

UNRRA (EUROPEAN REGION).

Regd. No.

DC 45/10

Date of Paper	FROM WHOM
JUNE 1946	RECORD
Date Registered	
7.6.46.	SUBJECT
	ALLEGATIONS AGAINST UNRRA
	MISUSE OF UNRRA SUPPLIES - GERMANY

DC-40,027

NOTE. This file must always be passed on VIA the REGISTRY.

(48102D) Wt P768/276 5M 8/45 HJR & L Gp 51

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
Mr Cohen PA	13.6.46. 13.6.				
Mr Cummings	17.6.46				
M. Molyneux					
A. Cohen					
Mr Cunningham	29.6.				
Mr Cohen	1.7.46				
PA	2/7.				
Mr. G. A.	19.6.47				
P.A.	20/6				
Mr. Gucken.	12-7-47.				
PA	16-7.				
Mr. A. Cohen.	2-9-47.				
P.A.	3/9				
Miss Stephens	31-12-47.				
P.A.	15.1.48.				

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NOTE.— Do not retain this File unnecessarily.

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0545/10

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5-6-		Mrs Moor	Ast Ward	" " " " increased expenses	2
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From: Arthur Cohen

To: Mr. H.R. Cummings, