

R143 T-29

241C CORRESPONDENCE
R. McCLELLAND

Mr. McClelland's Files
(Switzerland)

ZARE: Relief (USRS) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German Occupied
France, 1945
File 1

See - File

War Refugee Board
American Legation
Bern, Switzerland

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

January, February & March 1945

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

*Beilagen
1945
WRB Relief (WRB) for Concentration
Camps in Germany and German-Occupied
Areas
1945*

DE LA CROIX ROUGE
SOCIÉTÉ INTERNATIONALE
DES MÉDECINS DE GUERRE

GENÈVE, 5 janvier 1945.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
LEGATION.

Bern, January 3, 1945.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

First allow me to reciprocate your kind New Year's wishes and to hope that the coming months will bring you and your family good fortune and your

ICRC Package for
Concentration Camps
January 1945.

Each case contains three kilo parcels. This shipment includes 9,750 cases containing 58,500 "K" (Kosher) parcels which do not contain receipt cards. The balance of 695 cases, containing 4,172 parcels include individual receipt cards as per your wirephoto of September 21. This shipment concludes the initial WRB 300,000 three-kilo food parcel program.

If agreeable to you there are one or two matters concerning this parcel program which I should like to discuss with you personally, so shall take the liberty of calling you next Monday morning in the hope that we can meet during the course of the day.

With kind personal regards, I am
Very sincerely yours

Mr. J. de Schwarzenberg
Hotel Métropole,
Bern

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant.

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

... qui avaient un statut spécial...

1945
Germany and German...

DE LA CROIX ROUGE
SOCIÉTÉ ANONYME
HUMANITARIENNE
SUISSE

GENÈVE, 6 janvier 1945.

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
LEGATION.

Bern, January 3, 1945.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

First allow me to reciprocate your kind New Year's wishes and to hope that the coming months will bring you and your family good fortune and your work success and personal satisfaction.

To broach more routine matters, however, I have just received a cable from the War Refugee Board giving me the following information regarding the balance of the 300,000 WRB parcels which, as you will recall, was still due to be shipped to us. They state:

"Amcross has shipped on board the SS CARITAS II, second half of December, for off-loading at TOULON, a total of 10,112 cases containing 60,672 3 Kilo WRB food parcels for consignment to the International Committee of the Red Cross for distribution to unassimilated persons in camps. The outer shipping cases are marked as described in our wire of November 25 (communicated to you in my letter of December 1) and each case contains 6 three-Kilo parcels. This shipment includes 9,750 cases containing 58,500 "K" (Kosher) parcels which do not contain receipt cards. The balance of 695 cases, containing 4,172 parcels include individual receipt cards as per your wirephoto of September 21. This shipment concludes the initial WRB 300,000 three-Kilo food parcel program."

If agreeable to you there are one or two matters concerning this parcel program which I should like to discuss with you personally, so shall take the liberty of calling you next Monday morning in the hope that we can meet during the course of the day.

With kind personal regards, I am
Very sincerely yours

Mr. J. de Schwarzenberg
Hotel Métropole,
Bern

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant.

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

er
.000

Germany and German...

Jan 6th/45
 ① Goldwasser Fred b. 11.2.25
 " Jacques b. 6.3.38
 in Amsterdam Holland
 Sent to Theresienstadt in
 March 1944 from Westerbork
 Address in Theresienstadt
 Langestr. 190/5

DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
 PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE

GENÈVE, 6 janvier 1945.

814.2 I.R.C. PARAGRAPHS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

From Max Schme
 ② Familie Siegbert NEUHAUS
 Aufenthaltslager Block 26
 Bergen-Belsen
 Kreis Celle of Hannover
 Deutschland
 Both unfiled parcel orders.
 Put them on our lists.
 Sent to Schwanzburg Jan 6/45
 K.S.W.C.

reuser réception de vos let-

vous soumettre maintenant
 une - pour la plus grande
 colis du War Refugee Board
 de votre lettre du 15.12.44,
 les deux solutions que vous
 le colis "K" qui ne contiennent
 rieur. Si vous n'avez pas d'ob-
 xième de ces solutions qui con-
 ces 39.324 colis à des person-
 nous connaissons les noms et
 collective les colis ayant une
 de la Croix-Rouge à l'intérieur.
 dessus mentionnée car, les car-
 usés de réception pourraient
 que seuls les cartons conte-
 nellement seraient ouverts pour
 quettes.

K parcels Non

tableau de repartition, d'at-
 viande "Kosher" aux envois in-
 dividuels pour les détenus israélites dans tous les camps de con-
 centration ainsi que pour les prisonniers civils de toutes na-
 tionalités se trouvant dans les camps de Bergen-Belsen, Theresien-
 stadt de même que Auschwitz, Monowitz et Birkenau où les isra-
 élites semblent être en majorité. Une quantité d'environ 16.100
 colis "Kosher" serait ainsi destinée à des israélites; le solde
 serait employé pour les expéditions collectives à certaines loca-
 lités de Pologne, selon les indications contenues dans votre let-
 tre du 29 décembre 1944.

Nous vous serions reconnaissants de bien vouloir nous
 confirmer votre accord pour le projet de répartition de 142.365
 colis, selon tableau annexé et de considérer ce document comme
 strictement confidentiel. Nous nous permettrons de vous adresser
 ultérieurement un projet de répartition pour le solde des 300.000
 colis.

Germany and German Dis...



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

Chèques postaux I. 5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Télog. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Rappeler dans la réponse :

Za/00 Col.WRB
RM/TB.

GENÈVE, 6 janvier 1945.

814.2 I. R. C. PAQUAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland
Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
B e r n e

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser réception de vos lettres des 15 décembre et 3 janvier.

Nous sommes en mesure de vous soumettre maintenant un plan de répartition - voir annexe - pour la plus grande partie du deuxième lot de 224.328 colis du War Refugee Board expédié à Göteborg. Dès réception de votre lettre du 15.12.44, nous avons étudié attentivement les deux solutions que vous nous proposiez au sujet des 39.324 colis "K" qui ne contiennent pas de cartes-quittances à l'intérieur. Si vous n'avez pas d'objections, nous préférons la deuxième de ces solutions qui consiste à expédier individuellement ces 39.324 colis à des personnes, en partie israélites, dont nous connaissons les noms et adresses et d'envoyer sous forme collective les colis ayant une quittance du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge à l'intérieur. Nous préférons la solution ci-dessus mentionnée car, les cartons contenant des colis avec accusés de réception pourraient être réexpédiés tels quels, alors que seuls les cartons contenant des colis à expédier individuellement seraient ouverts pour le collage et l'agrafage des étiquettes.

NOTE
"K" parcels

Nous avons prévu, sur le tableau de répartition, d'attribuer les colis contenant de la viande "Kosher" aux envois individuels pour les détenus israélites dans tous les camps de concentration ainsi que pour les prisonniers civils de toutes nationalités se trouvant dans les camps de Bergen-Belsen, Theresienstadt de même que Auschwitz, Monowitz et Birkenau où les israélites semblent être en majorité. Une quantité d'environ 16.100 colis "Kosher" serait ainsi destinée à des israélites; le solde serait employé pour les expéditions collectives à certaines localités de Pologne, selon les indications contenues dans votre lettre du 29 décembre 1944.

Nous vous serions reconnaissants de bien vouloir nous confirmer votre accord pour le projet de répartition de 142.365 colis, selon tableau annexé et de considérer ce document comme strictement confidentiel. Nous nous permettrons de vous adresser ultérieurement un projet de répartition pour le solde des 300.000 colis.

colis qui valent un...

Germany and Germany...
1945

En ce qui concerne les renseignements de la Croix-Rouge Americaine que vous nous transmettez par votre lettre du 3 janvier, nous remarquons une erreur de calcul dans les nombres de colis mentionnés :

1er envoi	SS-Gripsholm - Göteborg	2.500 caisses	15.000 colis
2e envoi	SS-Saive Göteborg	37.388 caisses	224.328 colis
3e envoi	SS-Caritas II. Toulon	10.112 caisses	60.672 colis

Total	300.000 colis
-------	---------------

Or, la Croix-Rouge Americaine donne comme détail des 10.112 caisses - 60.672 colis :

9.750 caisses	58.500 colis "Kosher"
695 "	4.172 colis-standard

10.445	62.672
--------	--------

This must be wrong.

Il y a donc lieu de ne prendre en consideration que le chiffre du total des colis chargés sur le SS-Caritas II. c'est à dire 60.672 colis et de ne pas tenir compte du détail. Nous désirons, cependant, vous informer de cette différence.

D'autre part, nous sommes obligés d'attendre l'inventaire exact des 10.000 livres de vêtements que vous nous annoncez par votre lettre du 1er décembre pour pouvoir établir un plan de distribution. Aussitôt que ces renseignements nous seront parvenus, nous ne manquerons pas de vous soumettre un projet.

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

J. J. J. J. J.

Annexe : 1 tableau

60.672
58.500
2.172

362
Colis.
WJC

10.112
60.672

61.472
695

Document not related to the list of names in the previous document...



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

ICRC packages

Rappeler dans la réponse :

Chèques postaux I. 5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

ZA II G. 85
RM/TB.

GENÈVE, 9 janvier 1945

*Re: Official act of parcels
delivered to Prison through
German Red Cross.*

Confidential

01

BERN

Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland
Légation des U.S.A.
B e r n e

June!

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que nous venons de recevoir par l'intermédiaire de la Croix-Rouge Allemande, 417 accusés de réception émanant du camp de Bergen-Belsen Kreis Celle et signés par les destinataires.

C'est la première fois qu'une telle communication nous est faite par la Croix-Rouge allemande et nous en sommes particulièrement satisfaits. Nous essayerons à l'avenir de continuer à obtenir confirmation de la bonne arrivée de nos envois par l'intermédiaire de cette organisation.

Nous vous transmettons ces renseignements pour votre information personnelle et vous prions de bien vouloir les considérer comme strictement confidentiels.

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

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge,

W. Schwegler
Division d'Assistance
Spéciale

- 1) This
- 2) Serial list
- 3) Individual

Document not to be released to the press or to the public without the approval of the Committee which issued it.



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

Rappeler dans la réponse :

G.85
JES/GE

GENÈVE, January 10, 1945.
Palais du Conseil-Général

Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 65
Télog. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

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

Dear Mr. McClelland,

I wonder whether in handing you on Monday last the large schedule of our projected consignments of War Refugee Board-parcels, I sufficiently stressed the necessity of considering it as strictly confidential. I should be particularly grateful to you in forwarding this schedule to Washington to let the War Refugee Board know that neither the names of camps nor the numbers should be published nor any publicity allowed around them. The success of these consignments depends wholly upon such discretion being observed.

Thanking you for considering this, I am

Yours sincerely

W. L. ...
Directeur de la Division
d'Assistance Spéciale

N.B. /

P.S. I hear that the 3 railway-trucks held up at Warnemünde with Goetheborg parcels are supposed to have been forwarded on January 4. - Let's hope this is true !

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Germany and German ...



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

Rappeler dans la réponse :

ZA 00
RM/TB.

GENÈVE, 10 janvier 1945

Chèques postaux I. 5527
Téléphone 4 93 05
Télog. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland
Légation des U.S.A.
Berne

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de nous référer à votre liste No. 1 annexée à l'une de vos dernières lettres non datée, concernant l'envoi de colis à des personnes détenues dans des camps de concentration ou d'internement.

Nous vous informons que nous portons les noms de Messieurs

H. Koselik

David Steinhauer

sur nos listes d'envois réguliers de colis aux prisonniers civils du camp de Buchenwald.

En ce qui concerne Mme Yve Perrussel, nous lui expédions déjà depuis plusieurs mois des colis de vivres.

Nous transmettons le nom de Mr. Jakob Rottenberg au service des Secours Individuels du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge qui est compétent pour l'envoi de paquets à des personnes détenues dans des camps d'internés civils.

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

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge:

J. Schwagerlin
Division d'Assistance
Spéciale

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

Inform. HSC Good
2/11/45

to Germany and German Dis.
- Mar 1945

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

TO

To: Department

Date: January 11, 1945 ¹² *upper*

01

No: 216

Code: WRB

Charged to:

For WRB from McClelland,
Legation's 8415, December 29.

According recent information from their Delegation in Germany ICRC states retention our first load 15,002 WRB parcels at Warnemuende is part of general standstill all parcels, including those for pows, transshipped during last two months from Goetsborg via Luebeck. German OKW apparently established closed east-west transport corridor to bring up supplies for their recent western offensive. No non-military freight traffic in north-south direction was allowed traverse this corridor.

ICRC has been negotiating for some weeks get such stocks held up moving and received January 10 unconfirmed report that 3 cars containing our parcels had gone forward on January 4.

News of shipment remaining 60,672 WRB parcels to Toulon contained your 4401, December 30 most welcome as we may have more luck getting them into Germany from the south.

In packing future parcels please include individual receipt cards in about 60 percent of all K parcels as exact addresses for more than about 8,000 individual Jewish detainees in German camps are not available to us here so that many will have to go forward as collective shipments.

HUDDLE

RDMcC.

In triplicate. *to files copy - 7 a*

Special Agent in Charge
the American Minister.

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

*to Germany and German Delegation
- Mar 1945*

Jan. 20/45

BARTOLI, Yvonne | French woman.
matricule 27935, Block 13
FK. Ravensbrück bei
Zurtenberg - Marklenburg.

for WRB parcels.
departed Feb. 1944 from
France.

May have been in communica-
tion with her husband in France -
to Schwarzenberg.

... of your letter
... giving the name that
... from [redacted] can
... give us [redacted]
... LEGATION.
... were sent Y
... 12, 1945.
... CRISTINA
... for the future
... to occupy its
... similar receipt

our long letter
distributing the
recently arrived
... a list
... present day stor-
... an for the
... contain indi-
... be not suitable
... same exceed
... idual Jewish
... edy this
... B that they
... of all
... assumption that
... lot of 300,000 parcels).

... might be desired.
... thank you once more for the painstakingly
... distribution plan for some 142,365 parcels from
... the SAIVE lot, with which I am quite in agreement. I
... shall particularly emphasize the confidential nature of
... this plan, especially as to the names of the camps, in
... forwarding this document to the WRB in Washington, inform-
... ing them that it is strictly for their own information
... and that any publicity given to it would seriously risk
... jeopardizing the successful operation of this scheme.

BARTOLI, Yvonne
I should be most glad if you would let me know
as soon as you receive definite confirmation from your
delegates in Germany that the 3 railway cars containing
the first lot of 15,000 WRB parcels from Götterberg have
actually moved from Warnemünde on January 4th, as reported
to you.
I discussed the truck question. I talked it over in a
liminary in the morning with Jinnie James of
arriving at Toulon they obviously made a mistake with
regard to the number of cases so that, as you say we
shall simply consider the over-all number of parcels as
the base figure.

Very sincerely yours,
[Signature]
the American Minister.

8142 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
848 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

to Germany and German Dec
- Mar 1945

Jan. 20/45

(2)

I was very glad to note the contents of your letter of January 9th. (EA II G. 85 RM/TB) giving the news that you had received 417 individual receipts from the German Red Cross. Could you give me Bern, January 18, 1945.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg: I wish to acknowledge receipt of your long letter of January 6 regarding the question of distributing the lot of 224,328 WRB parcels which have recently arrived at Gütteborg.

I am quite in agreement with your plan for the handling of the "K" parcels which do not contain individual receipt cards and which therefore are not suitable for collective shipments, but which at the same time exceed in number the trustworthy addresses of individual Jewish detainees available to you. In order to remedy this situation I have wired a suggestion to the WRB that they include individual receipt cards in about 60% of all future "K" parcels (this, going on the assumption that they will continue with the second lot of 300,000 parcels).

I wish to thank you once more for the painstakingly worked out distribution plan for some 142,365 parcels from the SS SAIVE lot, with which I am quite in agreement. I shall particularly emphasize the confidential nature of this plan, especially as to the names of the camps, in forwarding this document to the WRB in Washington, informing them that it is strictly for their own information and that any publicity given to it would seriously risk jeopardizing the successful operation of this scheme.

I should be most glad if you would let me know as soon as you receive definite confirmation from your delegates in Germany that the 3 railway cars containing the first lot of 15,002 WRB parcels from Gütteborg have actually moved from Warnemünde on January 4th, as reported to you. In regard to the Amcross-WRB parcels which are arriving at Foulon they obviously made a mistake with regard to the number of cases so that, as you say we shall simply consider the over-all number of parcels as the base figure.

Very sincerely yours,

Maxwell D. Eastland
the American Minister.

843 I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
I.R.C. PARCELS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Germany and German Dec
- Mar 1945

Jan. 20/45

Ack.

DR FRITZ ULLMANN

(2)

Genf, 14. Januar 1945.

I was very glad to note the contents of your letter of January 9th. (ZA II G. 85 RM/TB) giving the news that you had received 417 individual receipts from Bergen-Belsen through the German Red Cross. Could you give me some idea when the parcels whose receipt they acknowledge were sent? Were they your ICRC packages, or by any chance CRISTINA goods? It hope that this is a good omen for the future and that the German Red Cross will continue to occupy itself with the future forwarding to you of similar receipt cards.

I understand that Mr. Gans of the Dutch Jewish Committee recently had submitted to you, through the Delegate of the Netherlands Red Cross in Geneva, a list of several hundreds of persons from Holland at present interned in Bergen-Belsen. I hope that in so far as possible you will address WRB parcels to them, of course, in proportion to shipments being made elsewhere. I think the list includes about 1,700 names in all which is a fair fund of individual addresses. On the other hand the camp of Bergen-Belsen is somewhat "à la mode" as Saly Mayer says which is no reason why an especially large percentage of relief should go to them more particularly since receipt cards have not come in as satisfactorily as might be desired.

I take the liberty of enclosing another name of a woman in France whose husband has been corresponding with our Quaker office in Geneva for some months and to whom parcels should be sent if possible, naturally after checking her against your files to see what has been forwarded, if any, to her in the past. She is:

BARTOLI, Yvonne
Matricule 27935, Block 13
FK Ravensbrück b/Fürstenberg
Mecklenburg.

