

DISPLACED PERSONS - GENERAL

A 473

JUN 30 1947

RESTRICTED

Central Committee

CC(47)75
12 June 1947

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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

TO: The Central Committee

FROM: The Director General

SUBJECT: Transfer of UNRRA Displaced Persons Functions

1. Resolution 99 contemplates that the Administration's functions in the field of displaced persons will be taken over by IRO, or the Preparatory Commission thereof, not later than 1 July. As part of the takeover, the Resolution authorizes the Administration, with the approval of the Central Committee, to transfer to the Commission its records, files, equipment or other property and personnel relating to its displaced persons operations, as well as any funds remaining unexpended from the resources set aside for financing displaced persons operations until 30 June, 1947.

2. The Administration has devoted a great deal of time to the detailed and complex administrative aspects of the takeover and transfer. Various members of the staff have been loaned to the Preparatory Commission, both for the purpose of facilitating a transfer and to aid the Commission in preparing the groundwork for operations. The Administration was officially represented at the meetings of the Preparatory Commission by the Personal Representative of the Director General and other staff. The details of the takeover arrangements and all administrative aspects thereof, are being worked out and negotiated through ERO, under general policy direction from Headquarters. Considerable progress has been made and the negotiations have reached a point where the principles governing the administrative arrangements to be made are being mutually formulated.

3. In accordance with the provisions of Resolution 99, the approval of the Central Committee is now required in connection with finalization of the arrangements to be made. The Administration feels, however, that it should not be necessary for the Central Committee to review in detail the action and decisions proposed in connection with the host of administrative and fiscal problems which are being resolved. If the Central Committee will agree, the Administration would therefore propose to outline the approach it is adopting and the principles by which it will be guided. If the approach, as set forth below, is approved by the Central Committee, the Administration could then be authorized to carry forward and finalize all arrangements as an administrative matter, without further referral to the Committee. The action taken with regard to the transfer will be communicated to the Central Committee in its July report on displaced persons operations.

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4. The Administration proposes first to enter into a basic agreement with the Preparatory Commission which will establish the general principles and obligations governing the takeover. A copy of the draft agreement, being proposed for this purpose, is attached hereto for the information of the Central Committee. Changes may be made in the course of negotiations but the Administration will adhere to the lines laid down in the draft.

5. In conjunction with the takeover, the Administration would transfer to the IRO as of 30 June, 1947, its equipment, property, records, files and supplies relating to the displaced persons operation, retaining, of course, records or files still needed by the Administration for its own purposes. The transfer would include surpluses of supplies heretofore acquired by the Administration for displaced persons work. As an illustration, there will remain in China, as of 30 June, a sufficient quantity of food to meet displaced persons requirements until the end of the year. These supplies would be transferred to the Preparatory Commission without reimbursement in accordance with the policy of Resolution 99.

6. Arrangements will also be made for the transfer to the Commission of such Administration personnel engaged in displaced persons work desiring to be transferred as the Commission wishes to retain. In connection with these arrangements, the Administration is assuming the obligation to pay the repatriation costs of transferred personnel, since these are charges which the Administration would have been obliged to incur in any event. It is contemplated that the costs of repatriation of transferred personnel will probably not exceed \$1,000,000. The necessary amount would be computed and turned over to the Preparatory Commission so that it can repatriate former UNRRA personnel, in discharge of the Administration's responsibilities in this regard. In addition, the Administration has the obligation to meet the transportation expenses of personnel entitled to home leave who have not as yet exercised that privilege. The cost of this travel with respect to transferred personnel will probably not exceed approximately \$100,000. That cost will also be computed and a lump sum turned over to the Preparatory Commission, which will then be in a position to make the payments in discharge of the obligations which the Administration would otherwise have had to meet. Every effort will be made to compute the lump sum cost on the most accurate basis and the sums will then be turned over to IRO for use in meeting these obligations.

7. In addition, certain supplies have been procured and other arrangements made by the Administration, at the request of the Preparatory Commission, to avoid any hiatus in operations. As an illustration, the Administration recently undertook to procure a pipeline of supplemental food supplies for the displaced persons operations in Italy to cover post-30 June requirements. This is being done at the request of the Executive Secretary of the Preparatory Commission, on a reimbursable basis. The takeover arrangements will, of course, have to include the proper accounting procedures to cover reimbursable items of this character. It is to be noted, however, that transfers

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of supplies and property which the Administration procured for its own operations, independently of any request by the Preparatory Commission will be nonreimbursable.

8. In connection with the fiscal aspects of the transfer, arrangements will also have to be made in detail to ensure a proper settlement and cut-offs of accounts and obligations as of 30 June 1947. The general principle will be that any expenditures properly allocable to the period after 30 June, 1947, other than the types set forth in paragraph 5 and 6 above, will be for the account of and made by IRO. The Administration on its own account will see to the retention of necessary funds to finance obligations which it incurred with respect to its own operations.

9. As previously indicated, Resolution 99 also contemplates that the Administration will, with the approval of the Central Committee, turn over any remaining funds unobligated as of 30 June, 1947, out of the resources set aside for the continuation of its displaced persons operations until 30 June, 1947. The Administration is not yet in a position to determine the amount, if any, of its displaced persons fund which will remain unexpended and unobligated as of 30 June. Accordingly, the proposed basic agreement merely provides that the Administration will transfer such sums as are approved by the Central Committee. In view of the policy of Resolution 99, the Administration recommends that no action be taken in this connection at this time, but that the Central Committee approve such transfer in principle, in accordance with Resolution 99. When the Administration has been able to reach a more definitive determination of the unspent balances, if any, the actual amount to be transferred can be computed and the necessary arrangements made, in consultation with the Central Committee. Any transfer of funds to IRO would, of course, be without prejudice to the action of the Central Committee with regard to the transfer to the Children's Fund, under Resolution 103, of such other available balances as may be found to exist.

10. It is recommended that the Central Committee approve this approach and authorize the Administration to proceed accordingly, it being understood that the Administration will then execute the basic agreement when negotiated and make all necessary supplementary administrative and financial arrangements without further referral to the Central Committee.

Attachment

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12 June 1947

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10 June 1947

IRO/UNRRA AGREEMENT

THE UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION (hereinafter referred to as "the Administration") represented by _____, acting pursuant to the Agreement of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration signed on 9 November 1943, and in particular Resolution 99 enacted at the Fifth Session of the UNRRA Council

and

THE PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE INTERNATIONAL REFUGEE ORGANIZATION (hereinafter referred to as "the Commission") represented by _____, acting pursuant to the Agreement on Interim Measures to be taken in Respect of Refugees and Displaced Persons approved by the United Nations on 15 December, 1946, and in particular Resolution PREP/_____ enacted at the Second Part of the First Session of the Preparatory Commission,

HAVING IN MIND

That the authority of the Administration to undertake Displaced Persons Operations terminates on 30th June 1947, and that under Resolution 99 it was contemplated that the Administration would transfer to the International Refugee Organization or an appropriate Interim Commission its records, files, equipment and other property, as well as its personnel and any remaining funds relating to its operations with respect to displaced persons,

TAKING NOTE THAT

the Commission has determined, under Resolution PREP/_____ approved _____, to assume responsibility for Displaced Persons operations as from 1 July 1947, pending the establishment of the International Refugee Organization

HEREBY AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Administration agrees to transfer to the Commission the functions heretofore performed by the Administration with regard to Displaced Persons under the UNRRA Resolutions, and the Commission undertakes to carry out the functions in accordance with the Provisions of the IRO Constitution, as from 30 June 1947.
2. The Administration will transfer to the Commission, as of 30 June 1947, its equipment, supplies and other property relating to its Displaced Persons operations. Documentation with regard to the transfer thereof shall be provided in accordance with arrangements to be made between

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the Administration and the Commission. The Commission undertakes, where practicable, to safeguard in areas where it is operating any property of the Administration designated by the Administration as surplus. Where this is impracticable, the Commission shall immediately notify the Administration.

