Yugoslav Refugee Committee
Mr. J. W. Feible, Executive Director
Executive Office of the President
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

With reference to your letter dated 1 June 1944, enclosing check for $50,000 for payment to Colonel Milentije Popovich, you are advised that this amount was received by Colonel Popovich on 12th June.

Sincerely yours,

R. H. MacPherson
Captain, Finance Department
Assistant, Receipts and Disbursements Division
OUTGOING TELEGRAM

June 6, 1944

Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement (W)

AHERP,

Address

The cable below is for Murphy, Chapin and Ackermann, in WRB no. 20
and refers to your 1708 May 24, 1708 May 28 and 1708 May 30.

Funds have been transmitted to Yugoslav Refugees Committee in

Bari as recommended your 1708.

Refer your 1708 UNR requesting its representative Madrid to
furnish up to 100,000 pesetas to persons designated by you, for payment
your dose in Spain. Please communicate with Embassy Madrid
indicating to whom such pesetas should be furnished and amount thereof
required. Reimbursement in Washington for pesetas furnished will be
made USOS.

We have not taken up question here as suggested your 1708
of assurance of availability of ship for evacuation of refugees
from Spain; in view statement in your 1708 that the Local War Shipping
Administration representative is giving full assistance, please
advise if Eiklosh and you consider it necessary we do so.

8/6/44

SHEET 17

SGE

Miles Chauncey (for the Society), Abrahamsen, Akin, Bernsztai, Oak, Doida,
Priceman, Donan, Noel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Munson, Marks,
McGovern, Panic, Pasco, Pever, Smith, Sandish, Stewart, Wainstein,
M.D. White, P. S. P.

LEETE

Radio Dept. No.1, 1-31-44

BEST AVAILABLE COPY
Mr. J. M. Pehle, Executive Director  
Executive Office of the President  
War Refugee Board  
Washington 25, D. C.  

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter dated 1 June 1944, inclosing check in the amount of $50,000 for payment to Colonel Milentije Popovich who is to receive the funds for the Yugoslav Refugee Committee.

Necessary action is being taken by this office to effect payment of the above amount, and you will be further advised when the transaction has been accomplished.

Sincerely yours,

R. M. MacPherson  
Captain, Finance Department  
Assistant, Receipts and Disbursements Division
June 1, 1944

The Fiscal Director,
Headquarters,
Army Service Forces,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a certified check for $50,000, payable to the Treasurer of the United States. It will be appreciated if you will arrange as promptly as possible for the appropriate representative of the Allied Financial Agency in Paris, Italy to pay an equivalent amount of Italian lire to the Yugoslav Refugees Committee in Paris. The money will be received for the Yugoslav Refugees Committee by Colonel Milićević Popovíc.

In connection with the above transfer of funds, it will be appreciated if the following message is delivered to the Yugoslav Refuges Committee in Paris:

"These funds are being made available to the Yugoslav Refugees Committee for purposes of refugees rescue and relief pursuant to arrangements made with the Committee by a representative of the War Refugee Board."

Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Fahl,
Executive Director.

Enclosure.

[Signature]
May 31, 1944

Mr. J.W. Pehle,
Executive Office of the President,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear John:

Pursuant to your telephone call of this morning,

I am enclosing herewith check on the account of Morris L. Ernst, Special, in the sum of $50,000.00 to the order of the Treasurer of the United States. You state that this will be disbursed by the United States Army in Bari, Italy, in accordance with purposes agreed upon by all parties concerned.

With personal regards,

[Signature]

[Stroke through signature]

The certified check for $50,000, referred to above, which was cashed on J. F. Morgan & Co. and was dated May 22, 1944, was delivered to me personally to Colonel John Savage of the Office of the District Director, Dept. Army Service Forces on June 1, 1944, at 10:00 A.M. At the same time, I handed Colonel Savage the original of the enclosed letter. Colonel Savage stated appropriate instructions to be put out by radio on June 2 and that the funds would probably be delivered to Colonel Popovich of the War Refugee Board at Bari on June 3.

