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UNITED NATIONS | NATIONS UNIES

Social Matters
Relief and Rehabilitation

FILE NUMBER / NO. DU DOSSIER

SO 535

Clear PAL 25/2/16

S.G.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE

REPORTS OF SECRETARY GENERAL TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

PART
PARTIE

FILE BEGINS Nov. 1956 ENDS July 1957
DOSSIER COMMENCE LE TERMINE LE

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SO 535 S.G.

CR. 37 (5-55)

FOR CONNECTED FILES SEE INSIDE COVER
POUR LES DOSSIERS CONNEXES VOIR AU VERSO

CONFIDENTIAL

Two joint appeals

issued on 30 November 1956 a joint appeal to Governments and non-governmental organizations for ~~re-settlement offers and for financial contributions to meet the minimum needs of 60,000 Hungarian refugees expected to remain in Austria during the following six months. The financial target of this appeal was set at $10,000,000.~~ assistance to Hungarian refugees. A further joint appeal, authorized by the same resolution and by resolution 1039 (XI) was issued on 11 March 1957. Governments were requested in these appeals to provide financial assistance and opportunities for resettlement.

DICTATED

4. In accordance with General Assembly Resolution 1039 (XI) of 23 January 1957, the High Commissioner for Refugees submitted to the UNREF Executive Committee at its fourth session a comprehensive assessment of the needs of the Hungarian refugees in both Austria and Yugoslavia. The estimates of future expenditure contained in these documents were noted with appreciation by the Executive Committee, which authorized the High Commissioner, in consultation with the Secretary-General, to use them as the basis for any further appeals that they might consider necessary.

5. On 11 March 1957 the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner issued a further appeal for re-settlement offers and financial contributions. It was estimated that the further financial contributions required until the end of 1957 amounted to $23,153,435.

6. ~~Up to 1 June 1957, 46 countries and many private organizations had responded to these appeals.~~ (a) ~~Financial contributions amounting to $10,797,365.44, including the estimated value of contributions in kind, had been promised or paid to the Secretary-General or the Office of the High Commissioner. 144,917 Hungarian refugees from Austria and 4,439 refugees from Yugoslavia had been admitted to countries of second asylum.~~

(a) As at 1 June 1957

(b) As at 1 June 1957

7. ~~The financial response to these appeals represents only part of the international expenditure on behalf of Hungarian refugees, the majority of which was incurred for the reception and integration of refugees in countries of resettlement.~~ No overall figure is available, but the total expenditure made or anticipated for this purpose is known to reach many millions of dollars. ~~In addition large sums were spent~~ (c) In addition, large sums were spent for the transportation of refugees, the

Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration expected to have received by the end of 1957 approximately $15,000,000 from 28 countries, while several governments paid the full cost of transporting refugees to their territory. Finally, bi-lateral assistance paid or promised directly to the Austrian Government by other governments, amounted to almost $8,500,000.

Co-ordination of emergency aid

8. In accordance with Resolution 1006 (ES II), the co-ordination of arrangements for emergency assistance to refugees from Hungary was undertaken by the Office of the High Commissioner. A Co-ordinating Committee was established in Geneva, including representatives of the United States Escapee Program administration, the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration, the International Red Cross, the League of Red Cross Societies and other voluntary agencies working for refugees. The provision of emergency aid within Austria was co-ordinated by the High Commissioner's Branch Office in conjunction with the Austrian Ministry of the Interior. Within Yugoslavia the distribution of relief supplies is carried out by the Yugoslav Red Cross under the direction of a special Co-ordinating Committee with the High Commissioner's representative as Chairman, and including representatives of the Yugoslav Government and Yugoslav Red Cross.

9. Emergency aid supplied by voluntary agencies played an essential part in the reception of refugees, particularly in Austria, and supplementary assistance has also been given to refugees both in camps and in private accommodation. Food, clothing, blankets and medical supplies were delivered in large quantities at a cost believed to amount to several million dollars.

Re-settlement

10. The re-settlement of Hungarian refugees from both Austria and Yugoslavia was organized by the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration (ICEM).

It is estimated by ICEM that existing re-settlement quotas will allow all except eight to ten thousand Hungarian refugees to leave Austria by 31 December 1957. The remaining group will consist largely of refugees who wish to stay in Austria or who cannot be re-settled ~~to~~ in other countries. It is also estimated that 6,200 refugees who wish to emigrate will be compelled to remain in Yugoslavia unless further re-settlement opportunities are made available to them.

Repatriation

12. Repatriation missions from Hungary, accompanied by an observer from the Office of the High Commissioner, have visited camps and centres throughout Austria and Yugoslavia to interview refugees seeking repatriation. ~~Up~~ As at ~~to~~ 1 June 1957, 4,713 Hungarian refugees had been repatriated directly from Austria and 2,327 from Yugoslavia. In addition it was known that more than 2,300 Hungarian refugees had been repatriated from countries of second asylum.

13. The High Commissioner has also interceded with certain governments to facilitate the payment of transportation charges for refugees desiring repatriation but without the necessary funds to reach the borders of their country of origin.

Care and maintenance

14. The responsibility for providing care and maintenance to the Hungarian refugees in Austria and Yugoslavia was assumed by the two governments concerned.

15. A notable international contribution was, however, made by the League of Red Cross Societies, which undertook to provide food, clothing and medical care to the refugees in certain designated camps in Austria. This operation, carried out by teams of specialists from national Red Cross Societies, was progressively extended to include all camps with a capacity of more than 500 refugees. Although considerable financial help was given by the Office of

the High Commissioner, the majority of the expense entailed has been borne by the League of Red Cross Societies and the national Red Cross Societies.

~~15.~~ In Yugoslavia the League of Red Cross Societies, in conjunction with the Yugoslav Red Cross, ~~has undertaken~~ undertook to supply basic foods, clothing and medical supplies for up to 17,000 refugees. Responsibility for the distribution of these supplies ~~has been~~ was assumed by the Yugoslav Red Cross.

