Umberri	150		
Arcozin			
San de Palavella	50		
Alra	100		
San de Aragon	600		
San de Cabra	120		
Aldeonga	120		
Ontenete	75		
Others:			
Baratz, San Zumarr, and other towns along coast west of San Sebastian	600		These have regular summer tourist trade, but may be investigated to determine suitability.

Hotels and pensions in cities - during recent refugee operations, the following number (approximately) have been given board and room in:
 Madrid - 600 Barcelona - 1,000 Pamplona - 300 Laredo - 100
 Saragoza - 300

and others probably could be arranged.

Prisons - throughout Spain - Several hundreds of persons were retained in prisons, which was most unsatisfactory on account of crowding, unsanitary conditions, poor and insufficient foods, and the men being treated as prisoners and not as refugees. Supplementary Embassy foods were issued when possible, but without proper distribution control. Prisons should not be used.

Other possibilities - "Rio Frio" - a Palace (one mile from railroad), south of Segovia - in good condition - needs sleeping and feeding equipment. Could house probably 2,000 men.

Recent information from G-2 Spanish Army is to the effect that the Pyrenees' border is being reinforced by two divisions to cover the five principal passes, for the following reasons:

a. To be prepared for any eventuality such as an attempt by the Germans to occupy the territory between the Pyrenees and the Ebro River for strategic reasons.

b. German propaganda has stressed that the Allies' intention is to land at both ends and sides of the Pyrenees.

c. To

c. To disarm and intern any belligerent units which may cross the border with intent or be forced by operations to cross inadvertently.

d. To receive and control refugees.

e. The fear of uprising in Cataluna Province or Basque country or an attempt by Spanish bands in France to cross the border in force time of an invasion.

The principal routes into Spain from France.

There are five sections of the Pyrenees through which aviation personnel and refugees have been and are crossing (see map):

a. Iruya - Roncevalles.
During the summer months it is possible to cross the Pyrenees anywhere in this section.
Troops in the area: This territory is in the VI Military Region with headquarters at Burgos - 1 battalions 7th Infantry at Elisondo, 4th Infantry at San Sebastian, 11th Mixed Cavalry at Durango, 61 Engineers at San Sebastian, all within 30 miles of the frontier.

b. Roncevalles - Canfranc.
This section lies within the VI Military Region. The mountains are difficult to cross at all seasons. Troops which will defend the frontier are principally from Pamplona, 2 battalions of the 7th Infantry, 62nd Division.

c. Canfranc - Benasque.
The mountains in this section are high and the country is difficult. This section is used as an escape route into Spain.
Troops in the area: This section pertains to the IV Military Region with headquarters in Barcelona; 3 battalions of 6th Mountain Group at Baitana, two at Barastros; other troops in this section are under the V Military Region with headquarters at Saragoza, 2nd Mountain Group, headquarters and two battalions at Luchanango, 4th Mountain Group (3 battalions) are at Jaca.

d. Benasque - Puigcerda.
In this section the mountains are high and country difficult; Artillery has recently moved to Puigcerda.

e. Puigcerda - Port Bou.
The southern part of this section is low near Port Bou, the northern part is high and difficult.
Troops in this section are under the IV Military Region with headquarters in Barcelona, headquarters 42nd Division and one battalion of 33rd Infantry at Gerna, one battalion at Figueras, one battalion at Boana, 21st Mountain Artillery (Detachment) at Lec de Urgel, one battalion of 2nd Mountain Artillery at Figueras, one battalion of 3rd Mountain Artillery at Figueras, one battalion at Le Junquera, one battalion of 1st Mountain Group at Lec de Urgel, 6th Battalion of 1st Mountain Group at Puigcerda.

The

000595

of the available troops plus
larger area for handling

in case of an invasion, it is believed
difficult to cross the frontier than
staff of the Spanish Army informed the
that in case of a large influx of
have been designated to proceed to the
increased number of troops, complete
could be effected.

that nearly all the persons who reach Spain
be detained by the troops within a few days
somewhere near the place of their apprehension.
It is believed that the Spanish authorities may not be as
willing in the past to release new arrivals, in view of the fear
of infiltration from France. In discussion with the Chief
of the High General Staff, he has indicated his desire to assist
and cooperate in evacuating service personnel at the earliest
possible time, in order not to have the burden of their care and
feeding fall upon Spain. He has further indicated the desirability
of evacuation through Bilbao for England or through Barcelona or
Algeria for North Africa, British and Americans to be evacuated
together on the same ship. He is willing and will approve of an
ad hoc British commission of Army, Navy and Air commanding
officers to examine the examination, segregation, care, feeding,
and repatriation. Further discussion with
Spanish police authorities is necessary in
regard to these matters.