Dr. F. Ullmann

I shall hope to see you on Tuesday morning next to discuss the truck question. I talked it over in a preliminary fashion on Saturday morning with Jimmie James of Amcross and he gave me some useful pointers. Also had an interesting conversation with a Mr. Robinson of the Amcross who gave me some dope on the WRB parcels and their origin in America.

Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

814.2 I.R.C. PARCELES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Germany and German Dec
Mar 1945

Jan. 20/45

Ack

Dr. FRITZ ULLMANN

BERN
15

Genf, 14. Januar 1945.
44, rue des Pâquis

*Transmitted to SA
via regular
channel - Jan 20/45*

(15)

Herrn
Röswell D. McClelland
Amerikanische Gesandtschaft
B e r n

Sehr geehrter Herr McClelland,

Ich erhielt eben eine Nachricht aus Palaestina, dass der Ober-
rabbiner von Saloniki, Herr Dr. Sevy KORETZ, geb. 2.6.1894, gegen-
waertig in Bergen-Belsen, Baracke 11a, weilt.

Ich erlaube mir, dies zu Ihrer gfl. Kenntnis zu bringen und bitte
Sie, Genannten bei Ihrer Paketaktion zu beruecksichtigen, wenn er
nicht schon von frueher in Ihren Listen vorkommt.

Mit bestem Dank im voraus, verbleibe ich

mit vorzueglicher Hochachtung
Ihr ergebener

F. Ullmann
Dr. F. Ullmann

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

*Germany and German De
- Marc 1945*

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

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA/II
RM/JES/HL

GENÈVE, 17 Janvier 1945.
Palais du Comité Central

ON
T4
T4

[REDACTED]

(C.I.)

Bern, January 15, 1945.

Dear Mr. Pehle: Roswell D. McClelland
Legation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
BERN I am happy to enclose for the Board's
examination a detailed distribution chart made up
by the Division of Special Relief of the Interna-
tional Committee of the Red Cross covering some
142,365 WRB food parcels out of the second lot which
arrived at Göteborg on the SS SAIVE. This will
give you a clearer picture of the highly complicated
nature of properly organizing the distribution of
our parcels and an indication as to the pains taken
by the I.C.R.C. in behalf of this work. The
International Committee has asked me to inform you
that the names of the camps should be considered
as strictly confidential as any publication of this
list or leakage regarding our program would run the
most serious risk of seriously jeopardizing its
successful carrying-out. As you are aware the Ger-
mans, at best, only tolerate the distribution of
such parcels and the I.C.R.C. has carefully and
gradually built up the possibility of distributing
them in so many places by virtue of local, "ad hoc"
arrangements with camp commanders. And in view of
the desperate situation of these thousands of men and
women every effort should be made to continue this
small flow of vital packages to them.

Very sincerely yours,

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

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

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

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Richard ont remis le ce glisser dans les groupes...
ministres qui avaient un dossier... de personnes qui se libèrent des

Germany and German...
Mar 1945

Re receipts from Bergen-Belsen.



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

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA/II
RM/JES/HL

GENÈVE, 17 Janvier 1945.
Palais du Conseil-Général

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

Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland
Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
B E R N E

S. had already told me this over the phone.

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de nous référer à notre lettre du 9 janvier 1945 par laquelle nous vous informions avoir reçu 417 accusés de réception de colis individuels émanant du camp de Bergen-Belsen.

Vérification faite, ces quittances ne correspondent pas aux envois dits "Cristina" mais à des colis que nous avons envoyés individuellement fin septembre.

Nous sommes volontiers disposés à vous soumettre quelques spécimens de ces accusés de réception lors de votre prochaine visite à Genève au cas où cela vous intéresserait.

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

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge:

Directeur de la Division
d'Assistance Spéciale

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

*Barbed wire mesh to be placed in the groups...
which will prevent an escape... of persons who are...
of the German and German...*

Mar 1945

Answered

CASE 7

~~WRB 272~~

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department Date: January 17, midnight, 1945
 No: 272
 Code: WRB Received: January 18, 2 p.m.

Received V...
 No. 415
 20/11/45
 20/12/45

WRB No. 366. For McClelland.

In view of large number of relief parcels recently reaching camp Bergen Belsen, please urge upon Inter-cross the desirability of an Inter-cross delegate being stationed in or sent on an extended visit to that camp to assist in the distribution of such parcels.

You may explain informally that the above suggestion is made to safeguard the lives of over 9,000 inmates reported to be in Bergen Belsen (your 233 January 12) in the light of general considerations developed in Department's** 127 January 9.

*see 848 BERGEN BELSEN
 **see 840.1 JEWS IN EUROPE

STETTINIUS

In duplicate to files

re

COPY IN FA

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

ICRC -

Barthel ont rel...
 chistes qui valent un...

in Germany and German Dec...
 - Mar 1945

CASE FILE / ICRC packages.

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

(C.I.)
(O.L.)

Re: possibility of obtaining trucks, Luxembourg deportees.

Date: January 20, 1945

Code WRB

No. Bern, January 20, 1945.
Charged to:

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Dear Dr. Schwarzenberg, McClelland,

I am pleased to enclose for the use of the Division of Special Relief of the International Committee, in the matter of WRB parcels, a list of some 349 Polish detainees at present in the camp of Bergen-Belsen. I have every reason to believe that this list is accurate, and consider it worthwhile to send you a copy although I know that you may quite possibly have received one from other sources.

The question of the WRB here in Switzerland obtaining 4 or 5 seven tons trucks has been taken up by wire with the head office in Washington this week and I shall anxiously await their answer. I hope that action along this line will prove feasible as it would help solve part of our problems at least.

I am in receipt of a wire from the WRB informing me that Monsieur André WOLFF, Commissioner of Information of Luxembourg in the United States has just learned that the ICRC possesses the addresses of some 6,000 (six thousand!) Luxembourg citizens in Germany who are in urgent need of relief. I am asked to contact you about this matter. To my knowledge, based principally upon a recent conversation with M. Elter, the Luxembourg Consul at Lausanne, the ICRC does not have any such list and that the number of Luxemburgers accessible from the lists which you already hold is very slight (he gave me the number of 136). Any light you could shed on this matter would be most appreciated.

Has the ICRC filed a new application for permission to visit Bergen-Belsen, or has this matter been abandoned for the moment?

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. J. Schwarzenberg
ICRC - Hôtel Métropole.

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant

Barboud est resté à sa place dans les groupes...
existes qui vivent au même rythme...

Germany and German...
March 1945

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: January 20, 1945 *2pm*

(O.L.)

No: *115*

Code: WRB

Charged to:

For WRB from McClelland.

Department's 272, January 17, WRB's 366.

ICRC, on their own initiative, has filed two formal applications with German authorities in course of past 3 months to secure permission visit Bergen-Belsen, as well as having made several "ad hoc" attempts to visit camp, with view to exercising closer control over arrival and distribution of relief shipments. Committee was flatly refused authorization by Germans last in early December. To my knowledge ICRC has not relaxed its efforts. I shall, however, express Board's views to them on this subject.

HUDDLE

RDMcC.

In duplicate - Copy in FA

Subject for accounts: Intercross control of relief distributions in occupied Europe.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Camps in Germany and German Dec - Mar 1945

Department not advised to be given... and the groups... and the... and the...

Investigate *ICRC packages*
work company in factory
Bern, January 20, 1945.

Bern, January 20, 1945.

Dear Dr. Ullmann:

I have safely received your lines of January 14th, containing the indications about Dr. KORETZ, the Chief Rabbi of Saloniki and have taken immediate steps to have him included on our War Refugee Board package mailing list.

I sometimes wish we could secure more names of individuals in camps other than Bergen-Belsen and Theresienstadt since I am sure there are a great many others whom we are not reaching at all with our shipments. One has the feeling that Bergen-Belsen is perhaps too much "en vogue" these days.

Let us hope that by the time you receive this the Russians will have taken Oswiecim together with all internees!

Very sincerely yours,
Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister,

Dr. Fritz Ullmann
44, rue des Pâquis,
Geneva.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Partend ont...

ICRC packages
Investigate: de tous a
regular camp, work company or factory?

Henri Heidard, 23 ans.

region de Müllberg sur Elbe

(cent de detenus politiques.

600 femmes, dont 350 de la region
(ansienne)

Quitte la prison de Treason le 15 aout
1944

Les parents demeurent a Rouen;
Monsieur Heidard pere est pasteur
de l'église de Rouen.

Took this up with Schwarzenberg on Jan 20th
by letter and Jan. 22 orally. He will find
out what he can as soon as possible.

RDMcC.

...
dating and if ICRC man had had any means of transportation
or supply of parcels available at Uffing there would have been
no difficulty about delivering them personally directly to
this camp.

The same applies to Dachau which is just outside Munich.
Situation regarding accessibility all camps, particularly

later mentioned
Regation 744
bruary 2, 1945
(physical condition
of 875 internees).
r, 1945, 1 p.m.

ICK Gustav

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

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

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814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
Camps in Germany and German Det
- Mar 1945

CASE FILE

NOTE

Also later mentioned
in Negation 744
February 2, 1945
(physical condition
of 815 exchanges).

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: January 20, 1945, 1 p.m.

Code: WRB

CL

No: 455

Charged to: TRUCK Question

For WRB from McClelland.

In view rapid deterioration internal rail transport in Germany I am becoming increasingly concerned about dwindling possibilities of getting our WRB parcels to men and women in German concentration camps.

Germans are progressively more disinclined to make RR freight cars available to ICRC for all parcel services into Germany, even that for pows. Amcross representative Geneva tells me our Army officials plan induce Germans under Geneva convention supply transport for pow parcels; but we can hope for no such leverage in case of shipments to unassimilated persons for whom Nazis only tolerate parcel distributions. I should therefore like to submit to Board's serious consideration proposition that 4 or 5 five to seven ton trucks be made available to me which could in turn be lent to ICRC Division of Special Relief for delivery WRB parcels to accessible camps.

Recently, for instance, ICRC delegate working out of their headquarters at Uffing near Munich obtained admission to hitherto unvisited and unknown camp of Landsberg am Lech in eastern Bavaria. This camp housed some 15,000 internees, 80 percent Jewish deportees. Commander was unusually accommodating and if ICRC man had had any means of transportation or supply of parcels available at Uffing there would have been no difficulty about delivering them personally directly to this camp.

The same applies to Dachau which is just outside Munich. Situation regarding accessibility all camps, particularly

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

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

Document not related to the groups mentioned in the
listes qui valent un document d'identité qui se trouvent dans

E

Jewish, in Vienna area to ICRC is developing most favorably. SS group there in charge of these camps is headed by an Austrian Nazi named Ebner and includes a German SS named Krumej who is specifically in charge of all Hungarian Jewish deportees in Austria and is man directly responsible for physical delivery of two groups from Bergen-Belsen to Switzerland. These two are displaying all signs of willing to collaborate certainly in any relief activities if not in more interesting work. This situation was first mentioned in Legation's 7575, November 16, 1944 and was discussed at length about two weeks ago with Dr. Tudicum, ICRC delegate in Vienna. If trucks were available this area great deal of good work could be accomplished.

I cite these two examples of Landsberg and Vienna to show that as Germany internally becomes more disorganized transportation breaks down but also camp commanders and isolated SS groups become increasingly independent and open to making of valuable, local working arrangements.

Availability of trucks to ICRC delegates for actual delivery of parcels to camps has further important advantage of offering far superior control possibilities as to safe reception by intended beneficiaries than obtainable via German railroads when it is frequently most difficult trace freight cars which may be held up for weeks and even months on sidings completely unknown to ICRC as recently occurred in Warnemunde affair.

If it is not possible secure these trucks through our Army in France it may be possible rent, buy or otherwise acquire them here in Switzerland although Swiss army is very strict about any transport equipment leaving country. In event trucks could be acquired in Switzerland provision would doubtless have to be made supply fuel and perhaps tires from outside.

I should most welcome expression Board's opinion this proposition as I would conservatively estimate time still available to us for this invaluable work at not more than 4 to 5 months. ^{copy in FA}
intriplicate to files

RDMcC.

HUDDLE

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

of R. McALEER

Camps in Germany and German Det - Mar 1945

+ age
World
Jewish
Congress

Barband ont re... de se glisser dans les groupes...
mistes qui valent un... de personnes qui se...
FA



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

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA 00 Collis WRB

G. 85 RM/RR.

GENÈVE, 23 Janvier 1945.

Palais du Conseil-Général

Chèques postaux L. 5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

general parcels

(C.I.)

Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland,
Légation des Etats-Unis
d'Amérique,
B E R N E.

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 12 janvier 1945 et nous vous remercions pour votre accord au sujet du plan de répartition des colis du War Refugee Board que nous vous soumettions par notre lettre du 6 janvier. Dès réception de votre lettre, nous avons prié notre Délégué à Göteborg de procéder aux préparatifs pour l'envoi de 142.365 colis. A ce sujet, nous vous signalons que, lors du déchargement du SS-SAIVE à Göteborg, il a été constaté que 52 colis manquaient et 73 étaient endommagés.

En ce qui concerne une éventuelle nouvelle expédition de 300.000 colis, nous pensons que le nombre de colis "Kosher" avec quittances- accusés de réception devrait dépendre principalement du nombre de ces colis "Kosher" qui seront conditionnés. Le pourcentage de 60, pour les colis avec quittances, conviendrait pour le cas où le nombre des colis "Kosher" serait le même que pour la première tranche.

M. Flugli van Aspermont, Représentant de la Croix-Rouge Néerlandaise à Genève, nous a priés d'expédier des colis à environ 1.900 personnes détenues au camp de Bergen-Belsen. Nous ferons naturellement le nécessaire pour que ces personnes bénéficient des colis du War Refugee Board lors de la répartition du solde des 300.000 premiers colis. Etant donné le résultat obtenu par nos premiers envois à destination de ce camp - retour des quittances par l'entremise de la Croix-Rouge allemande - nous espérons que les accusés de réception continueront à nous parvenir, bien que nous ne possédions aucune assurance des Autorités ou de la Croix-Rouge allemande à ce sujet. Quoique ce camp bénéficie actuellement d'un intérêt spécial, comme vous en a informé Monsieur Saly Mayer, nous ferons le nécessaire pour que les envois de colis du War Refugee Board soient adressés au même rythme qu'à tous les autres camps de concentration ou lieux de détention pour Israélites.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Packages to Germany and German Occupied Areas - Mar 1945

Handed out to the... in the groups... who want an... of... that...

En ce qui concerne Madame Yvonne BARTOLI, No. 27.935 Block 13 détenue au camp de Ravensbrück près de Fürstenberg que vous nous signalez, nous lui expédions depuis plusieurs mois déjà des colis de vivres pour le compte de la Croix-Rouge Française. Cette personne bénéficiera toutefois des expéditions que nous effectuerons aux détenues françaises de ce camp au moyen des colis du War Refugee Board.

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

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge:

M. Schwabeberg

Division d'Assistance
Spéciale

OF 1 McLELLAN'S
REPRODUCTION CAMPS (KAMPENSTELLEN, JEANNE)
(Suff. 11.1)
Camps in Germany and German Det.
Mar 1945

Richard est resté en ce groupe dans les groupes...
mistes qui valent un énorme effort de personnes qui se séparent des

35 Wired this Jan. 30th. RDMcC.



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

Rappeler dans la réponse :

ZA/00
RM/HW.

GENÈVE, le 25.1.1945

Finally!
COURS
TIONALE

Adresse télégraphique : Croimixt Genève
Compte de chèques postaux 1 70

Chèques postaux 1.8387
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Monsieur Rosswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant of the American
Minister
Alpenstrasse, 24
B e r n e

Monsieur,

Nous avons le plaisir de vous
informer que notre Délégation à Berlin nous
communique que les trois wagons contenant
des colis du W.R.B. qui avaient été retenus
à Warnemünde ont pu continuer leur route à
destination des camps de concentration.

Veillez agréer, Monsieur, l'as-
surance de notre considération distinguée.

30 janvier 1945

McClelland
Jnis

8 décembre
que nous
is et
ation P.04757
o de

is immé-
stance
ces colis,
ces prochains

'assurance

de Secours de
ternationale.

Service Pharmaceutique :

Blum *K Feinstck.*

*See Legation's 216
Jan 12
paragraph 2*

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix-Rouge:

Division d'Assistance
Spéciale

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (KATZENSTEIN, JEANNE)
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENT. CAMPS (CAMP RAVENSBROCK)

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

Partant ont réussi de se glisser dans les groupes prisonniers et
existes qui valent un énorme effort de patience qui se réalisent des

OF R. McCLELLAND
(Switz. 1.1.1)
Camps in Germany and German Det.
1.1.1945



Finally!

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

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE — LIGUE DES SOCIÉTÉS DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

Téléphone 5 52 20

4, COURS DES BASTIONS
GENÈVE

Adresse télégraphique - Croimixt Genève
Compte de chèques postaux 1 79

SERVICE PHARMACEUTIQUE
4, Rue Charles-Bonnet
Téléphone 56383

GENÈVE, le 30 janvier 1945

V. n°

N. n° Pharm.

Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland
Légation des Etats-Unis
Alpenstrasse 29
B e r n e



Monsieur,

Nous revenons sur notre lettre du 28 décembre écoulé, et avons le plaisir de vous informer que nous venons de recevoir du Service des Importations et Exportations à Berne, l'autorisation d'exportation P.04757 pour 250 colis destinés aux internés du camp de Ravensbrück.

Selon votre désir, nous nous sommes mis immédiatement en relation avec la Division d'Assistance Spéciale du C.I.C.R. Quant à l'acheminement de ces colis, nous espérons qu'ils pourront quitter Genève, ces prochains jours.

Nous vous prions d'agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de notre haute considération.

La Commission Mixte de Secours de
la Croix-Rouge Internationale.

Service Pharmaceutique :

W. H. ... *K. Feinstich.*

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

814.2 T.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (KATZENSTEIN, JEANNE)
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENT. CAMPS (CAMP RAVENSBRÜCK)

Dr. R. McCLELLAND

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German Occupied Areas
1 - Mar 1945

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page, partially obscured and difficult to read.

CASE 8142 ICRC packages
TELEGRAM SENT

To: DEPARTMENT

C.L.