3. Subject to the retention of records and files required for its accounting, audit, historical and other purposes, the Administration will transfer to the Commission as of 30 June 1947 its records and files relating to Displaced Persons operations, and will give access to, or to the extent practical summaries or copies of, any records and files which it may find necessary to retain.
4. The Administration will also transfer to the Commission such funds as are authorized by the Central Committee under Resolution 99 of the Council of the Administration.
5. The Administration shall, when so requested by the Executive Secretary of the Commission, assist wherever possible and appropriate to secure for the Commission the benefits of any immunities, privileges, agreements or contracts outstanding in favour of the Administration on 30 June 1947.
6. The Commission accepts responsibility for any obligations under agreements entered into by the Administration before the signing of this Agreement for benefits accruing after 30 June 1947, in connection with its displaced persons operations in so far as such obligations have not matured before 1 July 1947, as well as for any specific obligations accepted by the Executive Secretary. The Commission likewise accepts responsibility for any obligations entered into by the Administration with the agreement of the Commission after the signature of this Agreement and prior to 1 July 1947, in so far as such obligations have not matured prior to 1 July 1947. The Administration and the Commission will also agree upon detailed accounting procedures in implementation of this Agreement.
7. The Commission shall take over as from 1 July 1947 the personnel of the Administration employed on 30 June 1947 in Displaced Persons operations for whom letters of appointment have been authorized by the Executive Secretary. Employees so taken over shall, during the first three months of their employment, receive from the Commission basic salaries including increments to 1 July 1947 at least as favourable as those which they were receiving at the time at which they were transferred. The conditions of service will be continued by the Commission in accordance with the regulations of the Administration prevailing on 30 June 1947 until such time as revised

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regulations are issued by the Executive Secretary. The Commission undertakes to meet, on behalf of and from funds provided by the Administration, the expenses of repatriation on termination of such personnel as are transferred by the Administration to the Commission on 30 June 1947, and, the travel costs of home leave on the same terms, subject to the administrative requirements of the Commission, as prevailed under regulations of the Administration for employees entitled to home leave as of 30 June 1947.

8. The Commission undertakes to assist, subject to reimbursement by the Administration, in the repatriation of any personnel of the Administration, engaged in Displaced Persons operations terminated on 30 June 1947, but not transferred to the Commission, in so far as such personnel have not been repatriated by 1 July 1947, and to make its facilities available to personnel of the Administration engaged in closure activities.

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CC(47)82
12 June 1947

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL

TO: The Central Committee
FROM: The Director General
SUBJECT: Implementation of Resolution 115

I. SEVENTH COUNCIL SESSION

Since the meeting of the Central Committee at which a tentative decision was reached to convene a Seventh Council Session before the end of this month, pursuant to Resolution 115, the Director General has conducted further consultations with the members of the Central Committee who had not previously firmly concurred that no further session would be necessary. The Director General has therefore concluded that there is no necessity of convening a further session.

It is accordingly suggested that, pursuant to Resolution 115, the Central Committee take note that no further session of the Council will be held, it being now agreed unanimously that a further session is unnecessary.

Under the provisions of paragraph 4 of Resolution 115, all powers of the Council are henceforth to be considered to be vested in the Central Committee.

II. FUTURE REPORTS BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

The Director General has heretofore followed the practice of making quarterly reports to the Council, and monthly reports to the Central Committee, under the provisions of Article IV, Section 5 of the UNRRA Agreement. Since there will be no further occasion for reports to the Council and since there has, of course, been a substantial reduction in the activities of the Administration, it is felt that these reporting procedures can now be modified.

With the concurrence of the Central Committee, the Director General proposes to discontinue the monthly reports to the Central Committee after June 1947. Reports will, however, be made with respect to activities during the second and third quarter of 1947 and thereafter at such periods as may be desirable.

Central Committee

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12 June 1947

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III. FUTURE STATUS OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

Of the various committees of the Council, the only ones which will have continuing functions to perform well into the latter part of 1947, if not indeed thereafter, are the Committee on Financial Control, its Audit Subcommittee, and the Committee of the Council for the Far East. It is assumed that the Committee of the Council for Europe will discontinue its functions after the meeting which it is proposing to hold during the latter part of this month.

The Central Committee may, accordingly, wish to terminate the functions and activities of all of the other committees, as well as of the Program Subcommittee which it has created under its own authority and which should have no occasion to reconvene. The other committees are:

Committee on Supplies

Committee on Health

~~Committee on Displaced Persons~~

Committee on Industrial Rehabilitation

Committee on the Rehabilitation of Children and Adolescents

Bay Counties Committee for Displaced Persons

Working for the liberalization of immigration laws

259 GEARY STREET • ROOM 604

SAN FRANCISCO 2

Phone GRaystone 6124

Chairman

MAURICE E. HARRISON

Vice Chairmen

MRS. JOSEPHINE DUVEINECK

DR. H. H. LANDRAM

JUDGE M. C. SLOSS

Executive Secretary

CAROLINE MacCHESNEY

February 10, 1947

Mr. Frank S. Gaines
1108 Shattuck Avenue
Berkeley, California

Dear Mr. Gaines:

A nation-wide movement to amend our immigration laws and/or to resume present quotas, suspended during the war, is well under way.

Briefly, its objective is to try to aid and restore to decent living, some of the 800,000 persons in Europe made homeless by the war and now herded in concentration camps. They represent ten nationalities. Fifty per cent are Catholics, 25 per cent Jews and 25 per cent Protestants.

This national movement stems from President Truman's directive of December 22, 1945, recommending that 39,000 of these homeless humans be allowed to enter the United States. Yet, because of our present immigration laws, only about 5,000 of these had gained admission as of October, 1946!

In his address to the 80th Congress on January 6, 1947, the President further emphasized the moral obligations of this country by saying:

"In so far as admitting displaced persons is concerned, I do not feel that the United States has done its part. Only about 5600 of them have entered this country since May, 1946. The fact is that the executive agencies are now doing all that is reasonably possible under the limitation of existing law and established quotas. Congressional assistance in the form of new legislation is needed. I urge the Congress to turn its attention to this world problem, in an effort to find ways whereby we can fulfill our responsibilities to those thousands of homeless and suffering refugees of all faiths."

In line with this policy, a committee of Bay Area citizens is being formed to acquaint the public with the problem and to bring it to the personal attention of our California Congressmen. Citizens of all faiths and creeds comprise it, under the chairmanship of Mr. Maurice E. Harrison. Serving with him as vice chairmen are Mrs. Josephine Duveneck, Dr. H. H. Landram and Judge M. C. Sloss.

FEB 13 1947

4/2 D.P. file

Mr. Frank S. Gaines
February 10, 1947
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We need the weight and prestige of your name on this committee. Will you serve?

Every one of the United Nations shares this obligation to solve this problem which, even if we disregard its humanitarian aspect, is a continuing threat to Europe's chances for a stable peace.

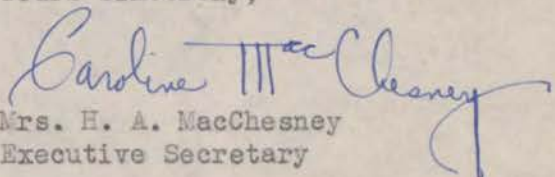
This country, itself a nation of immigrants, can lead the way to permanent peace by setting an example to others by admitting a fraction of these strongest and hardiest of Hitler's enslaved victims.

This move to admit some of these displaced persons is not a partisan issue. Leaders in all walks of life and all political parties have been outspoken in its favor.

Will you join in seeking to liberalize our immigration laws so that some of these hopeless and helpless human beings may come to this country to begin life anew, his or her financial security guaranteed by individuals or groups so that none may become a public charge?

There will be no financial obligation incurred by serving on the Bay Counties Committee for Displaced Persons.

Yours sincerely,


Mrs. H. A. MacChesney
Executive Secretary

CM:bjr

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
National Development Co. Bldg.
Santa Mesa, Manila

21 February 1946

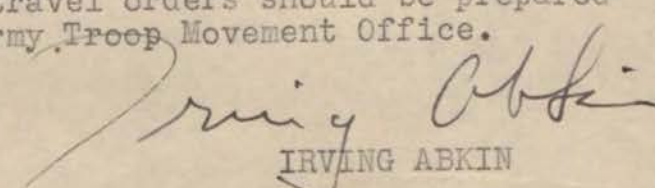
MEMORANDUM:

TO : Mr. Frank S. Gaines
FROM : Mr. Irving Abkin
SUBJECT : TRAVEL PROCEDURE.

In the past UNRRA personnel travelling on Repatriation vessels have not obtained proper authorization for passage on these vessels.

In order to satisfy both the Army Transportation Corps and the Merchant Marine Company, either of the following two procedures should be used:

1. UNRRA personnel should have their name included on the general passenger list with class of travel specified; or
2. Special travel orders should be prepared by the Army Troop Movement Office.


IRVING ABKIN

IA/lv

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QUESTIONNAIRE FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

1. NAME
2. AGE
3. PROFESSION
4. PREVIOUS RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS IN EUROPE
5. DATE LEFT EUROPE
6. ARRIVAL DATE IN PHILIPPINES
7. PASSPORT NUMBER
8. DATE OF ISSUANCE
9. REASON LEFT EUROPE
10. ABLE TO PAY PASSAGE
 - (a) NONE
 - (b) PART
 - (c) ALL

Note: A copy given to Mr. Stahr, October 1, 1946 with request that he obtain particulars from persons as per list.

R E S T R I C T E D

COUNCIL V Document 5
C(46)3
8 July 1946

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
FIFTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

Consideration of Future Policy to be Adopted for
UNRRA's Present Work in the Field of Displaced Persons

(Item 3 (b) (ii) of the Provisional Agenda)

At its meeting on 21 June 1946 the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations approved the draft constitution of the International Refugee Organization which provided among other things for the repatriation, care, protection and resettlement of displaced persons and refugees. It submitted this draft constitution to all members of the United Nations; it also established a Committee on Finance to prepare budgets for the new organization and recommended that the Secretary General plan, in consultation with UNRRA and the Intergovernmental Committee, the initiation of the work of the International Refugee Organization.

The Economic and Social Council also recommended that Government delegates at the General Assembly of the United Nations in September be authorized to sign the constitution of the I.R.O. and urged its members to continue their full support of existing organizations dealing with displaced persons and refugees until the International Refugee Organization should be able to assume its functions.

In order to comply with the recommendations of the Economic and Social Council and with a view to assisting the new International Refugee Organization to begin its work under favorable conditions, it is recommended:

- (1) That the Council should extend the authority of the Administration to care for displaced persons in accordance with the Council Resolutions until such time as the International Refugee Organization should be able to assume these functions.
- (2) That the Council should recommend to member Governments that they should do everything in their power to ensure that the International Refugee Organization should be in a position to begin operations at the earliest practicable moment and in any event not later than January 1, 1947.
- (3) That the Council should recommend to the occupying powers that they should continue to provide basic supplies for displaced persons during the continuance of UNRRA's responsibilities for displaced persons.

R E S T R I C T E D

COUNCIL V Document 5

C(46)3

8 July 1946

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(4) That the Council should request the Director General to collaborate with the Secretary General of the United Nations and with the International Refugee Organization in planning for the transfer to the International Refugee Organization of UNRRA's functions in the field of Displaced Persons, and should authorize the Director General to take such measures as may be necessary to make such transfer effective.

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Hon. James F. Byrnes
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Since I assumed office we have had several conferences with your Department on the problem of Displaced Persons in the various camps of Germany, Austria and Italy. We are now not far from the point when repatriation will virtually end. The most optimistic estimate would indicate that the residue of DP's who are not and could not be repatriated will amount to more than 630,000 people.

This problem cannot be left in abeyance. It must be settled. Unless these people are given an opportunity to be gainfully and usefully employed, they will soon be entirely unemployable. Having reached the limit of repatriation, there is but one method left for solving this problem. Everyone agrees that these unfortunate people cannot be turned loose in Germany. They should be resettled in countries where they will have an opportunity of working and earning their living.

I am appealing to all countries to give consideration to the possibility of admitting a number of these DP's. Such a plan would provide a fair distribution, creating no problem for any one country and yet solving the entire matter once and for all.

My specific recommendation to the United States is that all unused immigrant quotas should be pooled and applied for a period of six months to any DP's otherwise qualified to enter the United States, regardless of country of origin.

There are now 120,000 unused immigrant quotas available. The bulk of these are from two or three

James F. Byrnes

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26 June 1946

countries that are not using and have no present intention of utilizing these quotas. Such a plan would not increase the number of immigrants now permitted to enter under the law. It would not place at a disadvantage those countries from which the quotas are taken, for should there be any applications they could be granted. The quotas would recur to such country the next year.

I do not believe that a material and permanent change in the law is necessary. Authority could be given by Congress to the President of the United States for a limited period to use such quotas as above indicated.

May I respectfully urge prompt consideration of this suggestion. I am sure that favorable action on the part of the United States would pave the way for other nations to do likewise. I am hopeful, too, that if the United States were to take the lead in a constructive plan to end this difficult problem, the United Kingdom might reconsider its decision, as recently expressed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sir Ernest Bevin, in regard to the recommendation of the Joint Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine.

Brazil has already given this matter consideration and advanced to a point of beginning operation in a short time. Other South American countries have expressed interest.

I need not point out that UNRRA terminates on December 31, 1946, and I would like to get this plan well under way in the shortest possible time. The physical condition and morale of these unhappy people are rapidly deteriorating. Hence all the more reason for a sensible, constructive and humane approach.

Very truly yours,

/s/

F. LaGuardia
Director General

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R E S T R I C T E D

Committee of the Council
for the Far East

CCFE(46)29
8 June 1946

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE FAR EAST

Proposed Resolution for the Repatriation of Displaced
Persons From China to Germany and Austria

(Submitted by Member for China for consideration at Eighteenth
Meeting of the Committee of the Council for the Far East)

WHEREAS

An unsubstantial number of persons present in China and eligible for repatriation by UNRRA to Germany and Austria have requested such repatriation, and

WHEREAS

In reducing the term of care for displaced persons required of the Administration its assets would be conserved for the relief and rehabilitation of liberated member nations, and

WHEREAS

In zones or territories under their jurisdiction the Military Government authorities of member nations are authorized to approve the repatriation of these eligibles to their respective homes or residences, it is therefore

RESOLVED:

That the Committee bring to the attention of the Council the importance of achieving as early a repatriation of these displaced persons as possible, and requests its members whose Military Governments exercise authority in the occupied areas of Germany and Austria to consult their respective governments for the purpose of procuring the reconsideration and approval by the appropriate Military Governments for the repatriation from China of 1,750 persons to Germany and 1,360 persons to Austria.

Circulate

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

SHANGHAI, 17 November 1945.

Dear Mrs. Jameson,

I have to thank you for sending me the documents and letters which you did. I have shown the D. P. documents to Mr. Williams and also informed him of the presence in Japan of the White Russians. He feels that these persons cannot be regarded as D. P.'s.

We have heard nothing more about the s.s. "Anhui". Col. O'Brien has not informed us of his arrival in Amoy. I understand that an enquiry has been made about this ship.