These matters were approved at the
meeting on the situation which may

be required and will.

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2. Collective Zone.

a. Collecting Zone.
Nations responsible for British and Americans housed in
caserns, hotels or camps (not in prisons or jails). Constant
inspection by Red Cross and other non-military organizations to
report conditions, supply necessary clothing and small amounts of
food, report cases needing immediate medical attention. These men
would have freedom of circulation within the Spanish collective zone.

b. Refugee Camp Zone.
Nations responsible for own nationals. Hotels or barracks
to be rented or leased on flat rate per man for lodging per day or
week. Authority to control housing must be vested in a Spanish High
General Staff officer at Madrid and in no way controlled by Provincial
Governors (who are part owners or who may receive out).

2. End.

000596

2. Food.

a. Spanish Collecting Zone.

To be supplied by Spanish assisted by Aurdlio Social (soup kitchens) augmented by small additional supplies by Red Cross and other relief organizations. Spanish to charge a flat rate per day per man (to be paid by Government of national after the war).

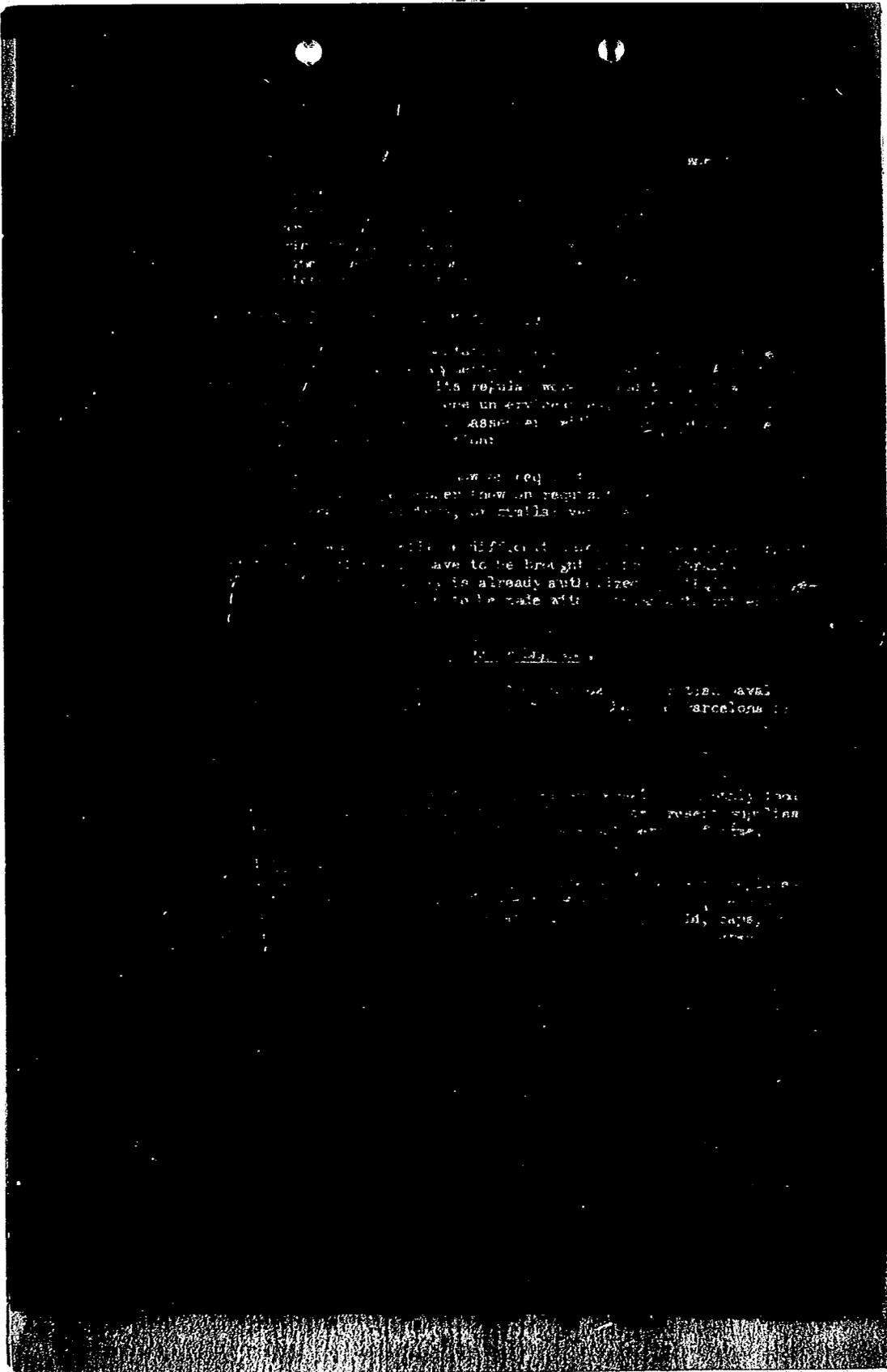
b. Refugee Camp Zone.