Long-term needs

~~16.~~ ~~It has been found that~~ Besides the basic needs for accommodation and care and maintenance, ~~there are~~ certain other needs of the Hungarian refugees ~~which should~~ had to be met. In particular it ~~has been~~ was found essential to withdraw unattached young refugees from the social and moral dangers of camp life while they are awaiting emigration or integration. This problem is being met by certain long-term projects at present being implemented in Austria, under which counsellors and case-workers are helping the refugees, scholarships are being given for young refugees and a preliminary study is being made of a housing programme.

~~17.~~ A permanent solutions programme costing $3,500,000 was approved by the UNREF Executive Committee at its fifth session. This programme is designed both to meet the long-term needs of refugees in Austria awaiting emigration, particularly young refugees, and to assist the integration of those refugees who wish to remain in Austria or who cannot be re-settled in other countries.

Further assistance required

~~18.~~ The response to the joint appeals of the Secretary-General and the Office of the High Commissioner, together with bi-lateral assistance to the Austrian Government have met a large part of the financial needs. ~~Further~~ As at 15 June 1957, it was estimated that further financial contributions amounting to approximately $6,000,000 ~~are, however,~~ were ~~still~~ required, principally to meet the expenditure of the Yugoslav Government

on behalf of Hungarian refugees and to finance the permanent solutions programme for Hungarian refugees in Austria. There ~~is~~ was also an urgent need ~~of~~ for further re-settlement opportunities for 6,200 Hungarian refugees in Yugoslavia.

INFO. COPY

Action To: TAYLOR

File No.

RECORDS CONTROL

~~S0535/1 ICRC~~

25 JUN 1957

17 JUN 1957

37 GENEVA 66 17 1433Z

P1/50

UNATIONS NY

S0 535 -SG

CONFD.

UNGVA 1280 TAYLOR FROM ODEZ REFERENCE ANNEX TO LETTER OF FOURTEEN JUNE FROM ICRC POUCHED TO YOU ON SAME DATE STOP ICRC HAS JUST INDICATED THAT PARAGRAPH SIX OF CHAPTER QUOTE SOURCES DES DONS UNQUOTE SHOULD BE CORRECTED TO MEAN THAT AMOUNTS MENTIONED UNDER PARAGRAPH FOUR INCLUDE RELIEF

P2/16

PROVIDED BY UNICEF BUT NOT REPEAT NOT RELIEF PROVIDED BY FAO SOP

PLEASE MAKE APPROPRIATE CORRECTIONS

CFM== 1280

UNITED NATIONS
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CONTROL

S0535

12 JUN 1957

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TO. Taylor

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☑ Action Completed

Initials K. W. J.

Return to Registry Section
(Room 2074)

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SO 535

RECORDS CONTROL

24 May 1957

CONFIDENTIAL

29 MAY 1957

Dear Pierre:

Further to my letter of 9 May in which I raised the question of a final report on humanitarian assistance to the Hungarian people, which I have again discussed the question at some length with Mr. de Seynes, and have obtained his decision on a number of points.

Mr. de Seynes now feels that it may be possible to avoid the submission of a special report to the General Assembly by including the necessary elements in the annual report of the Secretary-General on the work of the organization. At any rate, we have to prepare a section for inclusion in the report in the very near future. After it has been prepared and seen by Mr. de Seynes, he will discuss ~~it~~ with the Secretary-General ~~'s and~~ whether a special "final" report to the General Assembly is still needed.

Turning therefore to the Secretary-General's report. This year, it will include a special chapter on Hungary, as well as one on the Middle East. The chapter on Hungary will include three sections, on (a) the Security Council and General Assembly debates; (b) the political reports; and (c) humanitarian assistance to the Hungarian people. My proposals concerning the type of material to be included in this section, which Mr. de Seynes approved, and a draft table of contents with which he expressed tentative agreement, are enclosed. The High Commissioner's Office in Geneva has already prepared the second part of this section dealing with refugees, which seems to me to be generally satisfactory, although they will have to add a new sub-section on references to non-UN ~~acts~~ action in conformity with my second proposal.

Mr. Pierre Obez
Liaison Officer for Relief to the
Hungarian People
Palais Nations
Geneva,
SWITZERLAND

With regard to the part dealing with relief, we will of course have to rely heavily on the ICRC for the necessary material. We already have this material from them on point 1 (c) of the outline, but need to have more up-to-date general information on points 2, 4 (a) and (c) and, if they have it, on point 5 (b) of the outline.

Under point 2, we would like to have a general summary of the main sources and types of aid contributed to or channeled through the ICRC, i.e. totals of cash contributions from inter-governmental, governmental, Red Cross and other NGO sources respectively, and total contributions in kind from the same sources with a general indication of their nature. We do <u>not</u>, for this purpose, want to have a detailed listing of governmental and non-governmental cash contributions and supplies.

The material for point 4 (a) would have to be prepared entirely by ICRC, and will no doubt be the high light of the section. Point 4 (b) could perhaps be merged with this.

The ICRC would also have some information to give on point 4 (c) and their suggestions (particularly with regard to any references to be made to the Dutch-seed potatoes!) would be welcome.

Finally, we would appreciate any general information ICRC may be able to provide about point 5 (b) of the outline which they feel we could use in a guarded manner. (We know that sizable aid has been directly distributed from such sources.)

For your guidance, the refugee section (which you may like to try and obtain from the High Commissioner's Office - since we have no extra copies available here) is only about five pages at present although it may finally be about six or seven pages. The section on relief will naturally have to be roughly in proportion to this. It follows that the description of the relief action will have to be very general in nature and designed to summarize clearly and concisely the most important elements.

As you know, the Secretary-General's report covers the period 16 June 1956 to 15 June 1957. It should not be difficult to give a more or less final picture of ICRC's relief operations in Hungary, even though they will continue for two weeks beyond the period covered by the report.