Idah and her two companions whom I met in Hongkong on 4th inst. have not yet arrived here. I suggested to the office here to find out what happened to them. I am getting anxious about them.

I am going down to Canton to-morrow morning with Trevithick to find out the D. P. problem there. Clarke flew this morning to Peiping. Williams will remain here to meet Roy Hendrickson who is due here about 25th inst. The present arrangements are for all the members to meet in Hongkong and sail therefrom in one of the British repatriation ships to Singapore. It is probable that I shall be going to Burma for further inquiry. I shall try and keep you in touch with further developments.

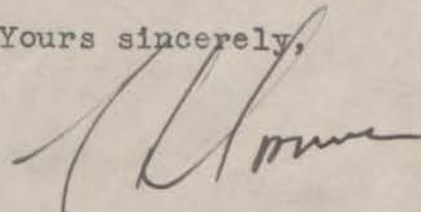
I find Shanghai a crowded city and attractive in many ways. I would have liked to have lived here a little longer, but this is impossible.

I miss you, Glen and the others intensely. Somehow I feel lost without you. Wherever I may be, my thoughts will always be with you and with those in Sydney.

Please accept my very best wishes.

Will you kindly forward the enclosed cover to Sydney.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. Dorothy Jameson,
UNRRA,
Manila.

Enclosure: 1 cover

CAS:dl

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National Development Co. Bldg.
Santa Mesa, Manila
P. I.

DISPATCH NO. 41

18 October 1945

The Director General
UNRRA
1344 Connecticut Ave
Washington 25. D.C.

Attention: Clarence M. Pierce

Dear Mr. Pierce,

Subject: Displaced Persons.
Thirty seventh Report - (P-2)

This is my thirty-seventh report.

Since my last report, I had the opportunity to read for the first time the following documents:-

- 1) Council III Document 206 TDP/FE (45) 31.
- 2) CCFE(45) 37.
- 3) CCFE(45) 38.
- 4) CCFE(45) 39.
- 5) CCFE(45) 41.
- 6) CCFE(45) 42.
- 7) CCFE(45) 43.

They proved to be extremely interesting and instructive, and shed much light on many aspects of the displaced persons problem which needed clarification.

But, what came to me as a complete surprise was the following statement on page 15 of CCFE(45) 42, dated the 21st September:-

1. "The Administration's Manila Office was approached by the Chinese Consul General on 28th August in connection with the presence of 270 Chinese nationals in the Philippines, brought there by the Japanese as forced laborers. They have been working with the American Army at the bases, but as these are closing down very soon, their services will no longer be required. Information subsequently obtained indicated that the total number of such Chinese nationals

may exceed 1000 persons. In order to ascertain the number and location of such Chinese nationals in the Philippine Islands as may be eligible for recognition as displaced persons within the terms of UNRRA Council Resolutions 10, 57 and 60, the Administration instructed Mr. Cassim Soorma, Chief Displaced Persons Officer, South West Pacific Area, to proceed to Manila and to report on his findings. On the basis of this report the Administration intends to take all possible steps to assist in the repatriation of eligible displaced Chinese nationals from the Philippine Islands to China. Mr. Soorma, who has been designated a member of the special mission, has undertaken this as his initial assignment."

In Washington's Cable No. 658 dated 26th September and received in Sydney on the 28th September, (copy attached) there is no mention made of the above "initial assignment". That cable mentions the fact of my appointment as a member of the Special Mission, and directed me to proceed immediately to Manila with a view to establishing necessary contacts. Accordingly, I was wholly unaware of the repatriation of the Chinese from Manila. My first knowledge of this fact came from Col. O'Brien who informed me that he had made certain arrangements for the repatriation of about 900 Chinese from here to Amoy and Shanghai. He said that he wanted me to accompany the party, but as my instructions were to await the arrival of the other members of the Mission in Manila, I explained to him my position, and regretted my inability to leave Manila without instructions from Washington. He then sent Cable No. 38, to Washington, a copy of which I forwarded to you with my last report.

But, subsequent to reading the above documents, and undertaking to fulfill my initial assignment to the best of my ability, I made necessary enquiries, the result of which shows that in the proposed repatriation of the Chinese from here, Col. O'Brien was satisfied that these persons were eligible for relief. I have no reason to question his judgment, and I am satisfied from my own observation of them when they were being immunised by the Colonel in the Community Hall last week, that practically all of them were destitute, in need of relief.

There are some elements of uncertainty regarding the S.S. "Anhui". At present, she is in the pool of the Army. The Colonel was told in September by the Army that the steamer could take the refugees to Amoy and Shanghai. This vessel is owned by the (British) China Navigation Co. Ltd., and the United Kingdom Ministry of War Shipping have requested that she be handed over, with the idea of chartering her, to the Chinese Government.

The Chinese Vice-Consul, the Colonel and I visited the ship in the harbour on the 16th instant. It appears that in a day or two when unloading is completed, Lloyds and Army representatives will survey her. Future plans can then be made definitely. The Agents are anxious to have her proceed to China as quickly as possible; and so we are hopeful.

As reported earlier, these refugees have been registered and immunised by the Colonel against smallpox, typhoid, paratyphoid, dysentery and cholera. A medicine chest has been obtained on loan from the U.S. Army, Medical Department. Army trucks will transport the refugees to the quay. Arrangements for feeding the refugees enroute are being made. A few, about 30 Chinese, are prepared to pay for small cabin berths. The remainder will travel steerage. The steamer has carried many such Chinese in the past.

Mr. Ben Kizer has cabled as to the effect that reception arrangements for the refugees have been made at Amoy and Shanghai. Copy of his cable is attached.

We are not aware of the fact as to who is going to pay for this repatriation. No reply having been received to Cable No. 38 from here, it was assumed that the Administration would be responsible. However, to put the matter beyond doubt, Cable No. 55 was sent from here today. I attach a copy for your information.

I interviewed Dr. Tuan, the Chinese Consul-General here about these Chinese refugees. His request and information are contained in his letter and Memorandum to me both dated the 17th instant and the letter dated the 18th instant. Copies of these are attached. They have been shown to Col. O'Brien. Further enquiry is called for which will have to be undertaken by him, in view of the fact that I was instructed by your Cable No. 37 to proceed to Shanghai. I have had my passport duly Visaed by the British and the Chinese Consulates. I understand that no theatre clearance is necessary.

It is my intention to accompany Col. O'Brien on this ship as part of my "initial assignment" and on the first action taken by UNRRA on behalf of displaced persons in the Far East. I am, however, assuming that a favorable reply will be received from the authorities concerned regarding this voyage to China, and also from headquarters.

In the event of the ship being delayed, or it being not possible for her to proceed at all, I shall try and leave for Shanghai by one of the Liberty ships as soon as possible. Information about this will be duly cabled.

Beyond the information so far secured, and duly reported to you both in my last and this report, I am unable at the moment to gather more information about the Chinese of a character

and type upon which action can be taken. It has been my rule throughout to accept only such information as emanates from a dependable source, and, accordingly, I have not burdened my reports with any other type of news.

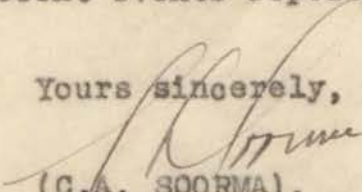
I also wrote to Mr. Ben Kizer on the 13th instant as per copy attached.

I have been unable to see Secretary Jose C. Loesin as he is out of Manila at the moment.

I have no information as to which Office I am now attached. I have not been officially detached from the SWPA office in Sydney, and accordingly, I should like to be informed about my present status. The question of the payment of my salary and responsibility are both involved in the matter.

I should also like to be informed, if possible, as to my future activities and movements. This becomes all the more necessary in the light of recent events reported above.