Arrangements to be made with hotels or balnearios on a flat per diem per man, accounts to be settled monthly with proprietor. Additional supplies of food to augment that supplied by hotel. In this connection, the following food supplies are in Spain at present at Cadiz and Mirandá:

Product and case content	Stock on hand (cases)		ration basis per man per week used at Miranda Concentration Camp at Present
	Miranda (approx.) ¹	Cadiz (exact) ²	
Evaporated milk			
48 12-1 1/2 oz. tins	700	2,200	2 cans
Oleomargarine			
24 1 lb. tins	250	1,361	2 ozs.
Corn Syrup			
12 4 1/2 oz. tins	500	---	7 ozs.
Meat (party loaf)			
42 12 oz. tins	80	1,100	3 cans
Bolled Beans			
36 1 lb. tins	---	---	1 lb.
Bouillabaisse			
2000 envelopes			2 envelopes
Prunes			
25 lb. tins			1 lb.
Chocolate			
25 2 lb. tins			7 oz.
Coar			
200 1/2 cake			1/2 cake

1. Stock at Mirandá to approximately 2500 should be used to meet the decrease of the stock at Mirandá.

distributed weekly portion of these as the increase in stock, undistributed



000598

The Red Cross has used only a small quantity of such supplies for over 14,000 men. Usually there is a local doctor near each patient location who has been called for ordinary illness; when serious the nearest hospital has been used. Medicines can be purchased locally except for "special" treatments, although it is possible to obtain physicians that American or British medicines are of much higher quality.

In addition to the above, it is recommended that 24 field kits be furnished, a sufficient supply of iodine, aspirin, morphine, ether, sulpha drugs, cathartic pills, vitamin A and B, bandages, assorted sizes, chlorina tubes, halamine, foot powder, foot powder for approximately 1,000 men, blankets, bed sacks - (it is estimated that 2500 each will be required) - (it is estimated that 2,000 sets complete estimated. 1,000 sets required estimated.

It will approve a British and American commission of representatives of the British and American Army and Navy to oversee the repatriation. It is estimated that 1000 men are necessary.

- 1. Military Attaché.
- 2. Representative Officer
- 3. Intelligence Officers - 1 E.
- 4. Quartermaster Officer
- 5. Chaplain
- 6. Medical Officer (British Red Cross, not British Army)
- 7. American, 1 British

... of clerks, typists

... permission
... freely
... commission,
... military-diplo-

... will be appro-
... identification by
... representatives, other
... identified, his

papers

papers can be filled out, a receipt for the papers should be obtained after which he will be issued a passport or other official document, the name of whose identity there is a question, the registration of their cases. The Government will provide for security, housing and feeding of these persons.

8. Refugee Camp Zone (see map)

As soon as identity papers have been obtained, he is claimed by the office of the Government, a receipt signed upon his delivery. This receipt is in the custody of the office of the Government for his care, feeding, security, and transportation. It will undertake to separate and transport them as soon as they are approached, and by means of Spanish quotas, nationalities will be made to assist British and American Collecting Jons. It is intended to establish in order that persons of country supply any function of availability.

Overflows or overproducing in the other countries raised temporarily by making available from the other (British and American).

9. General Martinez Campos, Chief of the Spanish Government, assured me of his desire to possibly evacuate Allied forces from Spain for England and North Africa, whether this was an offer to assist the Allies or due to shortage of food. The reasons is unknown at the present time however, the offer is given and it is intended to realize on it.