XXXXXXXXX
LEGATION.

Code: WRB

Bern, January 31, 1945.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I take the liberty of sending you the name of a woman in Ravensbrück which was recently given to me by old Dr. Heinrich Lismann in Geneva. Dr. Lismann is a very dear old soul - one of the former very active members of the German Red Cross after the last war - who has been known to our Quaker office for many months. If you could put this lady on the WRB parcel list (if she is not already there) I would most appreciate it. This poor woman was first in the camps of Récébédou and Rivesaltes then in the prisons of Marseille (Les Baumettes), Remes and the Fort Romainville in Paris from where she was deported to Germany in June 1944:

KATZENSTEIN, Jeanne
No. 42.186 Block 30.
Frauen KZ
RAVENSBRUECK b/Firstenberg, Mecklenburg

RDMcC.

In duplicate to
Copy in FA

I still have received no answer on the truck proposition but will naturally let you know as soon as I do.

With kind personal regards, I am
Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant

Dr. J. de Schwarzenberg
C.I.C.R.
Hotel Métropole
Geneva.

Dr. R. McCLELLAND
S.I.C.R. PROJECTS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (KATZENSTEIN, JEANNE)
Camps in Germany and German Occ.
Mar 1945

Partant est relatif de se glisser dans les groupes trotskistes et socialistes qui veulent un divorce entre les partisans qui se séparent des

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

(13)

To: DEPARTMENT

Date: January 31, 1945, 5pm

Code: WRB

No: 690

Charged to:

For WRB from McClelland.

Please refer paragraph 2 Legation's 216,
January 12.

ICRC has now received definite confirmation
that three freight cars containing our first
shipment of WRB parcels via Goetsborg, previously
reported held-up at Warnemuende, went forward to
concentration camps early in January.

HUDDLE

RDMcC.

In duplicate to files
Copy in FA

Accounts: Relief distribution in
German occupied territory.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (KATZENSPEIN, JEANNE)
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

OF R. MCCLELLAND

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German Occupied

Mar 1945

Handed out relief to the glances dans les groupes trinitaires et autres
chistes qui veulent un bon travail de personnes qui se aborent des

Dr. FRITZ ULLMANN

RECEIVED OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
1945 FEB 2 - 1945
BERN

Geneva, January 31, 1945.
44, rue des Pâquis

Roswell D. McClelland, Esq.,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister
B e r n

C.I.

Dear Mr. McClelland:

In reply to yours of January 20th respecting Dr. KORETZ, I am very glad to hear that you have made the necessary steps in order to forward to him some parcels.

As to your request to get a list of persons in camps other than Bergen-Belsen, I beg to inform you, that I am preparing a such one. Having finished it, I shall not miss to let you have one.

Your prophecy concerning Oswiecim has become a fact. Let us hope, the other places of extermination will soon be in the hand of the Russians.

Very sincerely yours

F. Ullmann
Dr. F. Ullmann

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
KATZENSTEIN, JEANNE

Dr. R. McClelland

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German Occupied Areas
Mar 1945

Document est relatif de ce glisser dans les groupes trotskistes et anarchistes qui veulent un divorce entre les partisans qui se séparent des

RITANNIQUES			ESPAGNOLS			FRANCAIS		
Quantité Coffre	Collectifs	Individuels	Quantité Coffre	Collectifs	Individuels	Quantité Coffre	Collectifs	Individuels
20		15	5		5450			100
					1875			50
					2395			5
					1955			20
					85			100
					15			20
					165			65
					150			10
					75			165
					35			150
					15			75
					5			35
					5			15
					5			5
					220			220
					2905			2905

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (GERMAN/FRANCE)

Dr R. McLELLAN

Total: 254,328 - 3kg. parcels.

SS "Sauer" ^{parcels}
 shipment of WFB
 parcels via Estlin's
 DISTRIBUTION TEAM

liberer les 1200 juifs. ... (Pourquoi on ne rend pas publique le fait que les Nazis encaissent des millions pour cette "oeuvre humanitaire", que la guerre et le combat du reduit seront prolongés indéfiniment par des affaires de ...)

Camps in Germany and German De
 2- Mar 1945

Division d'Assistance Spéciale
Service C. C. C.



FRANÇAIS		GRECS		HOLLANDAIS		ITALIENS		TOTAL PAR CAMP
Individuels	Collectifs	Individuels	Collectifs	Individuels	Collectifs	Individuels	Collectifs	
Quantité	Quantité	Quantité	Quantité	Quantité	Quantité	Quantité	Quantité	
N° envoi	N° envoi	N° envoi	N° envoi	N° envoi	N° envoi	N° envoi	N° envoi	
5450	10000	5	500	215	3570	5		
1875	5000	50		145	2600	5		
2395	5000	150		450	500	160		
1955	2500	10		75	800			
85	500			65	100	5		
15	150			5				
20	150							
100	250	5		5				
20	100							
65	250	K		500		K		
K		5		745		10		
K		5		25				
10	600			5				
165	200							
150	150							
75	50							
35	25							
15	25							
5								
5								
220								
2905	25	130		1150		40		
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				K				
				160				
				5				
	500							
	500							
	100							
	40							
	15							
	50							
	500							

Int remitted to ICRC long ago by Ferguson who compiled it here in Sland some months back!

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

C.I.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Rec'd FEB 15 1945
BERN

FEB 2 1945

Dear Mr. McClelland:

In connection with the food parcel programs of the War Refugee Board and of the International Committee of the Red Cross, I enclose for your information the attached lists received from the World Jewish Congress in New York and stated to contain the names of Jews

*ICRC Packages for
Concentration camps
February 1945*

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Representative of the
War Refugee Board,
% United States Legation,
Bern, Switzerland.

Enclosures.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (KATZENSTEIN, JEANNE)

McClelland

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany

liberer les 1200 juifs. ...
(Pourquoi on ne rend pas publique le fait que les Nazis encaissent
des millions pour cette "oeuvre humanitaire", que la guerre et le
combat du reduit seront prolonges indefiniment par des affaires de
Dardard ont voulu se es glisser dans les groupes trotskistes et anar-
chistes qui voient un danger effroyable de perdre ce qui se abissent des

Not remitted to ICRC long ago by Ferguson who compiled it here in SF and some months back!

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

C.I.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
REC'D FEB 1 1945
BERN

FEB 2 1945

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (KATZENSTEIN, JEANNE)
814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Dear Mr. McClelland:

In connection with the food parcel programs of the War Refugee Board and of the International Committee of the Red Cross, I enclose for your information the attached lists received from the World Jewish Congress in New York and stated to contain the names of Jews interned in Terezin (pages 1 to 227) and Bergen Belsen (page 1).

On the basis of information available to you, you may wish to consider whether these lists should be utilized as a basis for sending individual packages to persons in the above-named camps.

Sincerely yours,

Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Representative of the
War Refugee Board,
% United States Legation,
Bern, Switzerland.

Enclosures.

liberer les 1200 juifs. construction du XI Bureau Français. Etant donné
(Pourquoi on ne rend pas publique le fait que les Nazis encaissent
des millions pour cette "oeuvre humanitaire", que la guerre et le
combat du redout seront prolongés indéfiniment par des affaires de
Dardard ont rendu le de glisser dans les groupes totalitaires et ultra-
nationalistes qui veulent un divorce d'avec les puissances qui ne s'occupent pas

W.D.
Dr R McClelland
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945



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

Chèques postaux L. 9527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Rappeler dans la réponse :

ZA/00

MGS/HW.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Palais du Conseil-Général
GENÈVE, le 12 février 1945.
Rec'd FEB 1 1945
BERN

C.I.

Monsieur Roswell D. McCLELLAND
Légation des U.S.A.
B e r n e

Concerne : Madame Jeanne KATZENSTEIN, No. 42.186, Block 30,
Frauen KZ, RAVENSBRUCK b/Fürstenberg, Mecklenburg.

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur d'accuser réception de votre lettre du 31 janvier 1945 et pouvons vous informer à ce sujet que nous avons pris note de l'adresse de la personne susmentionnée.

Conformément à votre désir, nous ferons bénéficier cette personne de nos envois de secours.

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

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge :

R. Schweizerberg
Division d'Assistance
Spéciale

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS (KATZENSTEIN, JEANNE)

Handwritten notes on the right margin: "C.I.", "R. McClelland", "Switzerland", "Camps in Germany and Germany", "Mar 1945".

libérer les 1200 juifs. ... (Pourquoi on ne rend pas publique le fait que les Nazis encaissent des millions pour cette "oeuvre humanitaire", que la guerre et le combat du réduit seront prolongés indéfiniment par des affaires de ...)

ce genre- Car si les Nazis prendront 1 à 2 millions de gens avec dans le réduit - ils peuvent en vivre des années!) déclarés contre une activité révolutionnaire dans les mois qui viennent.

Les Allemands ont des informations que Lord Templewood et ses amis sont d'accord de laisser échapper les Nazis - par les pays neutres où on ne les embêtera pas du tout. Les informations viennent de Lisbonne et sont absolument sûres.

Les Allemands et les Espagnols prétendent que la LUFT-HANSA ne vole plus entre Stuttgart et Barcelone. Mais c'est une pure blague. On assure toujours la liaison avec l'Espagne par avion - mais on utilise des avions sans les insignes allemands et les numéros de la Luft-Hansa. On atterit sur un petit aérodrome militaire- A plusieurs reprises on est allé à Saragossa- Mais on change pour rendre plus difficiles les recherches des Alliés.

Des informations absolument sûres disent:

Gordeler, le Maire de Leipzig, a tout dit sur les conspirateurs du 20 juillet. On lui a donné des piqures qui baissent la force de résistance de la volonté à 95%. Il a même dénoncé les personnes qui l'ont caché pendant des semaines.

Très inculpé par ses déclarations est CANARIS - l'ancien chef du service de renseignement de l'armée (Abwehr). On pense qu'il sera assassiné un de ces jours. En tout cas les SD ne le laissent pas échapper à la mort - pour éviter ses déclarations éventuelles après la guerre. Schellenberg et Müller du SD sont directement intéressés- pour qu'il disparaisse. Gordeler a déclaré, mot par mot, que Canaris était dans le bain et savait tous les détails sur la conspiration du 20 juillet.

Il y a des nouvelles déclarations tout à fait nettes - que Schellenberg est en relations amicales avec Masson. Il n'y a plus de doute. Schellenberg a de nouveau dit, que Masson fait ce qu'il veut autrement il y aurait une affaire zaitt comme celle de Stockholm. Seulement le cercle des personnes dans ce jeu serait plus grand en Suisse. Je recommande la plus grande discrétion vis à vis de Masson. Faites un essai - placez une fausse nouvelle à Masson et observez si la nouvelle ne passe pas. En tout cas Schellenberg cherche par Masson des informations sur la reconstruction du II Bureau français. Etant donné que Masson était très bien avec tous les alliés jusqu'à 1940 en su- toinne - Schellenberg attend qu'il sera très vite et très bien renseigné

Bonnhol a reçu des nouvelles que les Doriotistes et les gens de Darnand ont réussi de se glisser dans les groupes trotskistes et anarchistes qui voient un énorme afflux de partisans qui se séparent des

1. fig.

814.2 I.A.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
STAT. SER. N. 1. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

W.D.
of R. McLELLAN
(Soviet...)
Corps in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945

MEMORANDUM

Background of ICKC negotiations with ¹⁹⁴⁵ ~~1944~~ Geneva, Feb. 12th. (Wordling and...)

During the past two days, Sunday Feb. 11th. and Monday Feb. 12th. I have had two most interesting conversations with Mr. Raoul Nordling, Swedish Consul General in Paris at the time of the "liberation" and obtained from the German military commander about 4000 political prisoners (from Fresnes, Compiègne, et al), whose lives were thus saved. He acted with energy at a particularly psychological moment and got the German Army commander to sign an agreement entrusting these "political" prisoners (many of them were entirely innocent hostages) to Nordling. The Germans also signed an agreement to the effect that they would return all deportees "en route." This part of the "treaty" was, however, never fulfilled and was the subject of later correspondence between Nordling and Himmler.

Nordling also states that the so called "liberation" of Paris by the FFI or Resistance was largely a fiction and that he personally arranged a truce (or better still, a series of truces) between the French Resistance and the German military commander who had orders from Berlin to destroy all resistance in Paris as well as effect considerable destruction. This General (as Nordling told the story) was not at all anxious to carry out ~~these~~ orders but declared to N. that he would be forced to do it if the French kept firing on his men and generally resisting. N. therefore suggested a truce and hurriedly dispatched his brother to Patton and Bradley's field headquarters to explain the situation to them and urge them to advance straight on Paris rather than try to surround it and thus effect any German destruction before it was too late or while he, Nordling, could still hold the FFI to a truce. Patton and Bradley, as is known did this.

Nordling (who had previously tried to back Abetz down with a personal letter in the first days of August 1944 concerning the political prisoners in Paris but had not succeeded and had therefore addressed himself directly to the Military commander) remained in contact with the Germans and sent them a first letter (I understand)

DECLASSIFIED

Source: Dept. of State, 1-11-78

By SA R. P. Davis Date SEP 25 1972

814.2 I.H.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPERS

Dr. R. McLELLAN

(Switzerland)

Coops in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM

Background of ICRC negotiations with nazis (SS & *Ant*).
Geneva, Feb. 12th.

During the past two days, Sunday Feb. 11th. and Monday Feb. 12th. I have had two most interesting conversations with Mr. Raoul NORDLING, Swedish Consul General At Paris. Nordling is the man who parlemented with the Germans at Paris at the time of the "liberation" and obtained from the German military commander about 4000 political prisoners (from Fregnes, Romainville, et al), whose lives were thus saved. He acted with energy at a particularly psychological moment and got the German Army commander to sign an agreement entrusting these "political" prisoners (many of them were entirely innocent hostages) to Nordling. The Germans also signed an agreement to the effect that they would return all deportee trains "en route," This part of the "treaty" was, however, never fulfilled and was the subject of later correspondence between Nordling and Himmler.

Nordling also states that the so called "liberation" of Paris by the FFI or Resistance was largely a fiction and that he personally arranged a truce (or better still, a series of truces) between the French Resistance and the Germany military commander who had orders from Berlin to destroy all resistance in Paris as well as effect considerable destruction. This General (as Nordling told the story) was not at all anxious to carry out ~~his~~ ^{his} orders but declared to N. that he would be forced to do it if the French kept firing on his men and generally resisting. N. therefore suggested a truce and hurriedly dispatched his brother to Patton and Bradley's field headquarters to explain the situation to them and urge them to advance straight on Paris rather than try to surround it and thus offset any German destruction before it was too late or while he, Nordling, could still hold the FFI to a truce. Patton and Bradley, as is known did this.

Nordling (who had previously tried to back Abetz down with a personal letter in the first days of August 1944 concerning the political prisoners in Paris but had not succeeded and had therefore addressed himself directly to the Military commander) remained in contact with the Germans and sent them a first letter (I understand)

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

814.2 I.A.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
SIA S I R D PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Handwritten notes on the right margin: "Camp in Germany and German..." and "Mac 1945".

dues à Paris perm-ttront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

(2)

not to Himmler this first time but rather to the German General Staff) toward the end of September 1944 demanding the return of the deportee trains with which the Germans had made off ^{with} contrary to their signed agreement in Paris. This letter was never answered. In December 1944 Nordling wrote again to Himmler this time asking in brief that all civil prisoners (Schützhäftlinge) be granted more humane treatment in accordance with the Geneva Convention (that is, assimilated, to the Convention as far as treatment was concerned). He made this request as a follow up to the matter of the trains with which the Germans had not complied. Himmler did not answer directly but it came to Nordling's knowledge through thoroughly reliable channels that Himmler had commissioned the German Red Cross to investigate the possibility of such relief action (which Nordling had also proposed) among civil prisoners in concentration camps. At the same time Himmler, through a certain Mr. Lehrer, a prominent German industrialist who has lived in France most of his life and who is now in Switzerland, indicated that contact with Nordling should not be lost. It is Nordling's belief that the amazing willingness expressed by higher SS circles in Berlin to the ICRC's delegates to permit the ICRC to ship all the food and medical relief they wanted to concentration camp inmates and to aid in every way possible with the distribution of this relief, was the result of his December representations to Himmler.

This morning, Mon. Feb. 12th. Schwarzenberg of the ICRC showed me a confidential report written to him on Jan. 24th. by Dr. Schirmer of the ICRC's Berlin delegation. Schirmer explained that he and a colleague had recently contacted a certain "General-leutenant Müller" (is this the Müller of the :Kaltenbrunner, Schellenberg, Müller triumvirate of the higher SS ?) who received them most cordially and declared himself most interested in facilitating ICRC assistance to Schützhäftlinge. He put them immediately in touch with a certain Obersturmbannführer Dr. Berndorf, Chef des SD und Abwehr für die Schützhäftlinge (Zimmerstrasse 19, Berlin) im Deutschen Reich. Berndorf then took them out to Oranienburg where they had further conversations with

medical
relief
etc.

dues à Paris permittent à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

ICRC
Dr. Nordling
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945

formerly of Auschwitz?

Obergruppenführer Glück (also a Generalleutnant and described as executive director of all the concentration camps in Germany), his adjutant, Obstrumbannführer Hoess and Standartenführer Dr. Loling, Chefarzt of all the German concentration camps. Schirmer explained that all these conversations were most cordial and that the SS. were very "entgegenkommend" and seemed more than willing to allow the ICRC to launch a large scale program of relief for the concentration camps. These SS men explained that Dachau near Munich was to become the central assembly and clearing camp for all SAs to which large numbers of them would be transferred in the course of the coming weeks. From Dachau would radiate a system of subsidiary camps* each one dependent for its supplies on the central administration at Dachau. All parcels could be sent to Dachau where they could be checked by the "hommes de confiance" of the various national groups and rerouted to other camps. The SS would themselves take charge of the transport. The SS recommended that everything be done on the basis of collective shipments since with the present shifting around of individuals it would be very difficult to get a parcel to a single man or woman. The following national groups would be allowed to receive parcels under this plan: Belgians, French, Dutch, Norwegians, Danes and Greeks (the Poles and Czechs would be for the moment excluded). The principal fly in the ointment was that the SS Reichsführer Himmler could not issue blanket orders permitting ICRC delegates to visit the camps. For the time being they would have to be satisfied with contacts with the national "hommes de confiance" in Dachau. Confidential information from Schirmer and other ICRC delegates has indicated that ad hoc arrangements with a great many camp commanders are now possible and becoming increasingly so. More and more of these camps are becoming isolated from the point of view of communication and hence control and the atmosphere (psychological) is such in Germany that an increasingly large number of these men are willing and even anxious to have contact with neutral outsiders. This is the whole question of responsibility and the effect that the presence of an energetic outsider can have on their decisions and actions at the moment things are breaking up. What was accomplished

* See file:
Concentration
Camps
Germany
Nov 1945
for list of
these
subsidiary
camps.