Yours sincerely,


(C.A. SOORMA),
Chief of Planning Far East Unit,
and Chief Displaced Persons Officer

Encls.:

CAS/jrg

C O P Y:
/jrg

658

WASHINGTON

28 September, 1945.

26 September, 1945

General.

Soorma.

No. 658:

Addressed Sydney 658, repeated Manila 22.

1. The CCFE and the Administration have authorized a small mission to the several countries in the Far East to determine the numbers, nationalities, and locations of DPS and to ascertain the wishes of the Governments with respect to the assistance required from UNRRA to handle this problem. See minutes of fifth Session, eighth meeting of CCFE at London.
2. I have agreed with Hoehler that Soorma be assigned to this mission because of your special knowledge and contacts.
3. The Chief of this mission will be Mr. Pierce Williams. There will be a few more members including some from U.K.
4. It is planned for the Mission to assemble in Manila for important discussions with Allied Military and Philippine Commonwealth officials and proceed from there either as body or in groups, according to plans developed.
5. Pending arrival of Pierce Williams, Soorma should proceed immediately to Manila and establish contact with General Marshall and Colonel Bunker and initiate preliminary discussions with them as to what DP operations the Military would expect UNRRA to perform either in military or Post Military period, covering territory under Military control, such as Japan, Korea, Formosa.
6. It is emphasized that is fact finding mission seeking information and ascertaining need for service by UNRRA from Military and Governments. Any agreements reached will not be finalized until approved by Headquarters, Washington.
7. Cable Headquarters immediately upon arrival Manila.

(SGD.) LEHMAN

C O P Y:
/jrg

Unnumbered

Chungking

15 October 1945

13 October 1945

Mr. Soorma
Dr. O'Brien

We unable send representative Manila to accompany the repatriates in time for departure 16 October sailing date, as reported your No. 15. Reception of boat at Amoy and Shanghai CNRRA responsibility. At Amoy CNRRA agent will be T. C. Huang, CMA Mayor of Amoy. At Shanghai principal CNRRA representative is O. S. Liu, Principal UNRRA officer Shanghai is Ernest Nash who has available personnel competent handle relief and displaced person's problems and we making every effort send UNRRA representative Amoy to assist Mayor Huang. If UNRRA representative Amoy not needed there after arrival ship, he might be able accompany ship Shanghai if essential.

(SOD.) Kizer

October 17, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR UNRRA:

SUBJECT: Chinese Refugees at the Civilian Refugee Camp,
San Fernando, La Union.

According to a communication from Capt. M. E. Akers, Adjutant, Headquarters First Camp Battalion, Replacement Command, APO 70, dated 1 October 1945, "there are present in the Civilian Refugee Section, 1st Camp Battalion, 245 recovered Chinese Nationals. These Chinese Nationals were delivered to the custody of said headquarters during the months of March and April on release from Prisoner of War Camp at Dagupan, Pangasinan, Luzon. These personnel are being quartered in this camp pending availability of transportation for return to China."

(Sgd.) M. L. TUAN
Consul General

y:

THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

113 Dimas-Alang Street, Manila

October 17, 1945

Mr. C. A. Soorma,
Chief of Planning,
Displaced Persons Division,
UNRRA,
M a n i l a .

Dear Mr. Soorma,

Pursuant to your verbal request I wish to inform you that nine hundred thirty-eight (938) Chinese nationals in the Philippines all of whom are displaced persons, are being repatriated to China on board the S/S "Anhui". There are also about eight hundred (800) Chinese nationals in the Philippines under the same category who are still awaiting repatriation. Some of these persons intend to go back to Canton, South China. It would therefore be advisable to arrange for the next ship to call at a port near Canton as well as the two ports, Amoy and Shanghai, which the S/S "Anhui" is scheduled to call at.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) M. L. TUAN
Consul General

True copy:
/jrg

THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA
MANILA, PHILIPPINES

113 Dimas-Alang Street, Manila

October 18, 1945.

Mr. C. A. Soorma,
Chief of Planning,
Displaced Persons Division,
UNRRA,
M a n i l a .

Dear Mr. Soorma,

Further to my letter of yesterdays' date, I wish to inform you that the estimated number of Chinese nationals waiting for repatriation only covers those who came to the Philippines during the war as Japanese forced laborers or were stranded here on their way to other places by the outbreak of the war. There are, besides this group, more than two thousand (2,000) Chinese nationals who were admitted to the Philippines as refugees in 1941 on account of the invasion of the South China coast by the Japanese. These persons should also fall into the category of displaced persons. I should be obliged if you would include them in your plan of repatriating the Chinese nationals in the Philippines.

Yours sincerely,

(SGD.) M. L. TUAN
Consul General

True copy:
/jrg

National Development Co. Bldg.
Santa Mesa, Manila
P. I.

13 October 1945

Mr. Ben Kizer
Director, China Office
UNRRA
Chungking, China

Dear Mr. Kizer,

There are a few Chinese refugees here whose families are now in Peking. They originally came from that ancient city, and now that the war has ended, are naturally most anxious to return to Peking.

As they are not aware of conditions either in Shanghai or Peking, they approached me to elicit from you, if possible, information on the following points:-

- 1) The rate of exchange in Shanghai and Peking in relation to U.S. dollars.
- 2) Whether any rail or other communications exist between Shanghai and Peking?
- 3) What steps these refugees should take here and in Shanghai to get to Peking?

An early answer will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(C.A. SOORMA)
Chief of Planning Far East Unit
and Chief Displaced Persons Officer

CAS/jrg

AIR MAIL
UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
SOUTHWEST PACIFIC AREA.

TELEPHONE: M 0418
CABLE AND TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS
"UNRRA", SYDNEY

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE
ADDRESSED TO:
THE ACTING DIRECTOR

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

Box No. 4101 G.P.O.
52 WILLIAM STREET
SYDNEY, N.S.W

October 15th, 1945

Dispatch No. 13

Mr. Frank S. Gaines,
Chief of Mission,
Philippine Development Company,
MANILA

Attention: Mr. C.A. Soorma

Dear Mr. Soorma,

Enclosed herewith are various documents which are directly concerned with Displaced Persons work.

In case you have not received a copy in Manila, cable No. 711 from Washington is attached.

As you know Miss Duncan is constantly in touch with the World Jewish Congress, and she has already conveyed to Dr. Laserson the contents of Washington's letter dated August 31st.

You will be glad to know that Mr. Ramon of the Indian Agency General has now replied to the letter which you drafted for Mr. Briggs some time ago. Mr. Ramon has made arrangements to supply the information requested, and has also asked the Indian Government to do likewise. He "sends his warmest personal regards to Mr. Soorma".

We have only one copy from Washington to date of document CCFE(45)30, so this explains the typed attachment. To the original Headquarter's letter CCFE(45)15 and CCFE(45)16 are attached, but as you have these in your black file it is superfluous to forward them on to you.

Our Travel Department forwarded the file and documents which you had selected for airmailing through the first available channel. Included in this parcel was the printed copy from Washington of the UNRRA Agreements, which you had requested on the 7th inst. in your telegram from Brisbane.

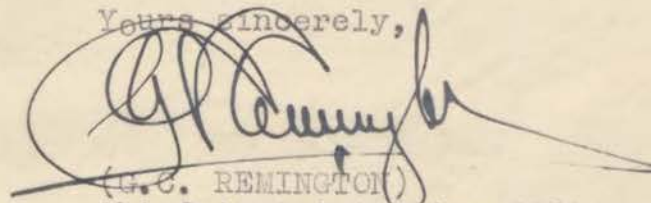
To: Mr. Soorma, UNRRA, Manila
From: SWPA Office, Sydney

15/10/45

"The Family" were very happy to learn of your safe arrival in Manila. Although we are all missing you, Dr. Jacquelin said to tell you that she in particular notices your absence. She hopes that you will write soon giving details of all you have done and all that the mission is planning to do.