10. Cost of operation.

- Cost per man per day while in custody of Spanish Government
- Cost per man per day after his release to the Government while in Spain, is to 25 pesos per day, including food.
- Cost of feeding, housing, security, and transportation.
- Cost of issue of papers for transport, per man per day.
- Cost of gasoline and oil.
- Cost of clothing.
- Cost of additional food.
- Cost of medicine.

It is recommended that funds be allocated to the Military Attache on cable request and a receipt is to be obtained for the same made at present.

FREDERICK D. SHARP,
Officer in Charge,
Military Attache,
Military Attaché, etc.

Copied and checked by 38

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000601

WAR DEPARTMENT
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE
WASHINGTON

~~SECRET~~
By authority A. C. of S., G-2
Date 6 July 1944 (7/6/44)
Initials FRB

6 July 1944. FRB

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR EDWARD H. MILLER, MIS L/O to State Department:

Subject: Assistance to Military Escapees and Refugees.

Request that the inclosed paraphrase of War Department cable to the Military Attache, Madrid, Spain, be delivered to Mr. John W. Pehle of the War Refugee Board.

Russell H. Sweet

RUSSELL H. SWEET,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief, Captured Personnel and Material Branch.

1 Incl.



~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. Letter, 5-8-78

SEP 27 1972

000602

~~SECRET~~

6 July 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR MAJOR EDWARD H. MILLER, MIS L/O to State Department:

Subject: Assistance to Military Escapees and Refugees.

Request that the inclosed paraphrase of War Department cable to the Military Attache, Madrid, Spain, be delivered to Mr. John W. Pehle of the War Refugee Board.

RUSSELL H. SWEET,
Colonel, G.S.C.,
Chief, Captured Personnel and Material Branch.

1 Incl.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED
92D Letter, 6-8-78

SEP 27 1972

000603

~~SECRET~~
PARAPHASE

Paraphrase of Message No. WAR 59146, 1 July 1944, from MIS
C&S Branch, to Military Attache, American Embassy, Madrid,
Spain.

Reference is made to your #18529 of 14 June 1944. The situation referred to in this cable was the subject of a talk with John L. Pehle, who is Executive Director of the War Refugee Board. Mr. Pehle, who is fully cooperative, fully agrees that that the situation should be rectified whatever steps are necessary. He states that the Asst. Executive Director WRB, Mr. James E. Mann, is now in Spain, and suggests that in arriving at a solution to the problem you contact Mann, tell him of the situation, and ask his help. Pehle agrees with us that there be a full segregation of refugees and escapees, and that military escapees not be mixed with refugees. The Joint Distribution Committee, which Pehle contacted, having full confidence in the judgment of Mann, has instructed Mann to make any changes in JDC operations which are needed to rectify this interference. If it is considered necessary by you and Mann to stop all assistance to refugees across the border from France to Spain in order to protect military escapees, then Mann is authorized to give whatever directions are necessary to the JDC representative in Spain to accomplish this end. However, we are not sure that complete cessation of JDC activities is necessary to insure this protection of escapees. Refugee activities if properly supervised by the JDC should be helpful in furnishing dope which will assist and further movement of military escapees across the French-Spanish border. The movements of refugees before they reach Spain, of course, are not the concern of the JDC, and they may be difficult to control, in that they will more than likely be willing to spend large amounts of money in procuring guides or helpers to help them across the border in spite of the fact that there may be military escapees in the group. Suggest you get together with Mann and advise us of the result of this conference.

ORIGINATOR: G-2
INFORMATION: OPD
AS/W.

DECLASSIFIED
98D Letter, 5-8-78

SEP 27 1972

~~SECRET~~

000604

~~SECRET~~
PARAPHRASE

Paraphrase of Message No. W.R. 59146, 1-July 1944, from MIS CPM Branch, to Military Attache, American Embassy, Madrid, Spain.