614.2 I.H.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
S.A.S. I.H.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

W.D.
OF R. McLELLAND
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
- Mar 1945

dues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

Nordling in Paris in a similar situation bears out the great value of having, for instance, a delegate of the ICRC or delegates in or within reach of as many camps as possible when this moment comes.

It is becoming increasingly probable that a time will be reached when the Germans will no longer be able to feed the inmates of these camps and the results are certainly liable to be fatal, quite apart from any active policy of killing them off. The German concentration camps are crammed with acutely undernourished people and when the German food supply organization breaks down it will be but a matter of days, at most 10 before hundreds if not thousands of people will simply die or reach a stage at which they cannot be saved.

A large number of indications, therefore, point to the way being open for the ICRC to enter Germany with foodstuffs and probably sanitary teams, since Nordling says he has every reason to believe that if Burckhardt took the matter up personally with the Nazis they would permit the sending of medical missions. No difficulty will be made from the German side for the entry of trucks of food parcels with ICRC drivers and representatives. Nordling has attempted both yesterday and today to push B. in this direction, Nordling having obtained assurance from the German Minister at Bern that visas for truck drivers and personnel could be obtained within 24 hours, but Burckhardt hesitates and is generally over-cautious and burcratic. I personally find it ununderstandable that B. does not move now that the whole thing is offered to him practically on a silver platter. I agreed with Nordling that we would write a letter to Burckhardt from our Legation urging action along this line and stating that our Government fully approved of Nordling's initiative. Lehrer who has been regularly in contact with Nordling (Lehrer is at the Hotal de la Paix, Geneva) on this question has no doubt that it would be feasible.

*Nordling returned to Paris on Mon. afternoon Feb. 12th.
Talked to a Lt. Maurice Mayer, principal medical organizer of
the Resistance in France who is a whole question. He spoke
particulars of role played in Germany by a certain
ICRC delegate in France who of Le Gaultier's confidence & Burckhardt's esteem.*

dues à Paris perm-ttront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

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

OF R. MOCLELLANA
(Santhard)
Corps in Germany and German
2 Mar 1945

CASE FILE

WRB

Sent Communicated to WRB

TELEGRAM SENT

ICRC & the "SS" conversations

To: Department

Date: February 16, 11 p.m., 1945

No: 1056

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:

PARAPHRASE

Reference is made to the Legation's telegram No. 581, of January 27, 1945.

From McClelland for the Department and the War Refugee Board.

With regard to possible protective and relief action for all categories of unassimilated persons in Germany, particularly those termed "Schutzhaeftlinge" (SH), I have recently received the following extremely confidential information:

Pass to depart from German Govt memo

Dr. Schirmer, a member of the Berlin delegation of the ICRC, previously very active in Budapest and Vienna, on January 24th submitted to the ICRC a confidential memorandum to the following effect:

Schirmer and a colleague, through a certain SS "Generalleutenant" Mueller, were put in touch with "Obersturmbannfuehrer Dr. Berndorf, Chef des Sicherheitsdienstes und Abwehr fuer die Schutzhaeftlinge", whose office was located at Zimmerstrasse 19, Berlin. Preliminary conversations took place between Schirmer and Berndorf - conversations which were characterized as "cordial" - Berndorf took them to the headquarters of Nazi concentration camp system at Oranienburg where further conversations took place with "Obergruppenfuehrer" Glueck (also a Generalleutenant in Waffen SS), director of all concentration camps, his adjutant, "Obersturmbannfuehrer" Hoess and "Standartenfuehrer" Dr. Loling, head medical officer of concentration camps. An extreme willingness was demonstrated by these SS men to discuss ways and means of added ICRC relief to inmates of concentration camps and explained that Dachau, near Munich, was to become the central assembly and clearing camp for all SH. Apparently the transfer of large numbers of SH was already under way from north and east. A system

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

McClelland

(Schirmer)

Camps in Germany and German-occupied Europe - Mar 1945

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

dues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

of smaller, subsidiary camps was to radiate from Dachau where central administration, including questions of food and transport, would be located. SS offered ICRC truck transportation facilities for distribution of relief parcels and explained that as far as control was concerned contact could be maintained by ICRC with "men of confidence" of various national groups who would be stationed at Dachau. It was felt advisable by SS to continue addressing parcels to individuals since SH were being continually transferred around now and parcels would doubtless never catch up with them. ICRC parcels could be distributed to the following national groups: Dutch, Belgians, French, Danes, Norwegians and Greeks (for the time being the following are to be excluded: Serbs, Czechs, Poles and other "Slavs"). It was explained to Schirmer by SS that although "Reichsfueher Himmler" was willing now to permit such a relief program, he could not issue blanket permission for ICRC delegates to visit all concentration camps.

It would appear most significant, despite this rather important "hitch", that Himmler will now apparently officially permit relief for concentration camps, even if only to certain categories of H, inasmuch as up to the present time Berlin has refused categorically to grant such permission and only tolerated reception of ICRC parcels by internees in a small number of camps. The fact that an increasingly large number of SH are now being worked in war factories is doubtless responsible for the refusal to grant blanket visiting permission.

However, quite aside from the extent of the material relief program it will be practically possible to launch, this seems to me to be a unique opportunity for the ICRC to drive an opening wedge into the Nazi concentration camp system which should not be neglected. While I would feel some hesitation in putting pressure on Burckhardt and the ICRC to inaugurate a large relief program which might indirectly benefit the German war effort, I feel that the ICRC should at once follow up this lead by dispatching a special mission of their most capable men, headed by Burckhardt if possible, to Germany. An invaluable opportunity could be afforded by this situation to get more personnel into Germany whose presence might well save the lives of thousands of men and women as the Nazi system collapses.

On February 11 I was told by Nordling, the Swedish Consul General in Paris, that he had addressed a personal letter late in December to Himmler requesting better treatment for all concentration camp inmates along the lines of the Geneva Convention. Nordling's forceful intercession with the German Military commander of Paris resulted in the release of some 4,000 political prisoners whom the German commander had orders to execute if they could not be evacuated at that time. Although no direct answer was received by Nordling, he learned through

most

dues à Paris permittent à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

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

W.D.
OF R. McLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German
Mar 1945

most reliable channels that Himmler, upon the receipt of his letter, had ordered the German Red Cross to study and report immediately on the possibility of improving the lot of SH. A German industrialist by the name of Lehrer, long resident in France and possessing direct contact with high Nazi circles, was charged by Himmler to maintain contact with Nordling. The latter believes that January SS overtures to ICRC men in Berlin are due in part at least to his representations and that Himmler, for reasons which are open to considerable speculation, is definitely interested in facilitating relief to SH.

Nordling, in the interest of exploiting this situation, conferred at length with Burckhardt of the ICRC on February 10 and 13 in an attempt to persuade Burckhardt to take action since he, Nordling, felt that his going alone to Germany as a Swedish Consul General or as a private individual would not carry the necessary weight and that the ICRC was the obvious agency to undertake this job.

It is my feeling, in view of the foregoing, that the ICRC should not neglect such an opportunity in face of evidence of mounting confusion within the Reich and resulting increased accessibility of individual German officials to psychological pressure as they become more isolated by military events and hence more independent. I am consequently handing to Burckhardt as soon as possible a letter from the Minister urging him to take action in line with my communication to Burckhardt based on the Department's telegram No. 127 (No. 356 from WRB) of January 9, 1945, and as soon as possible will report results.

HARRISON

LH/RDMcC/nrm

in triplicate

copy in FA

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

*W.D.
Dr. H. McLELLAN*

(Switzerland)

*Camps in Germany and Germany
- Mar 1945*

dues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

1 CRC parcels for c. camps.



Communiqué No 258 b

CL

Geneva, February 13, 1945

IMPROVED CONDITIONS FOR CIVILIAN DETAINEES IN GERMANY

The International Committee of the Red Cross, who have constantly endeavoured to improve conditions for the many civilian detainees of foreign nationality in Germany, recently heard from the German Government that civilian detainees from French and Belgian territories would henceforth be able to benefit by notable guarantees which had hitherto been denied to many of them. In future, this category of civilians will enjoy a treatment which will more closely resemble the régime reserved for prisoners of war and civilian internees properly speaking.

The new measures which have been adopted in behalf of these French and Belgian civilian detainees in Germany are, mainly, the following: a mail service will be established between the detainees and their next of kin by means of International Committee forms; in particular, the detainees will be able to send news as to their health; the International Committee will also be permitted to make individual inquiries about them. Furthermore, the detainees will be authorized, likewise through the International Committee, to receive relief parcels (foodstuffs, clothing, medicaments, books) both in the form of individual parcels and of collective consignments.

In addition, the German authorities have assured the delegates of the International Committee that the detainees' representatives in the camps will be allowed to supervise the distribution of these relief supplies.

Lastly, the question of repatriation of detainees by means of exchanges is now being examined.

add near bk's statement.

814.2 I.H.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
814.8 I.H.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

OF R. McLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German-occupied Europe
March 1945



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

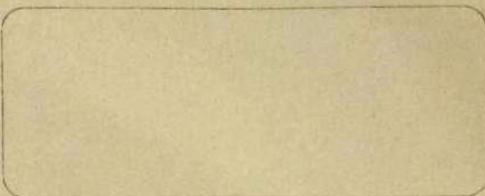
Rappeler dans la réponse :

352

Chèques : Box I. 5237
Téléphone : 23 05
Télég. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

GENÈVE, 14 FÉV. 1945

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
Rec'd FEB 15 1945
BERN



Monsieur,

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

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

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

1 Annexe

Les membres de nos commissions personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

814.2 I.H.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Handwritten notes on the right margin: "OF P. McLELLAN", "(Spartan)", "Camps in Germany and Germany", "Mar 1945".



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

Chèques postaux L. 5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA 00

RM/HW.

GENÈVE, le 15 février 1945.

Palais du Conseil-Général

(O.I.)

Re: safe arrival CRISTINA
goods at Buchenwald.

also other
goods at
Ravensbrück

Monsieur Roswell D. McCLELLAND
Légation des U.S.A.
B e r n e

OFFICE OF AMERICA
FEB 22 1945
BERN

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

Monsieur,

CRISTINA
goods

Nous avons l'honneur de porter à votre connaissance que nous avons eu la visite d'une personne ayant été détenue un an au camp de Buchenwald/Weimar et qui nous a confirmé que les colis conditionnés au moyen des marchandises de S.S. Cristina à fin août, sont bien parvenus au camp et qu'il se souvient parfaitement en avoir bénéficié.

Pour votre information personnelle, nous vous remettons en annexe la copie d'un accusé de réception qui vient de nous parvenir du camp de Ravensbrück et concernant un envoi de médicaments, fortifiants et articles sanitaires effectué en date du 8 décembre à destination de ce camp, pour le compte du Gouvernement français.

Nous vous prions de bien vouloir considérer ces renseignements comme strictement confidentiels.

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

Annexe mentionnée.

H. Selwynberg

Les relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

McC
McCLELLAND
Camps in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945

Copie



EMPFANGSBESTÄTIGUNG-QUITTANCE

Wir bestätigen hiermit den Empfang der 7 Kisten
(D.S. 828/1-7) mit "Medikamenten," in Ravensbrück angekommen
am 25 Jan. 1945.

Ravensbrück b. Fürstenberg, den 25 Jan. 1945.

Unterschrift des Lagerkommandanten
oder seines Stellvertreters:
(signature illisible)

Unterschrift der Aerztinnen
Dr. D. RIVIERE
Dr. A. SPOERRY.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

Handwritten notes on the right margin: "Dr. R. McLELLAN" and "Camps in Germany and Germany" with a date "Mar 1945".

Dr. J. [illegible] and Maxwell S. McLelland, Special Assistant to the American Missionary.

d'Assistance Spéciale

Personnes et organisations représentées très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.



COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA *1070, packages*
 AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE *for C. Camps*

Rappeler dans la région:

ZA/00 0.85
 GA/JRS/HL



GENÈVE, 16 février
 Palais de la Confédération
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~
 LEGATION.

Bern, February 15, 1945.

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg: *Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland*

In view of recent changes for the better in the attitude of the German authorities responsible for the administration of the concentration camps in Germany toward the question of relief parcels, and particularly in the light of the shifting of the center of gravity from Oranienburg to Dachau it would seem to me most desirable to have as many as possible of our 224,000 odd WRB parcels which are at present still in Göteborg, Sweden moved south to the Munich area. Perhaps it might be possible for them to be shipped to your delegation at Uffing to be distributed from there to Dachau and other accessible camps. In view of the rapidly developing military situation I feel that all possible steps should be taken (if indeed this is still at all possible) to bring these parcels south. Once we get them to the Munich area then we can go into the question of their distribution in greater detail. The simple transportation of them (rather, as many of them as possible) to the Munich area in no way violates the agreement accepted by the International Committee about only distributing parcels to camps which could be visited. If "en route" certain lots of them could be conveniently sent to accessible camps (Hamburg area, Bergen-Belsen, etc.) so much the better.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. J. Schwarzenberg
 Hotel Métropole
 G e n e v a.

Roswell D. McClelland
 Special Assistant to
 the American Minister.

Directeur de la Division
 d'Assistance Spéciale

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
 Roswell D. McClelland
 Camps in Germany and German-occupied Poland
 Mar. 1945

Les délégués de la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.



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

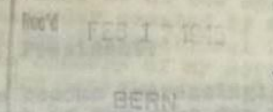
Chèques postaux 1.5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Télog. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Rappeler dans la réponse:

ZA/00 G.85
GA/JES/HL

GENÈVE, 16 février 1945.

Palais du Conseil-Général



Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland
Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
B E R N E

(C.L.)

Monsieur,

Il vous intéressera peut-être de savoir que nous avons eu confirmation, par un homme de confiance, de l'arrivée au camp de SACHSENHAUSEN-ORANIENBURG, à fin décembre, de 3 wagons de colis du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge pour des prisonniers civils français, ainsi que quelques centaines de colis pour des Belges.

Par suite de l'évacuation de territoires occupés, ce camp vit son effectif s'accroître et il a atteint, à fin décembre, plus de 62.000 personnes, dont un petit groupe d'Américains.

D'une manière générale, ce qui fait le plus cruellement défaut à ces prisonniers, ce sont les médicaments, le linge, les chaussures, les chaussettes. En outre, au point de vue alimentaire, ils souffrent beaucoup. Ils manquent également de couvertures, literie, etc.

En outre, nous avons été informés par un prisonnier civil libéré du camp de Buchenwald qu'il avait reçu nos colis qui lui furent adressés depuis août 1944 et dont certains d'entre eux contenaient des vivres provenant du "Cristina".

Nous vous prions de considérer ces renseignements comme confidentiels.

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

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge:

R. Schwegler
Directeur de la Division
d'Assistance Spéciale

rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

McClelland
Campus in Germany and Germany
- Mar 1945

Copy for Mr. McClelland

-2-

deportees (3) civilian detainees, both men and women, the majority of whom are in a poor physical condition through prolonged undernourishment and mistreatment, will be at the mercy of the Nazis and of the growing disorder created by military hostilities. I am sure that the International Committee of the Red Cross

Bern, February 16, 1945

My dear Mr. President:

It has become increasingly evident, particularly in the course of the past few weeks, that in the midst of the mounting confusion within Germany many German officials, including some in high Nazi and SS circles, are not only interested in but anxious to facilitate initiation of a humanitarian nature in behalf of the great numbers of civil prisoners in concentration camps and other places of detention who are not under the protection of the Geneva Convention directly or by analogy.

With reference to the letter addressed to you on instructions of the Department of State and the War Refugee Board on January 19, 1945, by Mr. McClelland, I feel it important to call the attention of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the most important rôle which the Committee could play by increasing to the greatest possible extent the visits of its delegates to places in Germany where such "Schutzhäftlinge" are located. In order more effectively to perform this task it would seem highly desirable that the International Committee augment the number of its delegates and representatives in Germany as substantially and rapidly as possible. The belief of my Government that the presence of energetic neutral observers and relief workers at times of internal confusion or collapse constitutes one of the most effective means of preventing last minute excesses against innocent detainees has been amply demonstrated in the past in a number of countries, not the least being the results obtained by representatives of the International Committee in Budapest.

It is apparent that a state of extreme confusion is developing within Germany which will undoubtedly increase during the coming weeks and months. In the midst of this mounting chaos a very large number of defenseless

deportees

Professor Carl J. Burckhardt,
President, International Committee
of the Red Cross,
Hotel Metropole,
Geneva.

B e r n e

nouveau et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

11.1. I.R.C. MEMBERS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

11.2. I.R.C. MEMBERS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

W.D.
OF R. McCLELLAND
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German-occupied
- Mar 1945

Background to Borchardt negotiations with Kaltenbrunner

deportees and civilian detainees, both men and women, the majority of whom are in exceptionally poor physical condition through prolonged undernourishment and mistreatment, will be at the mercy of the Nazis and of the growing disorder created by military hostilities. I am sure that the International Committee of the Red Cross shares the concern of my Government regarding the pressing need for decisive humanitarian action with a view to saving the lives of as many such men and women as possible, and the Committee is one of the very few, if not the only, neutral agency which is in a position to initiate energetic action in behalf of these sufferers.

In closing allow me to assure you that the Legation stands ready to assist the International Committee in any way possible in undertaking action along the lines suggested above.

Vous êtes sans doute au courant du fait que le CMCR allemande avait déclaré au Comité que possible traitant à l'avance un traitement plus conforme à la Convention de Genève pour les détenus civils venus des territoires français et belge actuellement en Allemagne. Ceci est au moins un commencement.