Major Granger adds a message to the effect that Mr. Kesteven will keep you informed about the Chinese displaced persons in Brisbane. With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,


(G.C. REMINGTON)
Chief Administrative Officer

Enclosures:

1. Washington' cable No. 711 dated 8/10/45
2. Letter from Mr. Youdin to Mr. Soorma dated 31/8/45
3. Circular Letter to Members of CCFE (CCFE(45)30 dated 16/8/45)
4. Letter from Mr. Pierce to SWPA Office dated 24/9/45
5. Letter to Mr. Pierce from Mr. Remington dated 13/10/45

National Development Co. Bldg.
Santa Mesa, Manila

DISPATCH NO. 30

12 October 1945

The Director General
UNRRA
1344 Connecticut Ave.
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: Clarence M. Pierce

Dear Mr. Pierce:

Subject: Displaced Person-Thirty-
Sixth Report (P-1)

This is my 36th report.

I left Sydney by air on the 5th instant for Brisbane where I was billeted by the American Transport Command in Victoria Park. I left Brisbane by air for Manila on the 7th instant, at 10:30 p.m., and landed at Nichols Field Airport, Manila, about 9:30 p.m. on the 8th instant. I am now staying in the UNRRA bungalow with Mrs. Dorothy Jameson and other members of the UNRRA Executive Staff including Mr. Glen Briggs, our Chief Agricultural Rehabilitation Officer. Mr. Briggs with Mr. Milton were good enough to receive me at the airport. Cables advising my arrival were sent to Sydney and Washington.

On the 9th instant, Col. Henry O'Brien who is our Chief Health Officer here informed me that he had made shipping and other arrangement for the repatriation of 900 Chinese refugees to Amoy and Shanghai, 650 of the number going to Amoy and the remainder proceeding to Shanghai. They are leaving approximately on the 16th of October by SS Anhwei. Col. O'Brien is accompanying this party on behalf of UNRRA.

In this connection, the Colonel informed me that these refugees had been duly registered and had received most of their immunizations, the latter with the help of doctors and nurses from the Philippine Bureau of Health. The SHAEF registration card had been reprinted by the Army at our request.

Cable No. 38 was dispatched to Washington re this matter and I am enclosing a copy for your information.

I have not yet met Dr. Tuan, the Chinese Consul-General here, but I hope to do so as soon as possible.

I have requested Col. O'Brien, upon his arrival in Shanghai, to look into the case of the Jewish refugees there and to ascertain some facts connected with them. I shall give him a short memorandum on the subject.

Col. O'Brien was good enough to take me down to meet General Marshal and Col. Bunker. We met both of them and, briefly stated, the following points emerged:-

- (a) That as far as the Philippines was concerned, there was no problem and that all civil matters had been handed over by the United States Army authorities to the Commonwealth Government. It was, therefore, suggested that we should contact the Commonwealth officials for further information.
- (b) That certain European refugees such as Poles, Greeks, etc., who do not have any government representatives are still in Japan or may be wanting to be repatriated.
- (c) That in the meantime, other Allied nationals, are being taken care of by their respective Governments (Dutch, British, Australians), or by the U.S., which is reimbursed by the internees government.
- (d) That it is possible that in Japan a large number of Chinese may have to be repatriated. Col. Bunker could not, however, give me any definite information on this subject.
- (e) That, similarly, there may be a problem of repatriating Koreans from Japan to Korea. No definite information again could be given by him on the subject.

Col. Bunker, however, suggested that we should contact

- (1) General Fitch
- (2) Col. Marcus, and
- (3) Lt. Col. Graham of the Recovered Persons Division, AFPAC.

Accordingly, we called on Col. Marcus but could not meet him on the 9th instant. We were, however, informed that Lt. Col.

Graham had been transferred and that it was not possible to contact General Fitch.

On the 10th instant we saw Col. Marcus who is almost exclusively concerned with the repatriation of Recovered Persons, (prisoners of war or civilian internees). The following points, however, emerged from this interview;

- (a) That in Japan there may be Greeks, Germans, Hungarians, both enemy nationals or stateless persons and stateless Russians whose repatriation may be undertaken;
- (b) That the military authorities had made arrangement for the repatriation of Italians and that there were only a few hundred of them;
- (c) That the United States Army had cleared Allied nationals from Japan whose government had requested the Army authorities to do so and whose expenses were guaranteed;
- (d) That the United States Army had been charged in the meantime to look after other Allied nationals in Japan, and the Red Cross had been asked to come in and help as far as necessary;
- (e) That according to information received by Col. Marcus, there was supposed to be 32,000 Chinese in Japan whose repatriation might be necessary. He was, however, not sure of the number;
- (f) That no definite information was available as to the number of Koreans in Japan.

Col. Marcus suggested that we contact G-1 authorities here for such information as they may have. This will be done if necessary. Col. Marcus was also of the view that there might be ships which will bring Chinese from Japan to China.

After our interview with Col. Marcus, we saw Lt. Col. Harper and Col. Robinson of the United States Army Health Service. Col. O'Brien discussed with them the question of recruitment of medical personnel for UNRRA.

We also called on Mr. F.S. Tomlinson, the British Consul-General here and he stated that according to his information, there were about 250 Central Americans in China who may need repatriation.

Mr. Tomlinson also stated that there were no Eurasians for Hongkong or Singapore who need looking after. It looked to him, however, that Hongkong may be the center of movement in the near future for Chinese refugees.

After seeing Mr. Tomlinson we called on Mr. Wilson of the WSA with whom Col. O'Brien discussed the repatriation of Chinese refugees from here.

The Colonel has arranged transportation of refugees in Army trucks from the assembly point to the pier.

On the 11th instant; the Colonel was busy in the morning immunizing the refugees. I was present in the Chinese Community Hall. I also saw the D/P Registration Cards duly filled in. Over 950 have been registered. On inquiries being made, Major Harkins of U.S. Army Sea Transportation, it seems that the SS "Anhwei" can only carry about 850 passengers. The Colonel and I were asked by the Major to see the steamer on arrival. The Master and the Base Surgeon will have to decide the number of refugees which will be allowed to travel on her.

We saw Dr. Salcedo today and on inquiry from him we were informed that as far as the displaced persons problem was concerned, his Government had the situation in hand and he did not feel that the Administration's assistance will be needed. He suggested, however, that we might see Secretary Jose C. Llocsin of the Department of Health and Public Welfare. As soon as an interview can be arranged, we shall see him.

We also saw the unpacking, resorting and distribution of UNRRA used clothing. Several voluntary workers, mostly women, were busy. We have requested Dr. Salcedo to give some bales of clothing for the Chinese refugees. He has promised to help us. This clothing will be distributed on board ship.

Dr. Salcedo informed us that UNRRA medical supplies and food had been flown from Base M to San Fernando LA Union where there is much destitution.

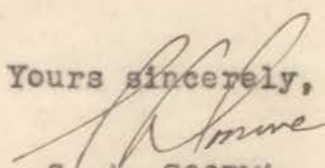
About 9,000 boxes of medical supplies, it appears, are now available.

UNRRA medical supplies have been given to the indigent sick.

The Philippine Congress has now passed a Bill called the FNRRA which will be the Governmental Agency with whom the Administration will have to deal hereafter. This bill now awaits President Osmeña's signature to pass into law.

I feel that the last three days have been well-spent. Contacts have been established which might prove useful hereafter.