[Signature]

Matthew Marks
June 3, 1944
It is understood that through the transfer of these funds by Army facilities, the Government or its fiscal agents are in no way liable for erroneous delivery provided such delivery is made to persons identifying themselves as the payee through recognized identification medium.
to: Mr. Friedman

from: J. W. Pehle

I talked to Mr. Bundy and to General Carter today about the $50,000 remittance to the Yugoslav Refugee Committee. Carter had Colonel Spagliano (extension 3603) call me about the matter. I think the best procedure is for you to get in touch with him directly and probably go over there to see him and make the necessary arrangements. Apparently there will be no difficulty involved as far as the War Department is concerned.

J. W. Pehle

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1. Certified check payable to the Treasurer of the United States
2. Statement from bank that...
INCOMING
TELEGRAM

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1709, May 24, 2 p.m.
FROM HURPHY FOR VLR REFUGEE BOARD FRANK CHEEK

No. 20

Have returned from Italy. Army is willing that representative of Board be stationed in Italy but will not release Lawler as his present work is considered too important. Suggested by Lawler that Fraser or Pidler might be used. Since there will be no Board representative in Bari for some time I recommend that funds mentioned in No. 1373 from Department be sent to APA representative in Bari for delivery to Yugoslav Refugee Committee. Lorie can be used. Colonel likenije Popovitch will receipt for funds and at some time will forward to me tentative plans for use. After the full report will be furnished. My report on Italian trip follows by mail.

Beckelman
No. 1709, May 24, 2 p.m., from Algiers.

Brooksman has cabled UNRRA and FEA about difficulties at Fidhala camp. Supply situation now appears settled despite closing down of Atlantic base section. There still remains question of securing army aid for guarding camp. Guards are necessary to protect property of camp. I am working on this problem and have received assistance of ambassador Murphy. Hope to settle it soon. Because of failure to give advance notice of sailing date ship for refugees did not leave on 20 May as expected. New tentative date is June 7. I am following problem to prevent another mixup.

CMLPM

EEL
BB
PROCEDURE FOR SENDING $50,000 TO YUGOSLAV REFUGEE COMMITTEE

1. Call Bundy. Refer to our cable regarding sending of $50,000 to Yugoslav Refugee Committee at Bari, which cable was cleared with Bundy on May 3, and copy of which was sent to him on May 4. Indicate that arrangements have now been made by Ackermann for the Allied Financial Agency Representative in Bari to deliver to the Yugoslav Refugee Committee there the lira equivalent of the $50,000 to be furnished by the War Refugee Board.

2. Ask Bundy to have the Office of Fiscal Director (General Carter) get in touch with you to work out the details of sending these funds through the Army.

3. General Carter's office will give you the details. As I understand it, it will simply involve the delivery to the Office of the Fiscal Director of a check for $50,000 payable to the Treasurer of the United States. The Office of the Fiscal Director would then give instructions to the Allied Financial Agency Representative in Bari to make available to the Yugoslav Refugee Committee the lira equivalent. We will, of course, indicate that the funds in Italy will be receipted for by Colonel Miletić-Popović.

4. Arrange with Leavitt here in order that appropriate check for $50,000 can be given to the Office of Fiscal Director.

JGP
GENERAL VIEW OF SIEGE SITE

From: Secretary of State, Washington
To: Senate, Army
Date: May 8, 1864

Subject:

END OF ARMAMENTS PERIOD. ADMISSION FOR ARMS FROM THE SIEGE FIELD

Please refer to your No. 1097 of April 30, 1864.

In accordance with the general directions which followed the
day's plan, the Secretary of State has been instructed to
sell the arms seized at the siege, the proceeds to be
placed in the hands of the military department for the
purpose of the present exigencies of the national defense.

The arms are to be sold at public auction, the proceeds
being paid to the Treasury.

This is the only notice to be given.