On m'a informé de votre départ, M. Marty, chef de la délégation berlinoise du CMCR, est arrivé hier à Genève pour avoir des entretiens avec Borchardt. J'espère que ceci soit aussi un bon signe.

Notre Ministre l'a estimé mieux d'appuyer votre intervention personnelle de la fin de la semaine passée verbalement auprès de Borchardt au lieu de par écrit ce que je ferai tout de suite lundi le 19 dès qu'il sera en l'opportunité de "digérer" la lettre.

LELAND HARRISON, Marty, dernier j'ai eu un entretien très intéressant avec Dr. Maurice Mayer, ancien chef médicale de la Résistance française et j'ai nettement l'impression que cela serait très utile à la cause pour laquelle nous travaillons tous les deux si vous pourriez le voir également. Il est maintenant de retour à Paris (9, Boulevard la Tour-Maubourg - Invalides 00-01).

Veuillez agréer, cher Monsieur Nordling, l'expression de nos sentiments les plus respectueux.

Rowell D. McClelland
Assistant Special au Ministre des E.-U.

Annexe.
Monsieur Raul Nordling
Général Général de Suède
73, rue d'Anjou, PARIS.

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

Berne

sonje et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris perm-ttront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

14-0 I.R.G. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATED CARES

W.D.
Dr. R. McClelland
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945

Background to Burchhardt negotiations with Kaltenbrunner

TELEGRAM UNIT

CHICAGO WASHINGTON

Date: February 16, 1945

Berne, le 16 février 1945.

[Redacted]

Chargé de: American Red Cross

Cher Monsieur Nordling,

Faisant suite aux entretiens que j'ai eu le grand plaisir d'avoir avec vous lors de votre récent séjour à Genève je m'empresse de vous faire parvenir ci-incluse une copie de la lettre qu'a adressée notre Ministre, Monsieur Leland Harrison, à Monsieur Carl Burchhardt du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge. Je me suis efforcé de la faire faire aussi énergique que possible de façon à "pousser" Burchhardt à entrer en action d'une manière décisive avant qu'il ne sera trop tard.

Vous êtes sans doute au courant du fait que le CICR a publié un communiqué de presse (paru dans les journaux du 14 février) annonçant que les autorités allemandes avaient déclaré au Comité qu'elles permettraient à l'avenir un traitement plus conforme à la Convention de Genève pour les détenus civils venus des territoires français et belge actuellement en Allemagne. Ceci est au moins un commencement.

On m'a informé de source sûre que le Dr. Marty, chef de la délégation berlinoise du CICR, est arrivé hier à Genève pour avoir des entretiens avec Burchhardt. J'espère que ceci soit aussi un bon signe.

Notre Ministre l'a estimé mieux d'appuyer votre intervention personnelle de la fin de la semaine passée verbalement auprès de Burchhardt au lieu de par écrit; ce que je ferai tout de suite lundi le 19 dès qu'il aura eu l'opportunité de "digérer" la lettre.

Mardi dernier j'ai eu un entretien très intéressant avec Dr. Maurice Mayer, ancien chef médicale de la Résistance française et j'ai nettement l'impression que cela serait très utile à la cause pour laquelle nous travaillons tous les deux si vous pourriez le voir également. Il est maintenant de retour à Paris (9, Boulevard la Tour-Maubourg - Invalides 00-01).

Veuillez agréer, cher Monsieur Nordling, l'expression de mes sentiments les plus respectueux.

Roswell D. McClelland
Assistant Special au Ministre des E.-U.

Annexe.

Monsieur Raoul Nordling
Consul Général de Suède
78, rue d'Anjou, PARIS.

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

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Berne

rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris perm-ttront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

ALL I.R.O. PAPERS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMP

McClelland
of R. McClelland
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German
Mar 1945

COPY

1000 packages for c. camps
(TRUCK QUESTION.)

TELEGRAM SENT

To: SECSTATE WASHINGTON

Date: February 16, 1945

No. 61

Code: clear

Charged to: American Red Cross

SUBJECT: Message for Amcross Washington
from Amcross Geneva

STAT

SECSTATE WASHINGTON

6116 for Amcross.

US URGENT 61 Sixteenth for Amcross from James quote

752 See also my 753 prd Since my 746 further information concerning transport difficulties Germany have been explained by Marti now here for several days prd After consultation with him comma Intercross officials now convinced time has come to employ trucks for distribution within Germany prd In spite promises noted my 746 cars available for transport Switzerland to Germany still remain only nine or ten daily and even if scheme proposed that cable is accepted such scheme will take longer to place in operation than present camp conditions allow pgh

All prison camps now mixed with nationalities intermingled and only possible present method of distribution is common pool for all prisoners in each camp prd Marti further says in view limited transport possibilities believes time past when it is possible to provide weekly food parcel prd present problem is to avoid famine particularly as German rations have again been reduced pgh It is proposed that central depot be established at Moosburg from which supplies will be forwarded by motor lorries to camps south of line Berlin Kassel prd Camps north this line to be supplied from Lubeck for present prd Marti estimates possibilities for storing at Moosburg at between 200.000 to 300.000 possibly more sfp and expects report within few days as to full storage capacity pgh

It is estimated that amount of gasoline necessary to operate fifty American trucks each averaging 250 kilometers daily would be 200.000 litres monthly and Marti assures that his delegation can guarantee control of this gasoline which would have to be placed in dumps in various sectors Germany prd Appropriate quantity oil and grease would also be needed prd In view total depletion of reserves available in camps and bad condition in which prisoners are arriving from East this question

614.2 I.R.C. FACILITIES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
614.2 I.R.C. FACILITIES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

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700
4000

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
B e r n e

noûge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris perm-ttront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

W.D.
A. P. McLELLAND
614.2 I.R.C. FACILITIES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Geneva
- Mar 1945

of utmost urgency prd With present chaotic condition of rail traffic another indication of which is fact that no mail now moving from Switzerland to Germany it is becoming obvious that it will be necessary to use trucks immediately pgh

One do you authorize twd if so can you arrange with Army for necessary gasoline and oil pgh

Transportation low octaine gasoline from Spain not yet arranged and small reserve 5.000 liters taken in trucks from Barcelona was seized by French customs and now detained Perthus prd Only practical means place trucks in immediate operation is to secure gasoline either direct from Army or from French commercial supplies against replacement pgh

All above concerns pows but Intercross also considering forwarding food parcels concentration camps particularly French Belgian for whom considerable quantities supplies arrived Switzerland prd Feal however any use our trucks should be confined inview their limited number to relief pows prd Intercross might obtain small number other trucks for supplying concentrees in which case requests we furnish gasoline which no doubt would be necessary if gasoline drawn from French commercial stocks prd Intercross also exploring possibility purchase or rent lorries Switzerland to augment fleet American trucks to service pows prd necessities in order priority are food bandages medicines clothing prd Above repeated to Dunning

Unquote

SQUIRE

814.2
IE/mp

3 copies to Mr. James
1 copy to Am. Leg. Bern

er
ily.

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
B e r n e

rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permittont à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

814.2 I.R.C. FACILITIES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

W.D.
G. R. McALELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Switzerland
- Mar 1945

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
BERN
REC'D FEB 20 1945



COMITE INTERNATIONAL
DE LA
CROIX-ROUGE

*ICRC package for
conc. camps*

Confidential file



Geneva, February 19, 1945

My dear Minister,

Replying to your letter of February 16, I must in the first place stress the fact that in their Memorandum to us dated February 1, the German Government stated:

" The visit of camps and places of detention
" where the alien detainees (Schutzhäftlinge)
" are confined is unfortunately not feasible
" at the present moment, for imperative
" reasons of national defence."

In his report our delegate, Dr. Schirmer says:

" Headquarters of the German "Sicherheit"
" (Security Police) have informed us that
" the permission to visit concentration
" camps of the alien detainees (Schutzhäft-
" linge) must be secured in each particular
" instance from Mr Himmler himself."

N.B. | That is the present situation. I am awaiting an answer from Mr Himmler, when and where I can see him personally. I shall spare no endeavour, should the interview take place, to do my utmost to secure the best possible result. You are aware how difficult that will be.

We are anxious to send as many delegates as possible. They must be men of character .

His Excellency
Mr. Leland HARRISON
Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary
of the United States of America
B e r n e

rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris perm-ttront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

114.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION OF CAMPS

*W.D.S.
Dr. R. McLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German
- Mar 1945*

Five new delegates are leaving for Germany within the next few days. We shall send others as soon as we can manage to do so.

The decisive problem is, and remains, the question of transportation. Within four days thousands of prisoners and detainees can starve. You are acquainted with the cable we sent to Washington, following on the last report received from our chief delegate.

There is not a moment to be lost. Our delegates can only get inside the camps if they bring something with them, and if they have gasoline and can still manage to travel on the roads. Should it be found impracticable to except two railway lines, in the north and in the south, from air bombardment, then all the freight-cars placed at our disposal will be useless. All this is, however, most extremely urgent.

Large-scale means of action and sweeping decisions alone can secure any results.

We are often expected to do miracles. That is of course impossible; but by exerting every nerve and applying all our will, we can do something - provided certain indispensable means for the execution of our task be furnished us.

I take this opportunity of thanking you most sincerely for your kind and unfailing assistance in the past, which I trust you will continue to afford us in the future.

Charles J. Burckhardt

Charles J. Burckhardt
President of the International Committee
of the Red Cross

rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

W.D.
of R. McLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German
- May 1945

Feb. 20th / 45

ICRC parole force camps

(C.I.)

Had a talk w/ Verger on Tues. evening at the Bären re -
Bunckhardt's appt as Swiss Minister to Paris, vs the role
he could play with regard to Germany. V. n. of opinion
that his going to Paris is not a question of immediacy.
He ✓ as go in 4 or six weeks & making a
deal of difference & could meanwhile at least "cut across"
his "demarches" & Himmler in regard to deportees & civil
detainees in Germany. Going to Paris after such negotiation
/ undoubted enhance his position vis-à-vis the French.

All publicity regarding appointment ✓ ∴ be regly avoided
since it would render his going as ICRC President impossible
V. - speak to Stuckri & this & suggest ∴ we speak to
Swiss about value of Bunckhardt's remaining at least
✓ . critical weeks as ICRC President.

* Change d'affaires of French Embassy, Bern.

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

both in "Konzentrationslager Buchenwald".

With best wishes and many thanks,

yours sincerely,

Donald A. Lowrie

rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

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

W.D.
OF P. McLELLAND
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
1945

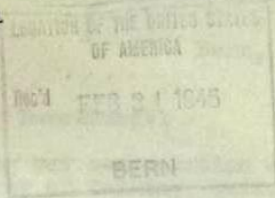
Dr. JOHN R. MOTT
President

WORLD'S ALLIANCE
OF YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS

TRACY STRONG
General Secretary

GENEVA Switzerland
CENTRE INTERNATIONAL
37, Quai Wilson

Telegraphic Address : FLEMGO-GENEVA
Mission Code
Telephone 2.70.60



Geneva, February 20, 1945.

Mr. Ross Mc Clelland
American Legation
Bern



My dear Ross,

As was agreed during our recent conversation I give you herewith the addresses of two of my friends and collaborators now in concentration camps in Germany. If you can send parcels of either food or clothing to these men, I will appreciate it most sincerely. The two men are :

Dr. Oldrich Dubina (Czecho-Slovak) and
Fedor T. Pianoff (Russian)

both in "Konzentrationslager Buchenwald".

With best wishes and many thanks,

yours sincerely,

Donald A. Lowrie

rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

W.M.C.
Dr. R. McClelland
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
1945

101
CASE FILE

ICRC packages
ICRC packages for
C. Camps

TELEGRAM SENT

Bern, February 21, 1945.

To: Department

Date: February 21, 1945

Dear Professor Burckhardt:

Following our conversation of yesterday morning I took the liberty of talking, quite intimately and unofficially, yesterday evening with Monsieur Verger. He shared your and my point of view, namely, that your leaving the ICRC at this critical moment would be most regrettable. Monsieur Verger's personal feeling, in which I concurred, was that if at all possible you should do your utmost to postpone your going to Paris for a month or six weeks, meanwhile having the whole matter of the appointment kept secret. In this interval it would be hoped that the meeting for which you have asked could take place and the ICRC's program could at least be satisfactorily launched. I personally do not see how it would be possible to officially enter upon your duties in Paris and then return temporarily to the ICRC. This would place you in a totally different light and would doubtless render impossible any effective negotiations in behalf of ICRC work to the north. Do you feel that securing a delay of from 4 to 6 weeks would be impossible as far as your Government is concerned? I recall that you spoke of the matter "coming out in the press in a few days." Naturally such publicity would be exceedingly harmful to your continuing on temporarily with the Committee. I should naturally most welcome your opinion regarding these suggestions, as we both have at heart doing the most good possible during the coming critical period when so many human lives are at stake. It would also seem to me that the French Government would be distinctly interested in your continuing on in your present functions for at least a few more weeks.

Please consider these observations as well-meant suggestions offered in the same spirit as our conversation of yesterday morning and in no way an attempt to interfere with matters (particularly as your Government is concerned) which are not my business.

With kind personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

RM:G.

In duplicate to files

Professor Carl J. Burckhardt
President of the International Committee of the Red Cross
Hotel Métropole, Geneva.

appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suissees qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

614.3 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR ORIGINATOR OF CASES

614.3 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR ORIGINATOR OF CASES

WAL

Dr. R. McQUELLAN

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany
- Mar 1945

DRAFT WIRE

ICRC package

CASE FILE

ICRC file WRB

TELEGRAM SENT

TO

To: Department

Date: February 21, 1945

No: 1143

Code: CLEAR *net*

Charged to:

"Improved conditions for civilian detainees in Germany. ICRC having constantly endeavored improve conditions for the many civilian detainees of foreign nationality in Germany, recently heard from German Government that civilian detainees from French and Belgian territories would henceforth be able benefit by guarantees which had hitherto been denied many of them. In future such categories of civilians will enjoy treatment more closely resembling régime reserved for pows and civilian internees proper.

The new measures adopted in behalf of these French and Belgian civilian detainees in Germany are the following: mail service between detainee and next-of-kin on ICRC forms, particularly news regarding detainee's health; ICRC will be permitted make inquiries into individual cases; detainees will be authorized to receive relief parcels (food, clothing, medicines and books) both individually and collectively, through ICRC.

In addition German authorities have assured ICRC delegates that detainees' representatives in camps will be allowed to supervise distribution of such relief supplies.

Lastly, question of repatriation of detainees by means of exchanges is now being examined."

HARRISON

RDMcC.

In duplicate to files
Copy in FA

Accounts: Relief to persons in German-controlled territory.

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

814.3 I.R.C. PRISONERS FOR DISSENT/REPRESSION CASES

840.1 I.R.C. IN EUROPE

WRB
OF R. McQUELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German-occupied territories
1945

DRAFT WIRE

ICRC package
for Concentration
Camps

(C.I.)

have informed us that mission to visit concentration
Department February 21, 1945.
camps of alien detainees must be secured in each particular

1159
Feb 22

For Department and WRB from McClelland.

Legation's 1056, February 16.

Letter from Minister referred to in last paragraph
our 1056 was delivered to Burckhardt (B) on February 17
urging ICRC to take action along following lines:

1. increase to greatest possible extent visits
of its delegates to places of detention of all categories
of "Schutzhaeftlinge";
2. Augment number Committee's representatives in
Germany as substantially and rapidly as possible;
3. Instruct its delegates to take every advantage
of mounting confusion within Germany to mitigate lot of
all civil detainees and dissuade German officials from last
minute excesses.

Following is substance of B's written reply dated
February 19:

"Replying to your letter of February 16 I must in
first place stress fact that in their memorandum to us
dated February 1 German Government stated: 'Visits to
camps and places of detention where alien detainees
("Schutzhaeftlinge") are confined ~~is~~ unfortunately not
feasible at present moment for imperative reasons of
national defense.'

In a recent ^{communication} report our Delegate, Dr. Schirmer,
reported: 'Headquarters of German Security Police

x840.1 Jews in Europe

614.3 I.R.C. - FACTS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS
614.3 I.R.C. - FACTS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

McClelland
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Fuchs Dept. Sec. 5 1972

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est
appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux re-
lations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques
mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et
à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les
deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au prési-
dent du Comité international de la Croix-
Rouge et ses relations personnelles très éten-
dues à Paris permettront à la Confédération
suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux
intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

have informed us that permission to visit concentration camps of alien detainees must be secured in each particular instance from Himmler himself.'

This is present situation. I am awaiting an answer from Himmler concerning place and date I can see him

On February 20 I had a personal interview with B personally. I shall spare no endeavor, should interview take place, to do my utmost to secure best possible result. You are aware of how difficult that will be,

We are anxious to send as many delegates (to Germany) as possible. They must be men of character. Five new delegates are leaving for Germany within next few days. We shall send others as soon as we can manage to do so.

Decisive problem is and remains question of transportation. Within 4 days thousands of prisoners and detainees can starve. You are acquainted with cable we sent to Washington (to Secretary of State) following receipt of most recent report from our chief delegate (in Germany, Dr. Marti).

There is not a moment to be lost. Our delegates can only get into camps if they bring something with them, and if they have gasoline and can still manage to travel on the roads (with trucks). Should it be found impracticable to except two railway lines, in north and south, from aerial bombardment, then any number of freight cars placed at our disposal will be useless. All this is most extremely urgent.

Large scale operations are often expected to do miracles. That is of course

First paragraph of B's reply of February 19 refers to answer finally received from German Foreign Office to

omitted this word

6142 I.R.O. PRISONERS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WAB

Dr. R. McLELLAN

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

SEP 25

impossible; but by exerting every nerve and applying all our will we can do something provided certain indispensable means for the execution of our task be furnished us." End of B's reply.

On February 20 I had a personal interview with B who informed me that he had dispatched a letter to Himmler on February 17 asking for a meeting. B went on to explain that he now found himself in a serious dilemma since the Federal Council had just asked him to represent Switzerland in Paris as Minister to French Provisional Government. Although he had emphasized exceedingly important duties which lay before him during coming critical months as President of ICRC his Government was urging him to accept this new appointment to which French Government had assented. He informed me that Professor Huber would undoubtedly return at least provisionally as President of ICRC.