Yours sincerely,



C. A. SOORMA

Chief of Planning Far East Unit
and Chief Displaced Persons Officer
For:

FRANK S. GAINES, Acting Director

Encl: 1

CAS/jrg

COPY:/jrg

U N R A

No. 38

TELEGRAM SENT

Reply received:

VIA RCA

LC UNRRA
WASHINGTON

38 AT REQUEST CHINESE AND PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENTS WE ARE
REPATRIATING NINE HUNDRED REFUGEES AMOY SHANGHAI APPROXIMATELY
16 OCTOBER OBRIEN ACCOMPANYING. HAVE MADE SHIPPING AND OTHER
ARRANGEMENTS CHUNGKING INFORMED ARRANGING RECEPTION

JAMESON

UNRRA - National Development Co. Bldg.
Santa Mesa, Manila 9 October 1945

NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY BUILDING
Santa Mesa, Manila, P.I.

Dispatch No. 2
28 August, 1945

The Director General
UNRRA
1344 Connecticut Ave.
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Attention Mr. C. M. Pierce
Acting Director
Division on Displaced Persons

Your letter of 15 August with regard to displaced persons in the Philippines Islands was received today. While there is a displaced persons problem in the P.I., it does not seem to be of sufficient magnitude to warrant sending a Displaced Persons observer to make a survey. I expect to be in Washington possibly about the time you receive this and I think I can give you this information on the subject you may require.

It is possible that we will have requests for help in solving problems of both externally and internally displaced persons, which will make it necessary to have someone in this office to deal with the problem. If this proves to be the case, however, we will need someone not for surveys or large scale planning or consultation, but someone who can handle the individual cases as they arise.

I will be glad to discuss this with you when I am in Washington.

Sincerely yours,

Frank S. Gaines
Chief of Mission

A2
Displaced Persons

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

1344 CONNECTICUT AVENUE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Rec. 28-8-45

VIA AIR MAIL

15 AUG 1945

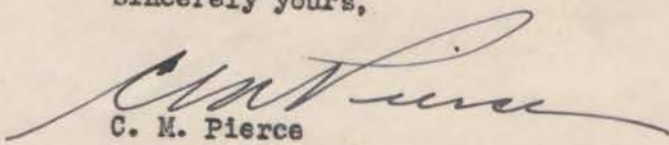
Mr. Frank S. Gaines
Director, Philippine Mission
UNRRA
c/o American Consulate
Manila, P.I.

Dear Mr. Gaines:

Reference is made to our cable of 26 March to President Sergio Osmeño and to his reply of 23 June. In this reply he states: "Since the problem isn't important here, suggest observer for displaced persons is not necessary."

The reports which we have so far received concerning the displaced persons problem in the Philippine Islands have been very incomplete and, in some cases, even contradictory. Nevertheless, some reports indicate a problem of considerable magnitude. I would appreciate having your opinion in this matter, and also your advice on the necessity or advisability of sending a Displaced Persons observer to the Philippines to make a survey. On the completion of his survey, he would consult with you and, depending upon the conclusions reached between you, he would then either return or remain to assist you in instituting a Displaced Persons program.

Sincerely yours,


C. M. Pierce
Acting Director
Division on Displaced Persons

S.

✓ COPY FOR MR FRANK S. GAINES

August 14th, 1945.

Dispatch No. 511

The Director-General, UNRRA,
Through Far Eastern Division,
Bureau of Services,
1344 Connecticut Avenue N.W.,
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

Attention: Clarence M. Pierce

Dear Mr. Pierce,

Displaced Persons - Twenty-fourth Report

This is my twenty-fourth Report.

I am forwarding herewith letter A-1092 dated March 14th, sent to me by Mr. Ansari, Honorary Secretary of the Burma Muslim Evacuees Association of Calcutta.

This Association has submitted to the Government of Burma a Joint Memorandum regarding the re-entry of Burma Indians etc.

The contents of the Memorandum are of considerable interest, because they affect externally displaced Indians from Burma.

I have no doubt that you will take such action in the matter as you may think advisable.

I may, however, add that the signatories are personally known to me and are young Burma Indians possessing a certain measure of influence in the Muslim community of Burma.

I am attaching herewith a clipping from the "Sydney Morning Herald" of yesterday's date, entitled, "Plans to Care for P.O.W.s" which might prove interesting.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



(C.A. SCORMA)

Chief of Planning Far East Unit
and Chief Displaced Persons Officer
FRANK S. GAINES, ACTING DIRECTOR

Attach: (3)

For:

To: UNRRA, Mr. Pierce, Washington
From: UNRRA, SWPA Office, Sydney

14/8/45

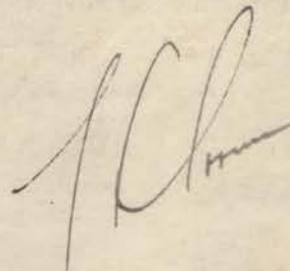
P.S.

Since this report was written, I have received the following communication from our Chief Public Information Officer:-

"Chinese Ministry of Information Cable No. 93, 8/8/45

Govt. Appropriation for Kweilin Refugees: UNRRA investigating it.

The Chinese government is appropriating funds for relief and rehabilitation and is sending refugees back to Kweilin, Kwangsi province. UNRRA is investigating the situation in Kweilin which is the first big city recovered in China."

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. C. [unclear]', is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.

UNRRA

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

No. 437.

From Washington

Date Received 11 August 1945.

Date 10 August 1945.

Reply sent _____

Distribution :

General.

Our No. _____

For Action by SP

No.437.

Addressed Chungking 418.

Far Eastern Committee held its eighth meeting second session 6 August in London. Reports presented by Director General and Director of China Office at first session accepted. Resolution passed recommending that the Council authorize the Administration to operate in Korea, Formosa, upon same terms and conditions as in other liberated areas. Thailand not included in Resolution.

Revised agreement for health and sanitary control of Displaced Persons referred back to technical subcommittee on health because China submitted revised draft.

Administrations Displaced Persons memorandum submitted to technical subcommittee on Displaced Persons which will meet at London within few days. Will then be considered by CCFE at new session of this meeting which will probably take place at end of Council session.

Further activities of CCFE and technical subcommittees will also be session of this CCFE meeting. Butler, UK member, indicated his Government felt that Administration should set up a Far Eastern Regional Office. Chairman indicated that this was an Administrative matter and therefore responsibility of Director General.

LEHMAN.

AIDE MEMOIRE

Enquiry about Displaced Persons

July 27, 1945.

To: Mr. Frank S. Gaines, Acting Director, SWPA Office,

From: Mr. Cassim A. Soorma, Chief of Planning Far East Unit,
and Chief Displaced Persons Officer

-
1. A copy of the Butler Resolution is herewith attached.
 2. This copy and the following questions may be submitted to the British Consul General in Manila for eliciting information about displaced persons:-
 - (a) The number of persons displaced, being British subjects, both Indian and others.
 - (b) Whether internally or externally displaced
 - (c) The authority or authorities entrusted with their repatriation.
 - (d) The country to which they were being repatriated
 - (e) Their final destination
 - (f) The approximate date of departure from Manila
 - (g) The approximate date of their arrival in Australia or elsewhere.
 - (h) Their previous occupation, age and sex
 3. Any information thus secured may be passed on to Mr. Thomas M. Cooley II, Deputy Director Displaced Persons Division in Washington. A copy of this information may be kindly forwarded to me here in Sydney.

T. L. Cooley

DISPLACED PERSONS

The Southwest Pacific Area Office of UNRRA would welcome the following information in the field of Displaced Persons. This information should be on a regional or, where possible, on an island basis.

1. Externally Displaced Persons.

- (a) Numbers, classified according to
 - (i) Nationality
 - (ii) Country of present location
 - (iii) Country of repatriation,

indicating numbers for which UNRRA expects to become responsible.

- (b) Transport requirements considered necessary for repatriation, classified according to

- (i) Shipping tonnage
 - (ii) Inland (rail, road and water-borne) transportation.

- (c) Provisional points of assembly, embarkation, and reception of displaced persons classified according to (a) above.