I hope that it is not too much to ask you to try and obtain this material and send it to us by 10 June, since it will naturally require some further work and integration with the rest of the material being prepared here, and since even this will be beyond the normal deadline for the submission of contributions to the annual report. I might add, by way of explanation, that I had not mentioned this before because I was working on the assumption that we would have to prepare a special final report to the General Assembly before we would see what would be extracted for the annual report. I delayed asking for material for the latter document to the present time for this reason. I hope this isn't asking too much of you and the ICRC people, but I am sure you will realize that their information and help is indispensable. With kind regards

Yours sincerely,

K. W. Taylor
Office of Relief to the
Hungarian People

P.S. The Israeli delegation would still be interested to know whether their supplies have been received by ICRC and if they have been transported and distributed without any major problems.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE

Annual report of the Secretary-General
on the work of the Organization

Proposals:

1. The report should deal with both relief and refugees under the heading "humanitarian assistance to the Hungarian people", (to reflect the total response to the need, which did not distinguish clearly between relief and refugees).

2. The report should cover all such assistance, whether channelled through the United Nations or not and whether it be governmental or not (this would not only be in accordance with the facts, but also with the intention of the General Assembly; cf. resolutions 1004 (ES-II), para. 8, and 1129 (XI), para. 3).

3. It would be very general in presentation i.e. no detailed listing of contributions, but round figures or estimates of total aid (because it would be technically impossible to do otherwise, as well as for political reasons, and for reasons of public interest).

..... A draft outline based on these proposals is attached

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE

Draft outline of section for annual report of the Secretary-General

Introduction

Brief résumé of General Assembly action on relief and refugees.

A. Relief to the Hungarian People in Hungary

1. The need for relief:

(a) As foreseen in the Assembly resolutions

(b) As reported by the Hungarian Government (cable)

(c) As seen by the ICRC ("traditional" and "general")

(d) As reported by the joint UN/FAO Mission.

2. Appeal to Governments, specialized agencies and international humanitarian organizations and general indication of response.

3. Agreements between the United Nations and the ICRC designating the latter as its "sole agency", and between the ICRC and the Hungarian Red Cross.

4. International relief programme in Hungary

(a) ICRC traditional relief programme (material to be prepared by ICRC)

(b) Aid furnished by UNICEF

(c) General emergency relief-seed chiefly for spring sowing (based on reports from FAO and ICRC).

5. Direct assistance (very general)

(a) Governmental (mainly Eastern European)

(b) Non-governmental (international trade unions, churches, Swedish Red Cross, etc., probably without mentioning names).

B. Assistance to Hungarian Refugees

1. The influx of refugees.

2. The joint appeals of the Secretary-General and the Office of the High Commissioner.

3. Total international response.

4. Co-ordination of emergency aid.

5. Resettlement.

6. Repatriation.

7. Care and maintenance.

8. Long-term needs.

9. Further assistance required.

PT. 108 (2-53)

UNITED NATIONS • NATIONS UNIES

REFERRAL SHEET

RECORDS CONTROL

28 MAY 1957

FILE REF. 50535 —

TO: Mr. B. Lukac

FROM: Ralph Townley

SUBJECT: Annual report of the Secretary-General on Humanitarian assistance to the Hungarian people

DATE: 1 May 1957

✓ Noted B.L. 1.5.57.

RA

.....

Please look at Mr. Taylor's note, in which he outlines possible ways of reporting on the Hungarian situation in the Secretary-General's report. Mr. de Seynes prefers that it should be either 3(b) or paragraph 4.

* * * * * * *

1 May 1957

I would like to confirm that at this afternoon's meeting convened by Mr. Cordier to discuss the agenda and documentation of the XII General Assembly, the above matter was discussed and, while the idea of having a special chapter for the Hungarian problem in the Secretary-General's report seems not to be acceptable for the present at least, Mr. Cordier agreed to the suggestion I made on the basis of alternative (b) in paragraph 3 of Mr. Taylor's attached note - which had Mr. de Seynes' preference - namely, that the political and humanitarian aspects of the Hungarian question would be treated in the same Section of the Report. However, Mr. Cordier was not able to indicate yet in what particular chapter this would be. As for the refugees, he thought this might be in another part of the Report with a cross-reference in the above-mentioned text. The principle of this solution seems to be in accordance with Mr. de Seynes' wish.

Mr Swiger cross-matter informed Yes.

I would also like to mention on this occasion that the title of item 30/on SUNFED has been amended as suggested by us and now starts with the words: "Economic Development of Under-developed Countries:".

/of the XII G.A.

I also reserved the possibility of submitting a short document of 5 or 6 pages as a general background memorandum on the economic development question, should it appear to be necessary at the end of the 24th ECOSOC in addition to the ECOSOC Report itself. Such a paper would then have to be despatched from Geneva immediately after the end of the Council.

Report to next Directors mtg. in ESA. RT 4.V.57.

Finally, Mr. Cordier once more stressed the importance

PLEASE RETURN TO SENDER WITH YOUR COMMENTS

that, for every preparatory document for the General Assembly, his office should be informed as to who the individual officials responsible for each preparatory document are so that they can easily be contacted at all times for the detailed information usually required by the Documents and Languages Services. He also mentioned that at least several copies (for very long documents, a minimum of two copies) should be submitted for every document so as to speed up the work of the Languages Services, and also that references to source material should always be indicated on the papers. I think it would be useful if these points were brought to the attention of the Units concerned in our Department.

B. Lukač

Branko Lukač.

PT. 108 (2-53)

UNITED NATIONS • NATIONS UNIES

REFERRAL SHEET

TO: Mr. Ralph Townley

FILE REF.

FROM: K. W. Taylor K.W.T.

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Secretary-General: Humanitarian assistance to the Hungarian people.

DATE: 30 April 1957

1. The Department of Political and Security Council Affairs takes the position that there cannot be a special chapter on the situation in Hungary but that the political aspects at least should be described in a section of Chapter I on Political and Security Questions.

2. Miss Aline Cohn feels that the High Commissioner's Office would not object to an overall treatment of the Hungarian situation, including humanitarian assistance which, in turn, would include assistance to Hungarian refugees, provided that the High Commissioner's action would still ~~have to~~ be mentioned in their section of the report.

3. Although I still feel that it would be artifical to separate the political and the humanitarian aspects of the situation in Hungary, it is difficult to see how it can be avoided. If it is to be avoided, there would be only two alternatives: (a) To have a special chapter at the beginning of the report, or (b) to describe the humanitarian action in Chapter I on Political and Security Questions. There are however serious technical objections to both of these alternatives, and it would seem that the "operational aspects" of humanitarian assistance at least would have to be described in Chapter II on Economic and Social Developments.

4. The result is as follows: Chapter I on Political and Security Questions would contain a section on "The Situation in Hungary" which would describe the full deliberations of the General Assembly on this problem, including both the political and humanitarian resolutions. With regard to their implementation however, this section would deal only with the political recommendations.X) The implementation of the humanitarian recommendations would be described in Chapter II on Economic and Social Developments, in Section B entitled "Operations in Special Fields". There would be a new sub-Section III entitled "Humanitarian Assistance to the Hungarian People" in which the relief action in Hungary would be described in full and the refugee action would be described in general terms. The details of the refugee action would be left to the High Commissioner to describe in the following sub-section.

PLEASE RETURN TO SENDER WITH YOUR COMMENTS

PT. 108 (2-53)

UNITED NATIONS • NATIONS UNIES

REFERRAL SHEET

29.IV.57.

RECORDS CONTROL
So 535
9 - MAY 1957

TO: Mr. Philippe de Seynes

FILE REF.

FROM: K. W. Taylor K.W.T.

SUBJECT: Annual Report of the Secretary-General: Section on humanitarian assistance.

DATE: 25 April 1957

Bill

Will you please prepare a note for Secy. Gen. on this plse?

1. The Secretary-General's Office has informed me that, at the Secretary-General's meeting on Friday, Mr. Cordier will raise the question of the description of Hungarian relief activities in the next Annual Report of the Secretary-General.

2. The main question he will raise is whether Hungarian relief should be described in the same section as the action taken to implement the General Assembly resolutions on the political situation in Hungary or whether it should be treated quite separately.

* 3. I think it would be artificial to separate the two elements and that the best solution would be a brief section on humanitarian assistance to the Hungarian people immediately following the political section, since this would best reflect the atmosphere in which all ten resolutions were adopted by the General Assembly, when the political and humanitarian aspects were considered either concurrently or consecutively. It might also have the advantage of offsetting, if only to a small degree, the non-implementation of the political recommendations, with an account of the partially effective humanitarian action of the United Nations.

* 4. You may wish to raise at the same time the question of timing of your final report to the General Assembly.

5. I understand that the Special Committee's report will not be ready until the end of May, that it will not be circulated before the middle of June, and that its discussion in the General Assembly, is therefore unlikely to occur, if at all, before the end of June.

Mr de Seynes.

** These two points I raised at a recent meeting with Mr Cordier ~~on~~ I attended on General Assembly matters.

RT 25.IV.57.

Note 29.IV.57.

This was not discussed at this mtg on 26 April but will be discussed at Mr Cordier's mtg on Wed. 1 May. RT.

PLEASE RETURN TO SENDER WITH YOUR COMMENTS

COPY

So 535

15 APR 1957

Annex II

Is this on file? (With neth. letter?)

Technical Details of the Distribution of the seed
Potatoes donated by the Netherlands in Hungary

---

1) Shipments from both the Netherlands and Germany can be made free of charge under the agreement of the respective railways with CICR, provided they are addressed as follows:

Internationales Komite vom Roten Kreuz
Ungarnhilfe Wien VII
Bestimmungsstation: Hegyeshalom

2) Instructions for shipment will beissued by the ICRC Mission in Budapest through their offices in Vienna to the following address:

Mr. KOK, RECOBBA, Den Haag.

3) Cost of rail transport within Hungary will be borne by Hungary.

4) The Hungarian State Railways have committed themselves to handle the railway trucks according to the international agreement and to deliver them back to the Austro-Hungarian border within 14 days.

Time of Delivery

The seed potatoes should leave the Netherlands starting on or about 18 March, packed in light winter package.

Distribution of Seed

1) All transport and distribution costs within Hungary will be borne by Hungary.

2) The seed potatoes will be distributed in the area between the Yugoslavian, Austrian and Czechoslovakian border, the Danube and Lake Balaton, i.e. thefollowing five provinces: Győr-Sopron, Vas, Zala, Komarom and Veszprem.

3) The seed supplies will be distributed to individual farmers, who are deprived of all seed, orhave insufficient or qualitatively inferior supplies.

4) No seeds will be allocated to state farms orproduction cooperatives.

Implementation of the Distribution

All recipients must acknowledge receipt of the seed by signing the distribution lists. These lists contain information regarding the source of the seed, and the destination of the funds collected.

Distribution Method

1) The seed will be sold to farmers and the proceeds transferred to the Hungarian Red Cross for relief work.

2) The revenue from the sales of seed will be deposited in the "blocked account" of the Hungarian Red Cross No. K 95, sub-account "seed action" immediately after the consignment of the seed to the farmers. This account will be at the disposal of the Hungarian Red Cross for relief actions within the country under

the control of the International Committee of the Red Cross. A copy of the agreement between the ICRC and the HRC has already been given to Marejne.

3) In order to accelerate and simplify the distribution, not less than 300 kg and not more than 1200 kg of seed potatoes should be allocated to any one farmer. The seed potatoes should be packed in 50 kg sacks; the selling price will be the uniform preferential price of 80 Forints per 100 kg (free market price to 180 Forints).