[Signature]

[Stamp] SEP 27 1864
To: Mr. John J. McCloy, Assistant Secretary of War

From: Mr. Pehle

As you know, in a letter dated April 14, 1944, General Marshall, for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, advised the War Refugee Board that the Allied Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Theater, has approved the project presented by the War Refugee Board to offer financial assistance to the Yugoslav Partisans in attempting to rescue certain refugees thought at the time to be on the Island of Rab in the Adriatic. According to General Marshall's letter, the Theater Commander has indicated that previously expressed views opposing, for military reasons, the rendering of aid to these refugees has been partly revised due to a present ability to care for displaced persons in Italy because arrangements have been made to evacuate a substantial number of Yugoslav refugees from Italy to the mid-East.

Following the recent military developments in Hungary and the Balkans, the War Refugee Board realized the necessity of exploring a potential escape route for refugees from Hungary and the Balkans through Yugoslavia. As a result of the Board's investigations which included discussions between a representative of the Board and representatives of the refugee committee of the Yugoslav National Committee at Bari, the Board is convinced that through cooperation with the Partisans there is a real possibility of saving refugees now in imminent danger of death. The Partisan Refugee Committee has indicated its desire and willingness to cooperate in this humanitarian effort. The Board has been informed of successful efforts already made by the Partisans in rescuing refugees. Apparently before the German recapture of the Island of Rab, the Partisans successfully evacuated the refugees on this island to other territory under Partisan control. They have also evacuated other refugee groups to Italy and from non-Partisan to Partisan territory in Yugoslavia.

As a result of our investigation, we are convinced that financial assistance should be given at once to the Partisan Refugee Committee in Bari. The War Refugee Board has arranged with the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee for the latter organization to furnish $50,000 for
this purpose. We are presently requesting our representative in the area to ascertain the form and manner in which such funds should be made available to the Partisan Refugee Committee. This operation will be greatly facilitated if the funds can be remitted through War Department channels.

This matter has been cleared with the State Department.
April 26, 1944

Mr. Pehle

Mr. Friedman

As I indicated to you, Rocher is trying to get out a cable from Admiral Land to Kallef in Algiers, asking him to explore with Ackermann the shipping problems involved in evacuating refugees through Yugoslavia. (See Ackermann's cable No. 1337 of April 22).

I think we have reached a stage in our consideration of the Yugoslav problem in which it would be helpful if you could advise State in a general way of the problem, indicating that we will come to them for help when specific problems are faced. Similarly, it might be helpful to talk to FRA people in somewhat the same way since Lend-Lease will necessarily be involved in the program we are thinking about. Accordingly, I suggest that you talk to Mr. Berle of State Department and to Means, Medway and Cox of FRA along the lines indicated in the attached memorandum.

Also attached is a cable to Ackermann letting him know that we are following his suggestions.
The following message is from Ambsermann, War Refugee
Representative No. 16 for the War Refugee Board.

1. I have again discussed with the Partisan general
about 3950 referred to us the problem of evacuation of the
Yugoslavs. The immediate need is for from fifteen to twenty
vessels of from one hundred to two hundred in size since the
repair of the vessels they own will take some time. Since
vessels must be done in darkness and since the nights are
growing shorter these vessels preferably should have a speed
of ten knots at least. For the journey to the Dalmatian
Inlands from the mainland of Yugoslavia small vessels
one to two tons in size are needed.

2. If allocation can be obtained from ENSO in Italy
there are available about 200 ton ships. This will be assisted
by strong direction from a high naval authority or from Admiral
Leese. Motor boats or smaller ships must be obtained elsewhere
since they are not available. As the nights grow shorter the
present use of fishing vessels by Yugoslavs becomes more dan-
gerous.

- N. For additional report on the Yugoslav situation which
in Dalmatia directly from Reg.

Robert Holtz, Balkan Desk, R. and A. and Office of
Strategic Services, Washington.

GRAM/NEF
4/29/44

See Miss Ouzvory (for the reply), Abramson, Akizu, Bernstein,
Cohn, Davis, Friedman, Cinton, Housal, Luchin, Lavan, Sandor
Sovine, Stick, McConnaught, Field, Field, Bottom, Blythe, Miller.