- (d) Period during which displaced persons who are likely to be a responsibility of UNRRA, may have to be cared for at points of assembly, embarkation, and reception.

- (e) Relief supplies and personnel, for which UNRRA is likely to be responsible during period specified in (d) above.

2. Internally Displaced Persons.

Estimates similar to (a) - (e) above, where circumstances are applicable.

3. The plans of the Civil Affairs Service of both the SEAC and the SWPC to deal with displaced persons.

✓
ASSEMBLY CENTRE TEAMS for GERMANY

(DISPLACED PERSONS)

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Assembly Centres may be Groups of Hutments, Barracks Billets, Camps etc., each containing 3,000 to 10,000 Allied Nationals who will have been liberated in Germany. These will consist of deported labourers, prisoners of war, persons released from Concentration Camps etc. They are mostly adult males but there are some women and children.

Appointments are expected to last from 6 to 12 months
Candidates will have to pass a Medical Examination.
Candidates should be aged under 55.
Candidates must be able to speak English. A knowledge of French and German is desirable but not essential.
Other European Languages are valuable.
There will be a living allowance, or Quarters and Rations provided in addition to the salaries quoted.
Conditions of work will be arduous and hours of duty long.
All Field Staff will wear uniform.

U.N.a. 786.

(Note: Administrative Assistants, grade 6 and grade 7 will also be recruited. A separate specification is attached, in rough draft form. Australian salary range for grade 7 -- £400 to £500).

SPECIFICATIONS OF POSTS

POST	QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED	DUTIES	GRADE	SALARY
Director, Assembly Center	<p>Organizing ability and capacity to act on own initiative in absence of directions from Head Quarters. Resource and ability to improvise. Candidates selected will be working with colleagues and sub-ordinates of many nationalities; with military authorities on matters of supplies and movement of homeward bound nationals; with representatives of Allied Governments, etc. Tact and ability to inspire team spirit is essential. Experience of Emergency Relief Work is an asset.</p> <p>Candidates must be prepared to undertake the ultimate responsibility for the physical and mental care of Displaced Persons some of whom may be ill and many discontented.</p>	<p>To take general responsibility for running Assembly Centres, which may consist of hutments, barracks, groups of billets, or possibly camps, each for 3,000 to 10,000 Allied Nationals. These will have been liberated in Germany after serving as deported labourers, prisoners of war, in concentration camps, etc. They are mainly adult males but with a substantial proportion of women and children. The supervising staff will have to see that these displaced persons are housed and fed, perhaps by emergency methods and carefully registered so that their nationality can be determined and arrangements made for their repatriation. Health measures will include disinfestation and prevention of epidemics. Various Welfare Services will be needed.</p>	11	£1000 to £1200
Assistant Director & Administrative Officer	<p>Organising ability and capacity to act on own initiative in absence of directions from Head Quarters. Resource and ability to improvise. Candidates selected will be working with colleagues and sub-ordinates of many nationalities; with military authorities on matters of supplies and movement of homeward bound nationals; with representatives of</p>	General assistance to the Director.	10	£800 to £960

Allied Governments, etc. Tact and ability to inspire team spirit is essential. Experience of Emergency Relief Work is an asset

Welfare	Substantial experience (preferably five years) in Social	Organisation and direction under the administrative control of Assembly Centres. The duties will also include the selection and training of welfare staff	10	£800 to £960
Assistant Welfare Officer	Substantial experience (preferably three yrs.) in social welfare work in governmental or voluntary agencies service. General or specialist experience; good educational standard; social work training desirable. (Not under 26 years of age).	General assistance to Principal Welfare Officer	8	£500 to £660
Administrative Officer (Supply)	General administrative experience preferably in connection with handling of supply matters.	Supply Officer is responsible for ordering and securing supplies and equipment required for use and maintenance of an Assembly Centre. Maintenance of Records showing receipts and disbursements Duties include responsibility for ensuring supplies and distribution of food. He will have working under him a Steward and Warehouse officer.	9	£640-800
Admin. Officer. (Stores)	All round warehousing or store keeping experience, accounting for such stores, etc.	Responsible for receipt storage, issue and maintenance of stores, equipment and accounting for same. Supervising locally engaged staff.	8	£500-660
Steward (Messing Officer)	Experience in management of large industrial canteens, communal feeding centres, or Forces catering establishments. Must	Organise, improvise supervise, cooking and feeding of 3,000 to 10,000 people. Preparations of	8	£500-660

be able to control staff, must possess initiative and ability to work in difficult circumstances.

diet sheets from rations provided and delivered to camp. Management of camp food store and kitchen staff locally engaged.

Clerk-Steno	Good general clerical experience, filing, simple accounts and general office work, knowledge of typing essential	To act as clerk to staff and probably take charge of a small staff engaged locally.	4	£240-280
Medical Officer	Doctors of standing and experience some knowledge of administrative work Public Health experience is desirable but not essential.	Required to organise in its entirety the medical supervision of an Assembly Centre and also to direct an International staff of Doctors, nurses and orderlies.	10 960 11 £1000-1200	
Assembly Center Nurse	Must be registered in accordance with the regulations in force in their respective countries; should as far as possible have some Public Health experience and must be experienced nurses with some knowledge of administration (Not under age of 35)	Work in close co-operation and under direction of the Chief M.O. and be at the head of the Nursing Staff in the Centre.	6	£325-425
Truck Driver (3 in each team)	Thorough lorry driving experience knowledge of maintenance and running repairs. Must be able to drive three ton or 30 cwt. lorries. Experience of the continent an advantage.	To drive and maintain three ton and 30 cwt. lorries.	3	£210-242
Cook (for UNRRA team)	Good plain cook. Accustomed to type of cooking in the Forces or camp cooking	To cook for up to 20 people with rations supplied from Army sources under equivalent to Active Service conditions.	3	£210-242

14 March 1945

Under the general supervision of the Assistant Director of the Assembly Center, subject to whatever assignments may be required in the care for hundreds of displaced persons (including deported laborers, prisoners of war, persons released from concentration camps, etc.) of many nationalities, to carry out duties of the following general nature:

1. Performs administrative work for all Assembly Center offices, as required, including supply, stores, welfare, health, transportation, nursing; prepares reports for Area offices and Operation Headquarters.
2. When emergencies arise, handles registration and maintenance of displaced persons records in the center. This involves assuring that proper and adequate information is obtained from Center personnel and that such information is properly recorded.
3. Whenever moving is required, takes responsibility for office space for the center staff; attends to space layout, sees that equipment is properly identified, and assures that interruption to operations is at a minimum.
4. Follows through on matters of transportation for persons within centers, by making sure that they have proper credentials, if required, and are properly equipped to be transported from the center.
5. Observes distribution of food, clothing, and other supplies within the center, bringing possible inequities to the attention of the proper official for attention.
6. Serves as transmitter of information between UNRRA center staff officials and local officials and agencies, in such matters as may be required; and in certain cases may transmit information between UNRRA center staff and the military.
7. Supervises personnel drawn from the displaced persons group in order to help with clerical and maintenance work.
8. Is subject to duty 24 hours a day and will perform all necessary tasks as directed or as required in the operation of the center, including maintenance, mass feeding, supplies, and driving

Desirable Qualifications:

1. Personal Qualities: Physical and emotional ability to withstand arduous conditions of work and long hours of duty. Versatility. Adaptability to varied and rapidly changing situations. Sympathetic understanding of the problems of persons in need and complete freedom from prejudice and bias. Initiative and alertness.

Administrative Assistant, grade 7 (continued)
Displaced Persons -- German Operations

2. Experience and education: One year of administrative experience civil or military, in a position requiring adaptability, tact, and initiative. College degree desirable but not essential. Civic activities and extra-curricular college experience will also be considered helpful. A knowledge of French and other European languages desirable but not essential.