Control of Distribution

The control of the seed distribution will be exercised by the ICRC and FAO has agreed to detach the necessary personnel to that organization in order to assist in this control.

12.3.1957

Annex III
Please file

Article in The New York Times, Sunday, 17 March 1957

CONTROL
So 535
15 APR 1957

HUNGARY HINDERS RED CROSS RELIEF

West's Aid Program Revised, Stressing Medical Needs, as Red Bar Truck Shipments.

Vienna, 13 March. Unexpected political and economic pressures have seriously complicated the Red Cross relief effort for the Hungarian People.

These difficulties and the judgment that Hungary's food needs are no longer of an "emergency" nature have resulted in a revision of theWestern relief program for the Soviet-occupied country.

At an appraisal meeting in Geneva earlier this week the International Red Cross Committee decided to end most of its food and clothing shipments. It will henceforth try to relieve shortages of medical supplies and equipment.

The political pressure stems from the Hungarian regime of Janos Kadar, indirect beneficiary of the 19,000 tons of goods setn by theWest in the last four months. The Hungarian Government has closed the frontiers "for always" to Red Cross trucks, and insists that future shipments come by the more expensive routes of rail and river.

Free Rail Moves Ended

This ruling coincided with decisions this week of the Austrian and West German Governments to end the free rail transport of Red Cross goods bound for Hungary. The resulting financial problems increased the urgency of the Geneva meeting.

Actually since 1 Jan. most of the Red Cross supplies have gone by train. Trucks and drivers made available by relief organizations and private Swiss concerns had made supplementary shipments.

The twice-weekly truck convoys were regarded here as symbolic envoys of the West. The white vehicles bearing huge red crosses demonstrated far better than the drab freight cars that help was still rolling in from the West.

This aspect of the overland transports is thought to be the cause of the prohibition against them.

Hungary Prints Photo

Perhaps to justify its ruling, the Hungarian Government published last Saturday in Nepszabad Communist party newspaper, a photograph showing convoy personnel "hiding stolen goods in the folds of a truck canopy."

The Austrian Government notified the Red Cross without warning that it could no longer afford to bear the rail costs of goods from theWest to Vienna and from Vienna to the Hungarian border. Hungary provides free rail transport within her borders. West Germany said she would end her support on 1 April.

Austria said the movement of supplies had thus far cost her 19,000,000 schillings ($760,000). United States officials have been asked to see whether they can raise $500,000 for partial compensation to assureAustria's continued aid.

The International Red Cross Committee, a small group of Swiss nationals, has received food, clothing, medical supplies andother goods from national Red Cross societies and governments but little money for the Hungarian program. This group is separate from the League of Red Cross Societies, a federation that is caring for Hungarian refugees in Austria and Yugoslavia.

At the meeting in Geneva, committee members and Hungarian Red Cross delegates

agreed to the change in the relief effort. The distribution of food parcels to bombed-out families andother needy persons will be continued until June 30. But other food and clothing actions will be supplanted by the medical plan.

It was felt that the food needs of many Hungarians were now rooted basically in the economic conditions of the country itself.

Please file

Bring to Mr. de Seynes attention again for decision on final report following clarification Netherland seed question. 16/IV. K.W.T.

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

See further note dated 23 May 10.IV.57 discussed with Mr. de Seynes.

TO: Mr. Philippe de Seynes, Under-Secretary for Economic and Social Affairs

Date: 10 April 1957

RECORDS CONTROL

FILE NO.: SO 535 K.W.T. 24/IV

FROM: K. W. Taylor K.W.T.

15 APR 1957

SENDER'S TELEPHONE EXTENSION:

SUBJECT: Hungarian relief.

1. This is to inform you of the more important developments which occurred during your absence from Headquarters and to suggest the nature and timing of the final report.

I. Relief

2. We have completed the transfer of U.N. relief funds ($96,747) to the ICRC. We informed the ICRC that part of this amount could be used for transportation of the Dutch seed potatoes through Austria, which recently suspended free transportation of Red Cross relief supplies. A letter to Mr. Boissier, confirming the transfer of funds, is being submitted separately for your approval and signature.

3. The distribution of 7,000 tons of seed barley and oats valued at $1,000,000, donated by the Federal Republic of Germany, has been completed. The proceeds of sale are being placed at the disposal of the ICRC and the Hungarian Red Cross for their relief operations in Budapest and other principal cities. In a letter dated 23 March 1957 to the Secretary-General, Sir Herbert Broadley transmitted the report of the FAO Control Mission which supervised the distribution of these seeds. You will no doubt wish to see this report, which is attached as Annex I. (cf. distribution file)

4. During your absence, arrangements were concluded for the distribution of 2,500 tons of seed potatoes from the Netherlands. A summary of the distribution scheme, which is based upon the principles worked out with FAO and ICRC in Geneva by Mr. Cohen, is also attached as Annex II. In accordance with the Government's request, Mr. Hill notified the Delegation that full agreement on this distribution scheme had been reached between the agencies concerned. As you will see, the seed is to be distributed under the responsibility of the ICRC with the help of two technical officers seconded from FAO. The value of the Dutch seed is about $200,000, and the proceeds will also go to the ICRC's traditional relief programme. After consulting this Office, the Netherlands arranged for the seed potato bags to carry United Nations labels, and upon their request, we also asked DPI to publicize their gift.

cf. distribution file

5. No new governmental contributions were received during your absence. The only follow-up to the series of consultations which you conducted with selected delegations in February has been enquiries from the United States, the Federal Republic of Germany and Australia concerning current relief requirements. These enquiries were largely provoked by a New York Times article of 17 March 1957 concerning the improved food situation in Hungary. A copy of this article is attached as Annex III. I requested verification of

cf. distribution file.

this report from the ICRC which replied that, although it had no detailed information, the food situation was no longer so serious and industrial productivity -- including coal production -- had improved, but that it would still need to maintain its traditional relief programme until 30 June to meet the needs of the special categories of persons (200,000 to 500,000) who lacked purchasing power to benefit from any general economic improvements. I then informed the delegations who enquired that, although we had no new official revision of the list published in your report (we have heard nothing further from the Hungarian Delegation on this point), if their governments were still considering the provision of certain relief supplies, we would immediately verify the need for these specific items, and their quantities, through the ICRC in Budapest. The only further definite information -- given to me yesterday by Mr. Max Finger -- is that it is "highly probable" that the United States will donate 10,000 tons of flour, to be prepared in small packages for free distribution direct to individuals through the ICRC's traditional relief programme. In addition, the United States would probably give "urgently" needed medical supplies. (This is the first indication we have that medical supplies were again urgently needed).