Reference is made to your #18529 of 14 June 1944. The situation referred to in this cable was the subject of a talk with John W. Pehle, who is executive Director of the War Refugee Board. Mr. Pehle, who is fully cooperative, fully agrees that that the situation should be rectified whatever steps are necessary. He states that the Asst. Executive Director WRB, Mr. James H. Mann, is now in Spain, and suggests that in arriving at a solution to the problem you contact Mann, tell him of the situation, and ask his help. Pehle agrees with us that there be a full segregation of refugees and escapees, and that military escapees not be mixed with refugees. The Joint Distribution Committee, which Pehle contacted, having full confidence in the judgment of Mann, has instructed Mann to make any changes in JDC operations which are needed to rectify this interference. If it is considered necessary by you and Mann to stop all assistance to refugees across the border from France to Spain in order to protect military escapees, then Mann is authorized to give whatever directions are necessary to the JDC representative in Spain to accomplish this end. However, we are not sure that complete cessation of JDC activities is necessary to insure this protection of escapees. Refugee activities if properly supervised by the JDC should be helpful in furnishing dope which will assist and further movement of military escapees across the French-Spanish border. The movements of refugees before they reach Spain, of course, are not the concern of the JDC, and they may be difficult to control, in that they will more than likely be willing to spend large amounts of money in procuring guides or helpers to help them across the border in spite of the fact that there may be military escapees in the group. Suggest you get together with Mann and advise us of the result of this conference.

ORIGINATOR: G-2
INFORMATION: OPD
AS/W.

DECLASSIFIED
OSD Letter, 5-8-78
SEP 27 1972

~~SECRET~~

000605

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000606

June 29, 1944.

TO: Lt. Col. Gerhardt
FROM: J. W. Pehle

Attached is a draft of a cable to the Military Attache pursuant to our discussion. Also attached for the information of the War Department are three despatches received from the British with reference to this matter.

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

Attachments


JWPehle:lh 6/29/44

000607

DRAFT OF CABLE FROM WAR DEPARTMENT TO MILITARY ATTACHE, MADRID

Reference your no. 12529, June 14.

This matter has been discussed with John W. Pehle, Executive Director War Refugee Board, who is fully cooperative and desires to take all possible action to straighten out situation. He advises that James H. Mann, Assistant Executive Director WRB, is now in Spain and requests that you advise Mann fully of the problem and secure his cooperation in working out a solution.

It is suggested by us and Pehle that there be complete separation of escapees and refugees and that arrangements be made to ensure that refugee groups are not mixed with military escapees. Pehle has conferred with the Joint Distribution Committee which has full confidence in Mann's judgment and which authorizes him to make any changes in JDC operations which are requisite to meeting the situation. If you and Mann both feel that the complete cessation of any activities by the JDC representatives in Spain, looking toward assisting refugees to cross the French-Spanish border, is necessary in order to protect the lives of escapees, Mann is authorized to issue the necessary instructions to that end to the JDC representatives in Spain. It should be pointed out, however, that we are not clear that such action is necessary to accomplish this purpose and suggest that under proper coordination and supervision the representatives of the JDC may as a matter of fact assist by providing information and in other ways help further the movement of escapees over the border.

In practice, however, it may be very difficult to control the activities of refugees on the French side of the border who undoubtedly offer any guides available large sums of money to bring them across even though escapees are in the party. Such individual acts of refugees are not, of course, the responsibility or subject to the control of the JDC.

Please report back after discussion with Mann.


RH:JWPenle:lh

6/29/44

000608

Dear John;

June 29, 1944.

Will you please call me
as soon as you have read these?

G.L. Warren.

000609

Mr. Eden ✓

Lord Halifax

8 p.m., June 20, 1944

3:57 p.m. " 20. "

Following received from Madrid tel. No.942
of June 19 repeated to Barcelona.

Your tel. No. 745.

Incidents referred to in my tel. No.925
resulted from precisely this process i.e. Jews
tempted the guides working for a British organization
to take a large party of civilians and luggage at
the same time by offering greatly inflated prices.

2. Actually inflated prices matter less than
slowing up and consequent interception of parties
of British and U.S.airmen. Since sending my tel.
No.925 I have heard of another case (in the Western
Pyrenees) where one of our parties of 17 strong
was combined with a party of 37 civilians (with
luggage): it was in consequence intercepted by
German guards, two R.A.F. officers, one Flight
Lieutenant and one American being caught. All
except 5 civilians were caught as well.

3. I have also asked Mr. Farquhar for his comments
on your telegram.

4. Please repeat to Washington as my tel. No.
237.

DECLASSIFIED

By Authority of British

Gov't. telegram, 1-12-72

By RHP Date SEP 27 1972

000610

~~TOP SECRET~~

Mr. Eden

Lord Halifax ✓

2:55 p.m., June 10, 1944

10.26 a.m., " " "

DEDIP

Following received from Madrid tel. No. 925 of June 15. Begins.