Omitted this was

(on Feb. 18)

I suggested that in view of extreme importance and urgency of meeting Himmler and expanding and reinforcing ICRC activity in Germany both as regarded relief and protective measures perhaps it would be possible to postpone taking up his duties as Swiss Minister in Paris for a month or six weeks meanwhile keeping this appointment secret. He said he would discuss matter with his Government.

Above 2 paragraphs are for ~~strictly confidential~~ information of Department and WRB.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 4-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

First paragraph of B's reply of February 19 refers to answer finally received from German Foreign Office to

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

*USA
Dr. R. McLELLAN
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
1945-1946*

(4)

CASE FILE

ICRC file WRB

TELEGRAM SENT

ICRC's memorandum of October 2 (Legation's 7998, December 7).

Substance of German reply was issued in an ICRC communiqué

To: of February 14 which is being transmitted in Legation's ...
of today's date.

No: 1159

Code:

Charged to:

Paraphar: HARRISON

RDMcC.

For Department and WRB from McClelland.

As referred to in the last paragraph of our 1058 of February 16, the letter from the Minister was delivered to Burokhardt (B) on February 17 urging ICRC to take action along the lines following:

1. To greatest possible extent increase visits of its delegates to places of detention of all categories of *prisoners*
2. As substantially and rapidly as possible, augment number of Committee's representatives in Germany.
3. To mitigate lot of all civil detainees and dissuade German officials from last minute excesses, instruct its delegates to take every advantage of mounting confusion.

Substance of B's written reply dated February 19 is as follows:

"In replying to your letter of February 16 I must in the first place stress the fact that in their memorandum to us dated February 1 the German Government stated: 'Visits to camps and places of detention where alien detainees ("Schuttsasftlinge") are confined are unfortunately not feasible at the present moment for imperative reasons of national defense'.

"Our delegate, Dr. Schirmer, reported in a recent communication: 'Headquarters of German Security Police have informed us that permission to visit concentration camps of alien detainees must be secured from Himmler himself in each particular instance'.

"Present situation is this. I am awaiting an answer from Himmler concerning place and date I can see him personally. Should interview take place, I shall spare no endeavor to do my utmost to secure the best possible result. Of how difficult that will be, you are aware.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
State Dept. 1-1173
By R. H. Tamm Date SEP 25 1972

0143 I.R.C. MEMORANDUM FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
McClelland
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
1-1173

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

CASE FILE

ICRC file

WRB

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: February 22, 1945, 9 a.m.

10

No: 1159

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:

Paraphrase

For Department and WRB from McClelland.

As referred to in the last paragraph of our 1056 of February 16, the letter from the Minister was delivered to Burckhardt (B) on February 17 urging ICRC to take action along the lines following:

1. To greatest possible extent increase visits of its delegates to places of detention of all categories of "Schutzhaeftlinge";
2. As substantially and rapidly as possible, augment number of Committee's representatives in Germany.
3. To mitigate lot of all civil detainees and dissuade German officials from last minute excesses, instruct its delegates to take every advantage of mounting confusion.

Substance of B's written reply dated February 19 is as follows:

"In replying to your letter of February 16 I must in the first place stress the fact that in their memorandum to us dated February 1 the German Government stated: 'Visits to camps and places of detention where alien detainees ("Schutzhaeftlinge") are confined are unfortunately not feasible at the present moment for imperative reasons of national defense'.

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"Present situation is this. I am awaiting an answer from Himmler concerning place and date I can see him personally. Should interview take place, I shall spare no endeavor to do my utmost to secure the best possible result. Of how difficult that will be, you are aware.

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

840.1 JEWIS IN EUROPE

614.3 I.A.C. MEMBERS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB

Dr. R. McClelland

(Schirmer)

Camps in Germany and Germany

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

"We are anxious to send as many delegates to Germany as possible. Delegates must be men of character. Accordingly, five new delegates are leaving within the next few days for Germany. As soon as we can manage, we shall send others.

"Question of transportation is and remains the decisive problem. Thousands of prisoners and detainees can starve within four days. You are acquainted with the cable we sent to Washington (to the Secretary of State) following receipt of the most recent report from our chief delegate (Dr. Marti, in Germany).

"There is not a moment to be lost. Only if they bring something with them and if they have gasoline and can still manage to travel on the roads (with trucks) can our delegates get into camps. Any number of friendly cars placed at our disposal will be useless should it be found impracticable to except two railway lines, in north and south, from aerial bombardment. All this is most extremely urgent. Any results can be secured only by large scale methods of action and sweeping decisions.

"Often we are expected to do miracles. Of course that is impossible; but by exerting every nerve and applying all our will we can do something provided certain indispensable means be furnished us for the execution of our task."

That is the end of the reply of B.

I had a personal interview with B on February 20 and he informed me that he had dispatched a letter to Himmer on February 17 asking for a meeting.

Of B's reply of February 19 the first paragraph refers to an answer finally received from the German Foreign Office to ICRC's memorandum of October 2 (Legation's No. 7998 of December 7). The substance of the German reply was issued in an ICRC communiqué of February 14 which is being transmitted in No. 1143 of February 21 of the Legation.

HARRISON

RDMcC/dw
In duplicate to Files.

Copy in FA

x see 248 World Journal Congress

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

SWITZERLAND
S.I.A.S. I.R.C. PORTIONS FOR CHRISTIANITY CLIPS

W.S.D.
Dr. R. McLELLAN'S
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
1945



COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE

AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE



1000 parcels for conc. camps

French in Paris let the cat out of the bag & understand.

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

Rappeler dans la réponse :

G 44 G 85

GENÈVE, le 22nd February 1945
Palais du Conseil-Général

My dear McClelland,

Thank you for your kind note. A pressman's indiscretion was responsible for the news getting out, and the official communique yesterday was the result.

But one has to take every situation as it comes. I have let M. H. know that nothing had changed so far as my wish to see him was concerned, that I had asked my Government for four weeks' grace and that this had been granted. I care about nothing so much as the fate of the prisoners and deportees, and desire at all costs to do everything possible for the unhappy French, especially the women in Germany at present.

It is a great honour for me to be appointed in Paris. But at this moment we have staked everything on the Committee's work, which must go on unimpaired by any diversion elsewhere.

You and I have been comrades in labour, and I hope that we shall remain so in the future, for the work we are engaged upon together is finer and more worth while than any other.

I want to be quite sure that you understand all this very clearly; that is why I have written you this letter in English.

Yours very sincerely

Charles L. Brackham

Mr. McClelland
Elfenstrasse 6
B e r n e

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

6142 I.R.C. PROPOSALS FOR ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

McClelland
Dr. R. McClelland
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
10 - Mar 1945



Chèques postaux 1.5327
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

766

C.I.

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

Dr. R. McClelland
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
Mar 1945

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

Rappeler dans la réponse :

ZA/00 JES/GB

GENÈVE, le 22 février 1945.
Palais du Conseil-Général

Monsieur Roswell D. McClelland
Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique
29, Alpenstrasse
B e r n e

Concerne : votre lettre du 15 février 1945.

Cher Monsieur,

*Très bonne
logique*

Nous avons examiné votre lettre sus-indiquée avec notre délégué principal en Allemagne, le Dr. Marti. Il ne semble plus possible aujourd'hui de faire parvenir des colis de Goeteborg à Dachau, ceci à cause de la situation actuelle des conditions de transport en Allemagne. C'est pourquoi nous estimons préférable de réserver les colis se trouvant à Goeteborg aux camps de concentration du nord de l'Allemagne et notamment à Hamburg-Neuengamme, camp qui semble être destiné à devenir le camp central et de triage pour la région du Nord. Nous avons déjà télégraphié à Goeteborg afin que deux wagons soient expédiés sur ces camps et un autre sur Ravensbrück. Nous ne pouvons cependant point affirmer si ces wagons seront disponibles immédiatement.

Quant à Bergen-Belsen, nous avons fait de très mauvaises expériences avec ce camp et nous hésitons à y faire partir des secours avant que nous n'ayons pas certaines garanties relatives au contrôle.

Si la situation se modifiait, nous tâcherions de faire parvenir ces colis de Goeteborg dans certains autres camps également et nous ne manquerions pas de vous en informer.

Nous regrettons de n'avoir pas pu faire un meilleur usage des colis du War Refugee Board, mais nous tenons à vous prier de bien vouloir faire remarquer à la dite institution que nous avons toujours préconisé - et ceci il y a déjà un - l'envoi rapide de colis en Suisse, tant que les conditions de transport le permettaient. La situation des transports étant

./.

l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

actuellement compromise, nous tenons à nous décharger de toute responsabilité quant aux conséquences qui en découlent.

Messieurs Kubowitzki et Riegner m'ont parlé hier d'un projet de faire expédier une partie des colis à Goeteborg par l'intermédiaire de la Suède sur Bergen-Belsen. En ce qui nous concerne, nous n'y verrons aucun inconvénient, à condition que l'organisation chargée de cette affaire, en Suède, puisse se procurer les moyens de transport, problème qui semble aussi grave dans cette région que dans le sud. Ces deux messieurs ont voulu se mettre en rapport avec leur correspondant, M. Storch et nous feront connaître l'opinion de ce dernier.

Je vous prie d'agréer, cher Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments cordialement dévoués.

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix Rouge.



Division d'Assistance
Spéciale

d'un remarquable ouvrage sur Richelieu, sut toujours donner à son enseignement un précieux esprit international. Ses missions à l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris perm-ttront à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.

Handwritten notes on the right margin:
CMB
Dr. R. McLELLAN
Switzerland
Campus in Germany and Germany
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

ICRC packages for
concentration camps.

Feb 22/45.

C.I.

M. Carl Burkhardt est nommé ministre de Suisse à Paris

BERNE, 22. — Le gouvernement français ayant donné son agrément, le Conseil fédéral a nommé ministre de Suisse à Paris M. Carl Burkhardt, président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge, à Genève.

M. Carl Burkhardt est né le 10 octobre 1891 à Bâle. Bachelier du Gymnase de sa ville natale, il étudia ensuite l'histoire aux universités de Bâle, Munich, Goettingue et Zurich, puis se lance dans la carrière diplomatique pour devenir attaché de légation à Vienne de 1918 à 1921. En 1923, le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge l'envoie en mission en Asie-Mineure. Professeur ex-

torité, une étude sur l'avoyer Charles Neuhaus, une autre sur l'empire d'Autriche, etc.

L'impression à Berne

BERNE, 22 (De notre correspondant) — La nomination de M. Carl Burkhardt au poste de ministre de Suisse à Paris a provoqué quelque surprise à Berne. Emprisons-nous de dire que cette surprise ne porte pas sur l'homme choisi. Tout au contraire, on se félicite hautement que notre gouvernement ait proposé à l'agrément français une personnalité d'exceptionnelle valeur, dont la brillante carrière diplomatique et le titre de président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge donneront un éclat tout particulier à la mission qu'il va remplir à Paris.

La surprise venait de ce qu'on n'avait osé espérer si proche l'aboutissement des démarches faites par M. Petitpierre en vue de normaliser nos relations avec la France. On savait bien que, à Berne comme à Paris, des contacts avaient été pris et des sondages effectués. Ici même, dimanche, nous laissons entendre qu'on s'acheminait vers une amélioration substantielle des rapports franco-suisse. Mais les plus optimistes ne comptaient guère pouvoir enregistrer avant huit ou quinze jours l'accord publié hier.

Cela dit, il faut se réjouir sans réserve de ce premier et grand pas fait vers un apaisement des esprits et vers une restauration de confiantes et profitables relations entre les deux peuples amis. Notre gouvernement a osé voir grand et se décider vite. Il a songé à un véritable ambassadeur de Suisse à Paris, doté de tout le prestige de l'expérience internationale. Il a tout aussitôt agi dans ce sens. Il en sera loué par tous ceux à qui pesait le malaise doublé, il y a quelques semaines, du plus fâcheux concours de circonstances. Le soulagement sera unanime dans notre population.

A ce geste éclatant va répondre, nous dit-on, la très prochaine nomination d'un ambassadeur de France à Berne. On ne prononce pas encore de nom, mais on ne cache pas, dans les milieux gouvernementaux, la satisfaction que provoquent, et cette décision, et le choix de la personnalité présentée. Une période trouble est résolue. On va pouvoir se mettre à reconstruire. Les préparatifs déjà ont été menés à bien dans les meilleures conditions possibles.

E. Pn

Satisfaction à Paris

PARIS, 22 (A. T. S.) — La nomination du professeur Carl Burkhardt, président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge, en qualité de ministre de Suisse en France, a été accueillie avec la plus grande satisfaction par les milieux diplomatiques français.

On souligne à cette occasion que M. Burkhardt, qui est un historien distingué, auteur d'un remarquable ouvrage sur Richelieu, sut toujours donner à son enseignement un précieux esprit international. Ses missions à l'étranger ont toujours été des réussites. Il est appelé à donner un regain nouveau aux relations franco-suisse qui, depuis quelques mois, n'étaient plus complètement normales et à consolider l'amitié traditionnelle entre les deux pays. Le prestige qui s'attache au président du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge et ses relations personnelles très étendues à Paris permettent à la Confédération suisse d'être représentée avec éclat et aux intérêts suisses d'être défendus avec efficacité.



traordinaire d'histoire à l'université de Zurich en 1929, il est nommé trois ans plus tard à l'Institut des hautes études internationales à Genève, où il enseigne l'histoire contemporaine. En 1937, le conseil de la Société des Nations lui confie les délicates fonctions de haut commissaire de la S. d. N. dans la ville libre de Dantzig. Il rentre en Suisse au début de la deuxième guerre mondiale et, dès lors, se consacre entièrement à l'œuvre humanitaire de la Croix-Rouge à Genève. Membre du Comité international, il avait succédé vers la fin de l'an dernier, à la présidence du comité, au professeur Max Huber, démissionnaire. On lui doit de nombreux ouvrages d'histoire, parmi lesquels un « Richelieu » qui fait au-

814.5 I.R.O. PREPARAS FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WAS

Dr. R. MICHELLELLAND

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

To London
~~55-660~~ Zurich
235660

ICRC Packages
for c. Camps

- ① Was to Olsen about detaching WFB parcels to Storch
- ② Gorman acquaintance of recent date in answer to ICRC's note of Oct 2nd

February 22, 1945
 in such assembly camps,
 would come from VRS stocks
 thousand of our parcels
 744, February 2 and
 his comparatively short haul,
 n to discuss present
 "Schutzhaeftlinge" and
 chief ICRC delegate from
 concentration camp
 no general areas: between
 orts located at concentra-
 burg) and Munich, with
 Marti

reports conditions of frightful crowding to exist already in Neuengamme and Dachau where concentratees ~~xxxxx~~ who are almost all in very poor physical condition from prolonged to undernourishment and mistreatment, arrive in state of utter exhaustion after days on foot. A great many have already died as a result of the evacuation measures. Mr Marti presented a most convincing case for the urgent need of transportation equipment stating that invaluable aid could be rendered to at least ~~xxxxx~~ ^{some} thousands if a few trucks were available. In light of general willingness of SS authorities to cooperate with ICRC displayed repeatedly since January and of general state of confusion Marti

STATE I.N.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

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

WAB
 Dr. R. McDELLELLANA
 (Switzerland)
 Camps in Germany and German
 Areas Jan-Mar 1945

groups or other groups of same

DRAFT WIRE

ICRC, packages for c. camps

Department February 22, 1945

~~Secret~~ relief parcels C.I. spot in such assembly camps.
Parcels for Hamburg area could come from WRB stocks
for WRB from McClelland, odd thousand of our parcels
Legation's 455, January 22, 744, February 2 and
1159, February 22.

On February 19 I had occasion to discuss present
situation in Germany as regards "Schutzhaeftlinge" and
Jewish deportees with Dr. Marti, chief ICRC delegate from
Berlin, parcels in Switzerland,

Nazis appear to be evacuating concentration camp
inmates and regrouping them in two general areas: between
Luebeck and Hamburg (with headquarters located at concentra-
tion camp of Neuengamme near Hamburg) and Munich, with
headquarters at Dachau. ~~Conditions of frightful~~ Marti
reports conditions of frightful crowding to exist already
in Neuengamme and Dachau where concentrates ~~xxxxx~~ who are
almost all in very poor physical condition from prolonged
undernourishment and mistreatment, arrive in state of
utter exhaustion after days on foot. A great many have
already died as a result of the evacuation measures. Mr
Marti presented a most convincing case for the urgent need
of transportation equipment stating that invaluable aid
could be rendered to at least ~~xxxxx~~ ^{some} thousands if a few
trucks were available. In light of general willingness of
SS authorities to cooperate with ICRC displayed repeatedly
since January and of general state of confusion Marti

SECRET INFORMATION FOR CONCENTRATION CAMP

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

WRB
Dr. R. McCLELLAND
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

camps or other groups of these

foresees no difficulty as regards permission to distribute relief parcels on spot in such assembly camps.

Parcels for Hamburg area could come from WRB stocks at Goeteborg where some 220 odd thousand of our parcels are still stocked. Parcels for Munich region would be trucked from Switzerland over this comparatively short haul. We have 60,000 WRB parcels at present in Toulon unloaded from Caritas II during January against which arrangement could doubtless be made with ICRC to borrow pending arrival these parcels in Switzerland.

Situation all Allied pows as regards reception parcels is essentially same as that of civil detainees due to impossibility for ICRC obtain adequate rail transport, although pows ~~are~~ ^{are} in general in better physical condition and less liable to starve. James of Amcross, Geneva informs me (see his 6116 for Amcross, Washington of February 16) that he has also made strong plea for trucks if effective relief is to be brought to pows streaming in from East to assembly camps in Murenberg-Kassel and Eisebeck-Hamburg areas.