6. I understand that no further action should be taken to follow-up on the consultations conducted in February.

II. Refugees

7. As you know, the second appeal for assistance to Hungarian refugees was made on 11 March, followed by a successful Press Conference on 12 March.

8. Although we have as yet received very few official replies to this appeal, we are informed that the United States is giving an additional $3,000,000 bilaterally for the transportation of Hungarian refugees. $2,000,000 will be used to transport 10,000 refugees (at $200 a head) from Yugoslavia to countries of immigration and the remaining $1,000,000 for the transportation of 5,000 refugees from other European countries (neither Austria nor Yugoslavia). I have already shown you a press release on the extremely generous Netherlands contribution of $3,500,000, most of which will be used for a similar purpose.

9. In spite of the current confusion concerning the further resettlement of Hungarian refugees in the United States, it may be seen that the financial contributions of the United States and the Netherlands should go far towards meeting the High Commissioner's objective of a solution to the problem this year.

10. Two minor matters, though of an awkward character, which arose during your absence, were the receipt of letters from Austria and Yugoslavia. The Austrians complained that supplies being shipped into Austria by voluntary agencies contained narcotic drugs and asked that the Secretary-General intervene with Member States. After consultation with Messrs. Lindt and Yates, Mr. Hill persuaded the Austrians to agree to a less formal procedure whereby the High Commissioner would remind the voluntary agencies working for refugees -- through the Standing Conference in Geneva -- of the general provisions of the narcotics conventions. The Yugoslavia letter to the Secretary-General implied that, unless he took drastic and urgent action, many refugees in that country would have to return to Hungary. It also stated that Yugoslavia had had to take out a loan of $7,500,000 at 6 per cent interest to finance the care and maintenance of refugees. Mr. Hill replied to this letter by referring to the new joint appeal of 11 March which stressed the acuteness of the problem in Yugoslavia. In view, no doubt, of the United States allocation of $2,000,000 for those in Yugoslavia -- the matter

seems to be closed, at least for the time being.

III. Final Report

11. I would appreciate your guidance on two questions: The first is the nature of the final report and the second is its timing.

12. With regard to the nature of the report, I assume that it should cover both relief and refugees? I think that a final report covering both aspects -- i.e. on "humanitarian assistance to the Hungarian people" -- would be tactically wise. It will also be necessary to decide whether the report should be of a general nature, or whether it should attempt to itemize governmental and non-governmental action for relief to Hungary and for assistance to Hungarian refugees. At this point, I would venture to recommend, both for political and technical reasons, that the report should be of a general nature. The political reasons are perhaps obvious. The technical reasons result from the extreme difficulty of giving a full account of contributions. We simply do not have sufficient information, and some of the gaps are far more important than the precise information we have on contributions. I am thinking in this connexion of the fact that the private and non-governmental effort of the West for relief in Hungary undoubtedly exceeds the governmental effort, but we have little or no precise information on the former. General information and total figures (chiefly from ICRC) would be the most we could hope to give, and even this will not be simple. Furthermore, I feel that a general report would be more readable than a detailed one. This factor is of some importance in view of the interest of the press and public opinion in this matter. I believe that Mr. Cohen is in general agreement with these views.

13. The timing of the report would simply require a policy decision by yourself, taking the following factors into account:

(a) Strictly speaking, a final report on the relief action could only be made after the 30th of June when the ICRC's relief activities end. On the other hand, the ICRC should be able to assess with sufficient accuracy the scope of its shipments until the end of June, and there is presumably little likelihood of anything of great significance occurring before that time.

(b) It will not be possible to give a "final report" on the refugee situation within a month or six weeks' time. However, if you should wish a "final" report before then, a supplement could be issued on the refugee situation later this year.

(c) You may also wish to consider whether the relief report should be issued at about the same time as the political report. I understand that the Special Committee's final report will be ready for publication early in May. Delegation reaction will be awaited before it is decided whether to reconvene the General Assembly to consider this report.

(d) From the standpoint of the waning interest of public opinion, it could be argued that an early final report would be useful -- as a "final" stimulation to action to assist Hungarian refugees.

(e) A minor factor to be borne in mind is that the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly -- which will presumably mention his Hungarian relief activities -- will be published early in August, and the deadline for submission of material is 1 to 15 June.

Bearing the above factors in mind, it is difficult to do more than guess at the best possible time to publish the final report. We will moreover have to ask the High Commissioner's Office to prepare the material for refugees and the ICRC to give us a further report on its relief activities in Hungary. This may make it difficult to achieve a "final" report in May, but we can of course try.

cc: Mr. Hill
Mr. Cohen

Mary - This is very Good.

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

RECORDS CONTROL

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

Timing - not now 50535

15 APR 1957

TO: Mr. Myer Cohen

Date: 3 December 1956

FILE NO.:

FROM: Mary Jeffreys

SENDER'S TELEPHONE EXTENSION:

SUBJECT: Report to the General Assembly

Mr. Taylor and I are both concerned that when the agreement with the International Red Cross is made known on Wednesday, the confusion which already exists between aid to refugees and relief inside Hungary will become even greater (both at the governmental level and in the minds of the public).