My tel. No.494.

Evidence is accumulating that efforts being made by these Jewish organisations to help Jewish civilians out of France are seriously prejudicing the chance of British and U.S. airmen.

2. On two occasions recently parties of airmen entering Spain in the Eastern Pyrenees came to grief on the French side of the frontier owing to the inclusion of such refugees in the party, one R.A.F. Flight Sergeant and five U.S. Air Force being captured by the Germans. Since then another party of R.A.F. crossing further west ran altogether unnecessary risks by the inclusion of Jewish civilians, whose luggage had to be carried by R.A.F. officers and who even refused to share their food with our men.

3. To put an end to such a state of affairs I would recommend that the strongest pressure be put on the headquarters of these Jewish organisations in London and Washington and that agents in the field be order under no circumstances to help such refugees.

4. Mr. Lichtenstein of the Jewish Agency has recently been visiting refugees who have arrived by the routes in question. I would be interested to know if he is authorized to arrange such clandestine escapes; if so, I should oppose any further journeys by him to Spain; which he has asked me to facilitate.

5. Please repeat to Washington as my tel. No. 233.

DECLASSIFIED

By Authority of British

Gov't. telegram, 1-12-72

By RHP Date SEP 27 1972

000611

Mr. Eden

Lord Halifax

4:50 p.m. June 16th, 1944.

2:13 p.m. " " "

Addressed to Madrid telegram
745 June 15th repeated to Washington.

Washington telegram 3042 to
Foreign Office repeated to you as telegram
201 paragraph 1.

I presume that the "straight
payment of pesetas to certain Spanish guides"
has been made by representatives of Joint
at Barcelona. Guides are used to rescue
British and American service personnel and
there is little doubt that in limited areas
in which this type of work is possible these
guides are the same people whoever pays
them.

2. If services of these guides are
in request from different directions they
may auction them to highest bidder. British
authorities and Joint may thus bid against
one another. Both parties will suffer from
enhanced prices demanded and British
authorities will have their available supply
of guides reduced to the extent that Joint
may outbid them.

3. Please telegraph your views.

DECLASSIFIED

By Authority of British

Gov't telegram, 1-12-72

By RHP Date SEP 27 1972

000612

1

000613

June 24, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES:

Colonel Gerhardt of the War Department handed to me today a cable from the Military Attache in Madrid, which is attached. He said that the military movement in question was handled primarily by the British and no word had been received from the British as yet as to any difficulty. He suggested that we ought not to mix the movements of escapees and refugees to which I fully agreed. I told him we would get in touch with him about the matter after discussing it with the JDC.

Later today I mentioned the matter to George Warren. He told me that Thorold of the British Embassy was sending to him several letters relating to the same matter which seemed to raise the same issue perhaps in a somewhat more specific way. I told Warren I would send him a copy of the cable received from the Military Attache in Madrid and clear with him the reply to be sent through military channels. This was entirely agreeable to Warren.

JTBulk

000614

June 24, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES:

Colonel Gerhardt of the War Department handed to me today a cable from the Military Attache in Madrid, which is attached. He said that the military movement in question was handled primarily by the British and no word had been received from the British as yet as to any difficulty. He suggested that we ought not to mix the movements of escapees and refugees to which I fully agreed. I told him we would get in touch with him about the matter after discussing it with the JDC.

Later today I mentioned the matter to George Warren. He told me that Thorold of the British Embassy was sending to him several letters relating to the same matter which seemed to raise the same issue perhaps in a somewhat more specific way. I told Warren I would send him a copy of the cable received from the Military Attache in Madrid and clear with him the reply to be sent through military channels. This was entirely agreeable to Warren.

(Signed) J.W. Felle

JWP:mgt 6/24/44

000615

SECRET

PARAPHRASE

FROM: U.S. M.A. Madrid
TO: War Department 14 June 1944
Nr. 12529

Operations of Schwartz, American Joint Distribution
Committee (stateless refugees) interfering with Escapees^(military) in
Barcelona area. Strongly urge representations be made to
committee through State to prevent interference. Escapees^(military)
complain refugees probably by paying large amounts mixed
with escapee groups and endangered their safety as they were
not able to keep up. They insisted on carrying large
quantities of belongings and persuaded the guides to delay.
The M/A is investigating further.

000616