In view of extreme urgency of this critical situation I take liberty of renewing my request that WRB either arrange place my disposal 4 or 5 trucks for ICRC or if this impractical authorize me attempt acquire them in Switzerland. In latter case Swiss army would doubtless request ~~of~~ guarantee of replacement of at least tires if not trucks themselves before they would permit ~~vehicles~~ ^{vehicles} to leave Switzerland for use in Germany. Small supply of fuel and oil could be made available

WRB
Dr. R. McQUELLAN
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas - Jan - Mar 1945

camps or other groups in Germany

from amounts granted ICRC for POW trucks.

I should be most appreciative if Board could give prompt and serious consideration to this request as there are only a few weeks, or at most months, remaining in which to take effective action. You can readily appreciate difficulty of remaining idly on sidelines while tens of thousands of ~~still~~ surviving Nazi victims are in grave danger of starving if it is humanly possible to act without prejudicing successful continuation of our war effort.

RDMoC.

[Faint, mostly illegible typed text]

I suggested that in view of importance and nature of meeting Hitler staffers to request the President ICRC activity in Germany both as regards relief and protective measures perhaps it would be possible to postpone officially taking up his duties as State Minister in Paris for month or six weeks possible keeping appointment secret. He replied he would discuss matter with his Government.

Evening of February 20 I took liberty of discussing this question informally with Yarger, French Charge d'Affaires at Bern who concurred that Switzerland's

DEC 1
State Dept.
By R. H. Paul

SEP 21 1945

WAB
of R. McQUELLAN

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

[Faint text at bottom of page, partially obscured by pink tape]

(8)
DRAFT WIRE

ICRC packages for
C Camps.

WRB

negotiating with Himmler in behalf of political detainees
Department C.I. February 23, 1945
and civil detainees appeared of greater urgency than
Secretary immediately to Paris. Varger agreed to take

For Department and WRB from McClelland.
Legation's 1159, February 22. serious objection to

On February 20 Burckhardt of ICRC also informed me
that the Federal Council had very recently asked him
to represent Switzerland in Paris as Minister to French
Provisional Government. Although he had emphasized
exceedingly important duties which lay before him during
coming critical weeks as ICRC President his Government
was urging him to accept this new appointment to which
French Government had indicated its agreement on February
18. Burckhardt stated that Professor Huber would
undoubtedly return to Geneva at least temporarily as
President of ICRC.

I suggested that in view of importance and urgency
of meeting Himmler and effort to expand and reinforce
ICRC activity in Germany both as regards relief and
protective measures perhaps it would be possible to
postpone officially taking up his duties as Swiss Minister
in Paris for month or six weeks meanwhile keeping
appointment secret. He replied he would discuss matter
with his Government.

Evening of February 20 I took liberty of discussing
this question informally with Verger, French Chargé
d'Affaires at Bern, who concurred that Burckhardt's
expressed the view

at B's suggestion

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

814.5 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR DISSENTING CAMPS

R. McCLELLAND

Switzerland

Camps in Germany and German
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

camps or other groups of civil detainees

negotiating with Himmler in behalf of political deportees and civil detainees appeared of greater urgency than his going immediately to Paris. Verger agreed to take this up informally with Swiss and was of opinion that French Government would have no serious objection to Barchhardt's postponing his going to Paris 4 to 6 weeks.

On February 22 news of B's appointment was published in Swiss press. B now informs me that this was due to indiscretion of certain French journalists.

I immediately contacted B who stated that he had sent word to Himmler reiterating his desire to see letter. B further informed me that Swiss Government had agreed to postponement of 4 weeks in his going to Paris. It is therefore to be hoped that B will still be able to carry through this most important mission to Germany.

I shall naturally keep you posted on developments.

leaders nationality unreported have tracks and are attempting to follow same procedures. Authorization HARRISON been given Ulbeck furnish slip to any accredited camp representatives who may apply there.

V. said he take first opportunity to mention matter informally to Swiss 2 was of opinion

MB

WAB
Dr. R. McLELLAN

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany Areas Jan-Mar 1945

camps or other groups of Swiss

WRB
TRUCKS FOR GERMANY
QUESTION

COPY OF WIRE RECEIVED FROM AMCROSS WASHINGTON BY

JAMES IN GENEVA ON Feb. 23rd. (concerning use of trucks in Germany for POW relief & parcels).

Consulate's incoming 79

MB

79 twentysecond for amcross James quote sq 1166 understand from Dunning that SHAEF has authorized use of trucks in Germany which we also approve. Any further steps regarding transportation which intercross, McDonald and you evolve and which are approved by SHAEF are also agreeable to us" - Amcross.

COPY OF WIRE FILED BY JAMES FOR AMCROSS WASHINGTON February 22nd. No. 71 from Consulate Geneva.

71 twentysecond for amcross from James quote:

759 my 751 Intercross reports its delegation in Germany has secured two motor trucks there and has been utilizing them to carry sfp from Lübeck to assembly centers at Boitzenberg and Hagenow. Also delegation has given sfp to POWs encountered marching on roads. Quantity sfp involved given as 100,000 parcels but feel this figure too high. Understand some camp leaders nationality unreported have trucks and are attempting to follow same procedure. Authorization has been given Lübeck furnish sfp to any accredited camp representatives who may apply there."

814.2
FORG PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS.

WRB
Dr R. Middlellana

Switzerland

Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

scaps or other groups of extra...

CASE FILE

WRB

CASE FILE

WRB

~~WRB~~

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department Date: February 23, 2 p.m., 1945
 No: 804
 Code: WRB (C.I.) Received: February 24, 8 a.m.

Feb. 24/45
 No. 1340

WRB No. 417. For McClelland.

Legation's 1056 February 16.

Please cable whether Schutzhaeftlinge include persons actively engaged in labor for Germany and whether the national groups to which ICRC parcels are to be sent comprise or exclude Jews of the respective nationalities.

GREW ACTING

In duplicate to files

re /

Copy in FA

840.1 JEWIS IN EUROPE

WRB
OF R. MCCLELLAND

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

... or other groups of ...

CASE FILE

WRB

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

CI

Date: February 23, 1945, 7 p.m.

No: 1201

Code: [redacted]

Charged to:

Paraphrase

For Department and WRB from McClelland.

Reference Legation's No. 1159 of February 22, 1945

Burckhardt (B) of ICRC also informed me on February 22 that the Federal Council had very recently asked him to represent Switzerland in Paris as Minister to the French Provisional Government. His Government was urging him to accept this new appointment to which the French Government on February 18 had indicated its agreement, although B had emphasized the exceedingly important duties which lay before him during the coming critical weeks as ICRC President. It was stated by B that Professor Huber would undoubtedly return to Geneva as President of ICRC at least temporarily.

It was my suggestion that in view of importance and urgency of meeting Himmler in an effort to expand and reinforce ICRC activity in Germany both as regards relief and protective measures perhaps it would be possible to postpone for a month or six weeks, meanwhile keeping appointment secret, officially taking up his duties as Swiss Minister in Paris. That he would discuss the matter with his government was his reply.

At B's suggestion I took the liberty on February 20 evening of discussing the question informally with Verger, French Chargé d' Affaires at Bern, who expressed the view that B's negotiating with Himmler in behalf of political deportees and civil detainees, a great many of whom are French, appeared at this time to be of paramount importance. V said he would take the first opportunity to mention the matter to the Swiss informally.

News of B's appointment was published in the Swiss press on February 22. I am now informed by B that this was due to the indiscretion of certain French journalists.

Immediately I got in touch with B who stated that he had again sent word to Himmler, reiterating his desire to see him. I was further informed by B that the Swiss Government had agreed to postponement of his going to Paris for four weeks. Therefore, it is hoped that B will still be able to carry through this most important Germany mission. Developments shall be reported.

Harrison

RDMcC/dw
In duplicate to Files.

COPY IN FA

840.1 JEWS IN EUROPE

WRB
OF R. MCCLELLAND

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas - Jan-Mar-1945

DEPT. RECEIVED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Pagan Date SEP 25 1972

and finally upon the insistence with which the War Relocation Authority in Washington pursued the matter. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regard facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

Important *ICRC packages for C Camps* *WRB*
See last p *RSM*
TELEGRAM RECEIVED *Rep. March 2/45*
No. 1345

From: Department *(01)* **Date:** February 23, midnight, 1945
Code: WRB **No:** 819
Received: February 24, 9 p.m.

The cable below to Harrison and McClelland from Department and War Refugee Board is WRB 416.

The following is text of memorandum of Executive Director of War Refugee Board which was unanimously approved at Board meeting February 20:

"Memorandum to Secretary Stettinius, Secretary Morgenthau, Secretary Stimson.

Our best information indicates that while the enemy has abandoned wholesale extermination of detainees large numbers of the physically unfit are now in imminent danger of death due to starvation, exposure and deliberate neglect. The actual numbers are unknown and are believed to be changing daily.

Food medicines and clothing must be distributed to such detainees at once if their lives are to be saved. They should be removed if possible to safety in Switzerland without unnecessary delay.

The International Red Cross is our only means of direct contact with the camps. Operations can best be conducted from Switzerland.

The War Refugee Board is requested to authorize its representative to obtain the necessary cooperation of the ICRC and the Swiss Government.

By the Swiss?

The WRB is further requested to approve that the necessary food, medicines, transportation equipment be made available to the ICRC by the Swiss Government against our promise of repayment or replenishment after the war. It is understood that private funds are available for the necessary financing.

(Signed) William O. Dweyer, Executive Director

Rep: 5/3/45 approved
No. 1481

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
Dr. R. McClelland

(Switzerland)

*Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas Jan-Mar 1945*

and partly upon the intelligence with which the War Refugee Board in Washington performs the service. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regards facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

approved: (Signed) Joseph C. Grew Acting Secretary of State (Signed) H. Morgenthau Jr. Secretary of Treasury (Signed) Henry L. Stimson Secretary of War".

You will note that the program envisages (1) furnishing food and other relief through the IRC to physically unfit unassimilated detainees who are within enemy controlled territory and (2) their removal by the IRC to safety in Switzerland as soon as possible.

The executive director of the Board plans to go to Switzerland in the near future in connection with the foregoing program. In the meantime you are requested to do the following immediately:

(1) Explore the availability in Switzerland of food and other relief supplies as well as transportation equipment. Please advise the Board and Department at once whether relief trucks are permitted to move from Switzerland to German controlled areas and return to Switzerland for reloading of supplies;

(2) Approach Intercross with a view to obtaining their consent to deliver the relief supplies in enemy territory and to organize and effectuate the removal of detainees to Switzerland.

(3) If Gurrie Mission concurs please approach the Swiss Government for the purpose of obtaining its consent (A) to make available to Intercross now the necessary supplies and equipment for the foregoing relief and evacuation program and (B) to admit all detainees who reach Swiss borders and house and maintain them under guard until we are able to arrange for their evacuation to Allied territory. You may assure the Swiss that this Government will arrange for the replenishment from the outside of all supplies made available by the Swiss for this purpose and compensation for use of equipment. Please report all developments to Department and Board.

This should be discussed with Mr. Grew

The discretionary balance on hand is circa 1,200,000 - S. fms. Feb. 28th

GREW ACTING

Jh

In duplicate to files

Copy in FA

WAB

Dr. R. McLELLAN

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German Areas Jan-Mar 1945

and partly upon the facilities with which the War Relocation Authority in Washington handles the matter. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regard facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

CONFIDENTIAL

COPY

IMPORTANT

Dept's 819, Feb 23rd

WRB's 416 - Dispatched Feb. 23, received Feb. 24.

"The following is text of a memorandum of the Executive Director of the War Refugee Board which was unanimously approved at a Board meeting on February 20:

'Memorandum to Secretary Stettinius, Secretary Morgenthau and Secretary Stimson.

Our best information indicated that while the enemy has abandoned wholesale extermination of detainees large numbers of the physically unfit are now in imminent danger of death due to starvation, exposure and deliberate neglect. The actual numbers are unknown and are believed to be changing daily.

Food, medicines and clothing must be distributed to such detainees at once if their lives are to be saved. They should be removed if possible to safety in Switzerland without unnecessary delay.

The International Red Cross is our only means of direct contact with the camps. Operations can best be conducted from Switzerland.

The WRB is requested to authorize its representative to obtain the necessary cooperation of the ICRC and the Swiss Government.

The WRB is further requested to approve that the necessary food, medicines, transportation equipment be made available to the ICRC by the Swiss Government against our promise of repayment or replenishment after the war. It is understood that private funds are available for the necessary financing.'

Signed: William O'Dwyer, Executive Director
Approved: Joseph C. Grew, Acting Secretary of State
" H. Morgenthau Jr. Secretary of Treasury
" Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War.

You will note that the program envisages (1) furnishing food and other relief through the ICRC to physically unfit unassimilated detainees who are within enemy controlled territory, and (2) their removal by the ICRC to safety in Switzerland as soon as possible.

The Executive Director of the Board plans to go to Switzerland in the near future in connection with the forementioned program. In the meantime you are requested to do the following immediately:

and partly upon the incidents with which the War Refugee Board in Washington pursues the matter. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regard possibilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

WRB
OF R. McLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

Truck 2 pow
std h. situation

COPY

ICRC packages for concentration
camps.

* Inside re: trucks

(2)

(1) Explore the availability in Switzerland of food and other relief supplies as well as transportation equipment. Please advise the Board the Department at once whether relief trucks are permitted to move from Switzerland to German controlled areas and return to Switzerland for reloading of supplies;

(2) Approach the ICRC with a view to obtaining their consent to deliver the relief supplies in enemy territory and to organize and effectuate the removal of detainees to Switzerland.

(3) If the Currie Mission concurs please approach the Swiss Government for the purpose of obtaining its consent (A) to make available to ICRC now the necessary supplies and equipment for the foregoing relief and evacuation program and (B) to admit all detainees who reach Swiss borders and house and maintain them under guard until we are able to arrange for their evacuation to Allied territory. You may assure the Swiss that this Government will arrange for the replenishment from outside of all supplies made available by the Swiss for this purpose and compensation for use of equipment. Please report all developments to Department and Board."

in the case of circumstances
except in other groups of alien detainees.

WAB

DR R. McQUELLAN

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German
Areas Jan-Mar 1945

*Truck & power
of p. question*

COPI

*ICRC packages for concentration
camps.*

** See inside re: trucks*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: SECSTATE WASHINGTON Date: February 24, 1945
on the above policy and we would hope would not rebound to the detriment
Code: clear No. 85
of relief is possible for both American and allied prisoners the special
Received: Feb. 26, 1945 4PM
SUBJECT: Message from Ameross Washington for Ameross Geneva

NYT

AMERICAN CONSUL GENEVA

GENEVA

85 Twentyfourth for Ameross McDonald quote SW1168 see Interross cable
1479 to Interross Washington only you James and Interross can gauge the
internal transportation picture however the confusion of January and first
half February may well be followed by a period of reorganized relative
calm during which Germany's moral obligation to cooperate by itself fur-
nishing transportation should not be relinquished too quickly and every
effort should be made by the Germans to sustain the good transport record
of the past four years besides projected rail shuttle service to Moosburg
could not the German railroad authorities also furnish several solid trains
to shuttle to other centers in Germany provided of course that railway
conditions permit through traffic then anything done on truck angle (pro-
vided approved by Shaeff) at terminal rail points with German American
Canadian Swiss or Swedish autotrucks will effectively increase radius of
distribution suggest you maintain telephonic communication with Whisler
who has ideas for utilization of autotrucks from Sweden although we realize
Interross must have discretion in pooling shipments where circumstances
require and must meet various unusual situations as they arise our primary
responsibility is still to provide for Americans as nearly as possible
weekly food parcels the large program of allied relief which we have

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WAB

Dr. R. McLELLAN

(Switzerland)

*Camps in Germany and Germany
have taken since 1945*

*and finally upon the insistence with which the War Relie
Board in Washington pursued the matter. It also naturally
appeals on developments inside Germany as regard fac-
ilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration
camps or other groups of civil detainees.*

CASE FILE

Truck question

RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

strongly supported with supplies from this side has always been predicted on the above policy and we would hope would not rebound to the detriment of our prisoners our inmutable goal is still to carry out the full program of relief if possible for both American and Allied prisoners the special transport reserve is available for any measures taken to achieve this end -

Amercross unquote - from McClelland for WFP. Reference Legation's No. 455 of January 22, No. 744 of February 2 and No. 1153 of February 22.

CHIEF ACTING

I had occasion to discuss present situation in Germany of "Schutzhaftlinge" and Jewish deportees with Dr. Marti, chief ICRC delegate from Berlin on February 19.

814.2
mp

3 copies to Mr. James
1 copy to Am. Leg. Bern

It appears that the Nazis are evacuating concentration camp inmates and regrouping them in two general areas: between Luebeck and Hamburg (with headquarters located at concentration camp of Neuengamme near Hamburg) and Danzig, with headquarters at camp of Dachau. Conditions of frightful already existing in Neuengamme and Dachau according to Dr. Marti, and conscripts who are almost all in very poor physical condition from prolonged undernourishment and mistreatment arrive in a state of utter exhaustion after

Mac Godley called me on Thurs. afternoon to state that actually there were only 48 U.S. trucks available here in Switzerland each of a weight of from 7 to 8 tons and burning about 50 liters of gas per 100 kilometers. Of Canadian Red Cross trucks there 50 available, each of only 5 tons and burning from 40 to 45 liters of gas per 100 kilometers, therefore much less efficient than the American trucks. cooperate with ICRC repeatedly since January and of general RDMcC. (March 1st.)

Relief parcels for Hamburg area could come from stocks at Goeteborg where some 225 thousand of our parcels are still stocked. Parcels for Danzig region could be trucked from Switzerland over this comparatively short route. Unloaded from Caritas II during January we have 1000 parcels at present in Toulon, against which arrangements to borrow these parcels in Switzerland could be discussed with ICRC.

As regards reception of parcels, situation in Danzig is essentially the same as that of direct shipments due to impossibility for ICRC to obtain adequate transportation, although parcels are less liable to damage in general in better physical condition. I will continue

and parcels upon the insistence with which the War Refugee Board in Washington pursues the matter. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regard facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

WAB

McClelland

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany

of Amross, Geneva, (see his 6116 for Amross, Washington of February 16) that he has also made a strong plea for trucks if effective relief is to be brought to pows streaming in from east to assembly camps in Luebeck-Hamburg and Nurenberg-Kassel areas.