We would therefore, suggest that if the Secretary-General is considering producing another report on Hungary, a paragraph should be included on the following points. If it is found that the Secretary-General does not intend bringing out a general report on Hungary, we suggest that consideration might be given to producing a special report to be available before the issuance of any press release on Wednesday:

1. The General Assembly might be reminded that the terms of the resolutions already adopted envisaged two distinct types of assistance to the Hungarian people namely (a) assistance to refugees from Hungary, and (b) relief to the Hungarian people inside Hungary.

2. With regard to refugees, the Secretary-General has already made an interim report (A/3371 and Add. 1 and Corr. 1) and will make a further report following the response to the special appeal for refugees which was issued jointly by the Secretary-General and the deputy UNHCR on 29 November.

3. With regard to relief to the Hungarian people inside Hungary, the Secretary-General is now able to report that the negotiations with the International Committee of the Red Cross to which he referred in A/3403 have been concluded and that an agreement has been reached (without reproducing the actual text). In this connection the Secretary General could recall that offers for relief have been made to the United Nations by the following countries:

   Cambodia, Ceylon, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Tunisia and United Kingdom.

He could add that in accordance with the terms of the agreement,

CR.13 (4-55) **ROUTING SLIP**

TO: Miss Jeffers

	APPROVAL		MORE DETAILS
	REPLY, PLEASE		YOUR INFORMATION
	SEE ME, PLEASE		RETURNED AS REQUESTED
	YOUR SIGNATURE		INVESTIGATE AND REPORT
	NOTE AND FILE		FOR ACTION
	NOTE AND RETURN		REPLY FOR MY SIGNATURE
	YOUR COMMENTS		INITIAL AND FORWARD

Mr de Serres does not believe we should issue this Report to GA now. - Perhaps something like it later. However, I think Paras 1, 2, 3 provide a good basis for letter to Spec. Agencies (except we will send full Text of Agreement). Will you do a draft please, and I will add a couple of Paras about our "Mission" plans, if any. Thanks.

COMMENTS FOR THE RECORD SHOULD NOT BE WRITTEN ON THIS SLIP. REFERRAL SHEET PT.108 SHOULD BE USED INSTEAD.

DATE: 4/XII/56 **FROM:** Urquhart

these offers will be referred to the International Committee of the Red Cross - before doing so, we should perhaps confirm with the Delegations of all these Governments (except Tunisia and the United Kingdom) that this is in accordance with their wishes. Only Tunisia and United Kingdom specifically ~~said~~ spelled out that they were offering this assistance to the United Nations

Mr Taylor

M.J.

SIXTH SESSION OF THE FAO CONFERENCE - 19 November-6 December 1951

Resolution No. 15

Food Shortages and Famine

The Conference

Resolves:

1. That on receiving intimation from a Member Nation or region that a serious food shortage or famine exists or is likely to develop, which it is unable to cope with from its own resources, the Director-General shall depute one or more FAO officials to investigate the nature of the problem with the consent of the government concerned and to report on the extent, if any, of international assistance needed and communicate the report to the United Nations and the interested Specialized Agencies;

2. That when, in the opinion of the Director-General, there is an emergency requiring international relief measures, he shall at his discretion convene forthwith a meeting of the Council or of interested governments to devise the most practical lines of action which may be required to bring about prompt, concerted and effective assistance by governments as well as by voluntary agencies; and that the Director-General shall thereupon report the action taken to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for transmission to the Economic and Social Council.

THE RECTOR'S ROOM

THE LOYOLA SCHOOL
53 EAST 83RD STREET
NEW YORK 28, N.Y.

For the file
Cuff
30 Jan. '57

RECORDS CONTROL

535

6 FEB 1957

SO 535

January 29th, 1957

noted & reg.
Cuff

Miss Claire M. Howe
Non-Governmental Organizations Section
Economic and Social Council Secretariat
United Nations
New York, New York

My dear Miss Howe:

I appreciated very much your sending me the report by the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the situation in Hungary. I wonder if all the fine, human feelings stirred up by events in Budapest will ever extend to poor old Ukraine.

Yours very sincerely,

Rev. Robert I. Gannon, S.J.

RIG:gg

DRAFTER TAYLOR
ESA

REGISTRY FILE COPY

23 JAN 1957

FILE No. 50535

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UNATIONS

GENEVA ;

114 OBEZ DOCUMENTS DISTRIBUTION SENDING THROUGH NORMAL CHANNELS TODAY TEN FRENCH SIXTEEN ENGLISH AND SEVERAL SPANISH AND RUSSIAN TEXTS OF SECRETARYGENERALS REPORT ;

COHEN "

CFM 114 "

UNITED NATIONS
JAN 19 PM 2:26
TELEGRAPH UNIT

So 535 86

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
GENERAL

A/3464/Add.1
10 January 1957

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Eleventh session
Agenda item 67

QUESTION CONSIDERED BY THE SECOND EMERGENCY SPECIAL SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FROM 4 TO 10 NOVEMBER 1956

Humanitarian activities to assist the Hungarian people

Note by the Secretary-General

On 18 December 1956 the Secretary-General circulated the letters from Governments he had received from 29 November to 17 December 1956 (A/3464) informing him of the action taken, or proposed, to implement resolutions 1004 (ES-II), 1007 (ES-II), 1006 (ES-II)[1/] and A/RES/409 of the General Assembly. The replies from Governments which have been received from 18 December 1956 to 10 January 1957 are now circulated for the information of the Members of the General Assembly. Some of these communications contain information regarding relief being provided to the Hungarian people, others to assistance being given to refugees, while still others refer to both aspects of the problem.

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Second Emergency Special Session, Supplement No. 1 (A/3355).

List of replies received from 18 December 1956 to 10 January 1957

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/...

1. AUSTRALIA

17 December 1956
Original: English

I refer to my letter of 4 December and to earlier correspondence relating to the appeal by the General Assembly to Member Governments for contributions toward the relief of refugees from Hungary.

As you are aware, the Australian Government has already pledged a contribution of 30,000 Australian pounds for this purpose, of which 20,000 pounds is to go to the High Commissioner for Refugees and 10,000 pounds to the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration.

I now have the honour to inform you that the Minister for External Affairs yesterday announced a further contribution by the Australian Government of 100,000 pounds, to be divided in the following manner:

	£
To the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration	50,000
To the Austrian Government	20,000
To the Secretary-General's appeal of 15 November 1956, for relief in Hungary	20,000
To provide essential personal equipment for refugees admitted to Australia	10,000
	100,000

(Signed) E. Ronald WALKER
Ambassador, Permanent Representative
of Australia to the United Nations

2. BELGIUM

18 December 1956
Original: French

In the statement made on 26 November 1956 at the 691st meeting of the Third Committee of the General Assembly, the Belgian representative, Mr. J. Bracops, described the action taken by the Belgian Government on behalf of the Hungarian refugees.

The account given below sets forth fuller particulars of this relief....

Early in November 1956, when the Hungarian refugees were beginning to pour into Austria, the Belgian Government decided to authorize the immigration and settlement in the Kingdom of Belgium of about 3,000 of these refugees. The Centre d'Initiation pour Réfugiés et Etrangers (CIRE) (Refugees and Aliens Reception Centre), a non-profit body with which the various Belgian welfare and charitable organizations concerned with refugees (Red Cross, Caritas Catholica, Entr'aide Socialiste) and some employees' and employers' organizations are associated, was asked to make itself responsible for carrying out this operation, in concert with the ministerial departments concerned. For the purpose of financing the maintenance and reclassification of the refugees, the Belgian Government has allotted a grant of 10 million francs to CIRE.

At the express request of the Austrian Government, the refugees were admitted without prior selection; a medical board merely eliminated from the convoys any refugees who were suffering from active contagious diseases.

A simplified and accelerated procedure was introduced in order to dispense with the issue of travel documents and permanent or transit visas, the frontier and gendarmerie authorities being asked to facilitate the free passage of the convoys of refugees. The transport of the refugees was organized and financed by the Inter-Governmental Committee for European Migration with the co-operation of the Belgian National Railways, which placed the necessary carriages at the disposal of the Austrian authorities. The Department of National Defence offered to CIRE, free of charge, five barracks fully equipped with bedding, dormitories, mess halls, etc. and the necessary staff. The Belgian Red Cross set up a clinic and the Oeuvre Nationale de l'Enfance (National Child Welfare Organization) a nursery for infants, in each barracks. The barracks are used as temporary reception centres, each administered by a welfare or charitable organization to which CIRE has assigned a quota of refugees. These barracks are situated at Seilles (approximately 600 refugees - World Council of Churches); Spa (approximately 700 refugees - Belgian Red Cross); Saive (approximately 600 refugees - Entr'aide Socialiste); Tongres (approximately 600 refugees - Caritas Catholica); and Verviers (approximately 550 refugees - Solidarité Liberale). The first group of Hungarian refugees arrived during the night of 16 to 17 November and the last on 25 November.

/...

The various groups were made welcome under excellent conditions, with the active co-operation of the local civil and military authorities, the Red Cross, voluntary assistants and interpreters, and with the enthusiastic support of the entire population.

The group of 3,000 refugees consists mainly of young persons between the ages of fourteen and thirty, some families and a small number of children. Their state of health is satisfactory, although several refugees had to be taken to hospital for urgent surgical treatment.

On their arrival in the reception centre, the refugees were fed and received parcels of clothing and gifts lavished on them by the population. Their accomodation, although makeshift, is comfortable; so far as possible, families are kept together; the food is wholesome and plentiful and the refugees do not want for entertainment. They are entirely free to practise their religion and Hungarian chaplains have free access to the centres at all times.

Teams of officials are at present proceeding with the formalities relating to identity papers and complete medical examinations in the centres, and are trying to find employment and accommodation suited to the training, capacities and, in particular, the wishes of the refugees.

The refugees are free to accept or not to accept the employment offered to them or, alternatively, to leave Belgium in order to settle elsewhere or to return to their homeland.

Most of them express the desire to enter employment quickly in order to resume a normal life. Sufficient offers of employment are received in each centre and in the Office National de Placement et de Chômage (National Employment and Unemployment Office), which studies these offers to ensure that the refugees' rights are safeguarded.

It would seem that, within four to five weeks, virtually all the refugees will have found work and will have been integrated in the Belgian community. Only the "difficult cases" will remain - unaccompanied children or children accompanied by their mothers, minors, sick or disabled persons, etc. CIRE will have to try to find a solution for each individual case, for example through placement in hospitals, schooling and vocational training for young persons, etc.

/...

Even after their reclassification the refugees will continue to receive the benefit of the assistance and advice provided by the social services of the welfare and charitable organizations, which will spare no effort in helping their protégés to lead a normal life again.

(Signed) F. van LANGENHOVE
Permanent Representative of Belgium
to the United Nations

3. CUBA

14 December 1956
Original: Spanish

I have the honour to inform you that, on the proposal of the President of the Republic, the Council of Ministers decided, at its meeting of 10 December 1956, to remit to you the sum of forty-five thousand dollars ($45,000) for the Hungarian refugees. In addition to the President's contribution, other contributions were made by landowners, farmers and some businessmen.

Accordingly, it gives me great pleasure to send herewith checque No. 0426 of the Banco de Fomento Commercial of Cuba made out to you in the aforesaid amount of forty-five thousand dollars ($45,000), to be credited to the fund for assistance to Hungarian refugees.

(Signed) Dr. Emilio NUNEZ PORTUONDO
Permanent Representative of
Cuba to the United Nations

4. ETHIOPIA

22 December 1956
Original: English

By cable of 20 December 1956, I have been instructed to inform your Excellency that His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Ethiopia has ordered to be placed at the disposal of the United Nations Refugee Commissioner, in Geneva, the amount of ten thousand dollars for the Hungarian Refugee programme. In

/...