I take the liberty, in view of urgency of this critical situation, of renewing my request that WRB either arrange to place at my disposal four or five trucks for ICRC or if this impractical authorize me to attempt to acquire them in Switzerland. In the latter case, Swiss army would doubtless request guarantee of replacement within reasonable time of at least tires if not trucks themselves before they would permit vehicles for use in Germany to leave Switzerland. From amounts granted ICRC for pow trucks, small amount of fuel and oil could be made available.

It is recommended that prompt and serious consideration be given to this request as there are only a few weeks, or at most months, remaining in which effective action can be taken. As requested in your recent telegram, positive action of this character would serve to implement activities by Swiss officials and ICRC.

HARRISON

RDMcG/dw
In duplicate to Files.

Copies in FA

ICRC & all competent Swiss authorities both military & otherwise had a meeting in Bern last week where truck question (availability in S/Gland) was discussed thoroughly. Swiss army reps. stated - army had barely 1500 trucks available in all of which some 357 were laid up for lack of tires. Swiss A. further stated that it had been exceedingly difficult for them to equip 12 trucks with tires to haul Swiss goods across France. Unless, therefore, tires (2 secondarily fuel) are made available Swiss army will absolutely refuse to allow trucks out into Germany. They also probably have to be guaranteed replacements. (Communication of Schwarzenberg of ICRC on Tues. Feb 27th).

and surely upon the insistence of the War Relocation Board in Washington previous the matter. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regard facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

*WRB
GENERAL SECRETARY
DR R. McLELLAN
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
First International Relief*

Union O.K.

CASE FILE

Berlin reaction WRB
to many affairs

TELEGRAM SENT

To: London

(C.L.)

Date: February 26, 1945, 10 p.m.

No: 645

Code: ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Charged to:

Paraphrase

For George Backer OWI, Please relay to Carroll from Mayer. The following information comes from Norsk:

A sensation was caused in Berlin by the news of Musy Himmler negotiations and the ensuing liberation of a number of Jews. It is believed in Berlin that several leading Nazis are considering approaching the Allies with offer to exchange political prisoners for a guarantee of their own security. Nazi circles have strongly criticized Himmler's actions. A protest letter was sent to both Hitler and Himmler by friends of Julius Streicher. SA Gruppenführer Hildebrandt, one of the litter's signatories, has since been arrested. Nobody has dared to date to accuse Himmler of trying to gain popularity outside the Reich, but several high Nazis of the Himmler school have sharply condemned these arrangements which could be interpreted outside Germany as signs of weakness. So far, Himmler himself has refrained from discussing the matter. Simultaneously other Nazis, including reportedly Goering and Franck, have suggested to Hitler that as a "grand gesture of Germanic greatness" a large number of political prisoners be released. Goering maintained, in talks with foreigners, that he is responsible for this initiative.

For failing to fulfill duties, four German prison camp commanders have been courtmartialled. Reportedly, one intentionally allowed prisoners to escape during the evacuation of his camp from Western Poland. All four of these commanders were denounced by Nazi "officers for cultural affairs" who were attached to the respective camps. Frequently Gestapo agents, these officers are directly under Gestapo control. Thousands of prisoners, mostly Poles and British, managed to escape during the general confusion prevailing both during the evacuation of prisoners and after their arrival in reception areas. Also, there are hundreds of British and American prisoners who escaped from train

SECRETARY GENERAL'S OFFICE
840.1 JEWIS IN EUROPE

WLB
OF R. MCGLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
1945

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

US OF THIS INFORMATION...
the party and the...
Board in...
agencies on...
lities of...
camps or other groups of...
detainees.

during bombing and who are hiding out in the area between Berlin and Leipzig.

In the Berlin area defense preparations continue. They depress the population as Berliners now realize that what is still left of their city will be transformed into ruins before the Nazis finally lay down their arms. Fortification works are now being build west of the capital in the Potsdam-Nauen sector. Evacuation of government and party offices to southern Germany is continuing in spite of Nazi assurances to the contrary. Certain industries are even being partly transferred elsewhere.

An anti-Nazi communist committee has been arrested in the Dahlem area. The committee called itself the "Berlin Liberation Council" which inasmuch as it only represented a few hundred persons in the neighborhood was somewhat presumptuous.

HARRISON

GMM/aw
Copy to AI
Copy to WRB
In duplicate to Files.

ALL INFORMATION FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WAB
GENERAL DIRECTOR
OF P. McALELLAN
(Sawyerland)
Camps in Germany and German
Prison Administration 1945

us of this memorandum which I plan to dispatch to the
and mostly upon the information with which the War Reloading
Board in Washington pursues the matter. It also naturally
depends on developments inside Germany as regard fac-
ilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration
camps or other groups of civil detainees.

Rec'd from ICRC Feb. 27*



Communiqué No 263 b

(C.I.)

Geneva, February 26, 1945

PRESIDENCY OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS

M. Carl J. Burckhardt, who has been appointed Swiss Minister in Paris, will unfortunately be unable, for the duration of his mission, to carry out his duties as President of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva. Professor Max Huber has in consequence expressed his willingness to act, in a temporary capacity, as President of the Committee.

MM. Jacques Chenevière and Albert Lombard have been elected Vice-Presidents.

first, for diplomatic reasons, the truck deliveries to POWs must get under way.

In a short cable which I received yesterday the WRB and Department of State bring up Mr. "Tangle Toes" question: namely, how many of the "Schutzhaftlinge" could be considered as working for Germany's war effort. I think we can interpret this as working directly for the Nazi war machine, such as in munitions plants, and the like. You will also note in the WRB's memorandum that they speak of special relief to "unfit unassimilated detainees." Will it be practically possible to limit relief to the unfit only? I wonder. It will boil down to the old question of the "lesser of two evils": keep people alive with small amounts of food which certainly will not directly benefit the Germans but at the same time keep people alive who are contributing slightly to the German war effort. I would vote for keeping them alive.

With best regards and hoping to see you soon.

Cordially yours,

In a preliminary answer to the cable informing us of this memorandum which I plan to dispatch to the... depends on developments inside Germany as regard facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

RECEIVED PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

RECEIVED PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
OF R. MACLELLAN
Switzerland
Camps in Germany and Germany
1945

ICRC packages
for con. camps

(C.L.)

LEGATION.

Bern, February 28, 1945.

Dear Professor Borchardt:

Dear Dr. de Schwarzenberg:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a letter which was sent to Professor Borchardt this afternoon concerning the desire of the Department of State and of the War Refugee Board that extraordinary action be taken by the ICRC, if possible, in behalf of unassimilated civil detainees in Germany. I shall hope to be able to talk this matter over with you as well as soon as I return to Geneva. Meanwhile I am anxious that you be "au courant" of this matter and special request, I am happy to see that the WRB is really "up on its feet" and I think we shall get full cooperation from them, particularly in the all important truck question. But first, for diplomatic reasons, the truck deliveries to pows must get under way.

In a short cable which I received yesterday the WRB and Department of State bring up Mr. "Tangle Toes" question: namely, how many of the "Schutzhäftlinge" could be considered as working for Germany's war effort. I think we can interpret this "as working directly" for the Nazi war machine, such as in munitions plants, and the like. You will also note in the WRB's memorandum that they speak of special relief to "unfit unassimilated detainees." Will it be practically possible to limit relief to the unfit only? I wonder. It will boil down to the old question of the "lesser of two evils:" keep people alive with small amounts of food which certainly will not directly benefit the Germans but at the same time keep people alive who are contributing slightly to the German war effort. I would vote for keeping them alive.

With best regards and hoping to see you soon.

Cordially yours,

In a preliminary answer to the cable informing us of this memorandum which I plan to dispatch to the Board in Washington pursue the matter. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regard facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

814.2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. MCLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German...

ICRC packages for
concentration camps

WAR
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAN
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and Germany
from 1944-1945

In connection with the question of the work of
Department of State and the War Refugee Board this
afternoon I plan to point out that the primary difficulty
facing us is not one of food stocks available in
Switzerland but rather one of means of transport.
Regarding supplies Dr. de Schwarzenberg informed us
yesterday that 20,000 2 1/2 mile War Refugee Board
parcels for unassimilated detainees were recently
arrived in Geneva Area Office. **Born, February 28, 1945.**
These parcels will be shipped to Switzerland. These parcels
already 100 tons of relief supplies. If further stocks
are available we can ship 200,000 War Refugee Board
parcels which are still at Geneva (in Stock) however for
shipment. With reference to the Minister's letter of
February 16th, as well as to our recent correspondence
and in particular to the urgent question of increased
relief to civil detainees in Germany, I am pleased to
communicate to you the text of a confidential memo-
randum drawn up by the War Refugee Board on February
20th, and submitted to and approved by the Acting
Secretary of State, Mr. Grew, the Secretary of the
Treasury, Mr. Morgenthau and the Secretary of War, Mr.
Stimson. The substance of this memorandum is as
follows:

Dear Professor Bueckhardt:

The best information available to
the War Refugee Board indicates that while
the Germans have abandoned the wholesale
extermination of civil detainees large
numbers of the physically unfit are now in
imminent danger of death due to starvation,
exposure and deliberate neglect. The actual
numbers are unknown and are believed to be
changing daily.

The best information available to
the War Refugee Board indicates that while
the Germans have abandoned the wholesale
extermination of civil detainees large
numbers of the physically unfit are now in
imminent danger of death due to starvation,
exposure and deliberate neglect. The actual
numbers are unknown and are believed to be
changing daily.

The International Committee of the Red
Cross is our only means of direct contact
with the camps and other places where such
detainees are located. Operations can best
be conducted from Switzerland."

You will note that this proposed program en-
visages (1) the furnishing of food and other relief
supplies through the International Red Cross to
physically unfit unassimilated detainees who are still
in German controlled areas, and (2) their removal by
the International Committee from Germany to safety in
Switzerland as soon as possible. I shall therefore
take the liberty of discussing these two points in
this order.

In a preliminary answer to the cable informing
us of this memorandum which I plan to dispatch to the
Board in Washington permit me to say that the
Board is particularly anxious to know the
details on developments inside Germany as regard fac-
ilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration
camps or other groups of civil detainees.

614-2 I.R.C. PACKAGES FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS

In connection with the question of the entry of Department of State and the War Refugee Board this afternoon I plan to point out that the primary difficulty facing us is not one of food stocks available in Switzerland but rather one of means of transport. Regarding supplies Dr. de Schwarzenberg informed me yesterday that 20,000 2 1/2 kilo War Refugee Board parcels for unassimilated detainees have recently arrived in Geneva from Toulon where another 40,000 await shipment to Switzerland. These two lots comprise already 160 tons of relief supplies. If further stocks are necessary (not counting some 220,000 WRB parcels which are still at GSteberg in Sweden), however, for shipment from Switzerland to "Schutzhäftlinge" in Germany it is not excluded that the War Refugee Board in Washington could obtain the release from the American Red Cross of a certain number of prisoner-of-war parcels which are now stocked in Switzerland, as you know, in quantities far in excess of the number which can be actually shipped into Germany under prevailing transport conditions.

You will have noted that the Department of State and in our answer to Washington I plan to particularly stress the urgent and tragic lack of transport equipment and the necessity of solving this by making available to the International Committee a certain number of motor trucks - a matter which has been drawn to the War Refugee Board's attention on several occasions in the past and most recently about a week ago. Any plan for making trucks available to the International Committee for unassimilated groups, however, must naturally be coordinated with the availability of trucks (and fuel) for forwarding relief to Allied prisoners-of-war. To this end I am maintaining close contact with our Legation's Section of American Interests and with Mr. James of the American Red Cross and am acquainted with the latest report of Mr. Wassmer of your Committee submitted to our Legation this morning. As you are aware this matter, particularly the question of obtaining fuel from American Army sources in Marseille for the operation of trucks, is being actively examined with our military authorities in France. And it is my understanding that Mr. James is returning this evening from a visit to Paris where he has also discussed this problem. It is their feeling that a request for the release of civil detainees unfit for work (which would be at the same time my intention to recommend to the War Refugee Board that a small number of trucks (a number which might best be set at a certain percentage of those available for prisoners-of-war, for instance 5% or 1 truck for each 20) be made available to the International Committee for the transport of relief supplies to civil detainees ("Schutzhäftlinge") as distinct from prisoners-of-war, that is, for the use of your Committee's "Division d'Assistance Special," rather than for the "Division des Secours." How soon these trucks can be made available for unassimilated detainees depends partly on how rapidly a truck delivery scheme for prisoners-of-war can be put into operation and partly upon the insistence with which the War Refugee Board in Washington pursues the matter. It also naturally depends on developments inside Germany as regard facilities of circulation and accessibility of concentration camps or other groups of civil detainees.

WRB
 GENERAL COORDINATION
 Dr. R. MIDDLELAND
 (Switzerland)
 Camps in Germany and Germany

In connection with the question of the entry of trucks into Germany the Department of State and the War Refugee Board would much appreciate knowing whether trucks of the International Committee will be permitted to move from Switzerland into Germany carrying supplies for civil detainees and return at certain intervals to Switzerland for reloading.

Throughout this letter I have taken for granted that the International Committee is in principle willing to undertake this proposed extraordinary delivery of relief supplies to unassimilated groups in Germany. Perhaps, however, I am jumping to too large a conclusion and I would therefore welcome, in the light of the desire of the Department of State and of the War Refugee Board that the consent in principle of the International Committee be obtained for such a special program, an expression of your opinion on this score. I have, nevertheless, no reason to doubt what the Committee's answer will be.

Roswell D. McClelland

You will have noted that the Department of State and the War Refugee Board, under point (2), make another proposal concerning the feasibility of which I am less certain. In their memorandum to the Secretaries of State, Treasury and War, the Board expresses the hope that the International Committee of the Red Cross will be able to organize the removal from Germany to safety in Switzerland of physically unfit civil detainees. At the present time the German authorities, at least to my knowledge, have not - outside of the Masy affair - expressed or implied a willingness to release civil detainees unsuited for labor, although such a turn of events in view of the psychological confusion reigning in Germany is certainly not to be excluded, not to speak of the internal transport and food situation. Obtaining such an agreement from the German authorities has a most close and important connection with your projected interview with H. without whose consent such removal would doubtless be impossible. The Department of State and the War Refugee Board therefore have the greatest interest in your planned mission and would welcome information concerning any further developments in regard to this matter which you might feel you could communicate to them. It is their feeling that a request for the release of civil detainees unfit for work (which would certainly have a greater chance of success than asking for persons capable of physical labor) should be made in any negotiations with H. and the German Government.

The purely Swiss aspect of the acceptance on Swiss territory of such civil detainees should they be released by the Germans will naturally at the appropriate time be made the subject of special diplomatic representations on the part of our Government to the Government of Switzerland accompanied by the necessary guarantees concerning maintenance and evacuation.

In closing allow me to thank you warmly for your frank and sincere letter of February 22nd, from which I was very happy to learn that your Government had agreed to grant you four weeks grace to enable you to continue

WMB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McCLELLAND
(Switzerland)
Camps in Germany and German Dis...

devoting your full attention, at this particularly critical moment, to the important duties of running the International Committee of the Red Cross.

If it is agreeable to you I shall take the liberty of calling to personally discuss with you the various points raised in this letter at the end of this week when I am back in Geneva. Would some time in the course of Saturday next be convenient? I should be most appreciative if perhaps your secretary could call and let me know. If not, then possibly we can make it Monday, March 5th.

With kind personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Professor Carl J. Bueckhardt
President of the International
Committee of the Red Cross,
Hôtel Métropole, Geneva.

Handwritten notes on the left margin, including circled numbers 3, 6, 7, 8 and various illegible scribbles.

Handwritten notes on the right margin, including circled numbers 1, 2, 3 and illegible text.

Vertical handwritten notes on the right edge of the page, including "McClelland" and "Camps in Germany and German..."

① Are there really any reasons (above & beyond human affairs) for believing Nazis are willing to release SA, including Jews in general?

Schirmer's recent reports
Est-ce un état de fait?

② If not can ICRC try at least to secure access & relief delivery to larger categories of SA, incl. Jews?
Nazis generally exclude letters specifically: B-B, Landsberg & Austrian Camps & Theresienstadt.

③ Attitude of Dulles on truck question. Return of deportees. Technical side

④ I should be in a position to inform my Gov. exactly what to press on so we can help. Will he negotiate only if it's in our interest?

⑤ Will Germans accord free entry of trucks in large nos. as a technical important point. from Red?

⑥ US Gov is in demand for all incl. Jews & not in belief any specific nationality

⑦ Is ICRC willing & ready to undertake such an extraordinary program?

⑧ Murray - Sternbrich } Where are these now
Recher - SM } > 55 pt.
v. v. v.

German's sent a note on Sat to ICRC stating P would allow out women children & old people of French nationality & also hope to obtain Belgians.

James states P. you can only be used for Jews. To what extent?

Rattenbunmer at meeting. Chief for Camps. Probably head of expression.

French not showing comprehension.

But must P apply to all persons possessing fr. nationality.

If Dulles's health allows he may be present at meeting. Said Suisse intermediary.

Memo to G.M.M. on 7

⑨ Did H. write you, B? Have Germans laid down any conditions in advance? Through Schirmer?

⑩ Does B. wish to see Dulles?

⑪ Question of Swiss reception of such refugees.

⑫ How far je puisse m'engager c'est un aspect du VRS il faut que les juifs soient libérés.

WMB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R. McLELLAND

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and Germany
Areas, Jan - Mar 1945

WAB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

OF R. McCLELLAND

(Switzerland)

Camps in Germany and German Occupied Areas, Jan-Mar. 1945

Department. Mr. Schmidt is not only my successor as Director of the Foreign Funds Control of the Treasury Department but he is also a close personal friend and you may feel free to discuss frankly with him any War Refugee Board matters which may be raised. I shall deeply appreciate any assistance you may be able to give to Mr. Schmidt while he is in Switzerland.

With personal regards and congratulations on the excellent job you are doing, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Representative,
American Legation,
Bern, Switzerland.

WR73 - file

WHITE HOUSE
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



January 27, 1945

Mr. Schmidt will introduce to you Mr. Orvis A. Schmidt of Switzerland as a representative of the Treasury Department.

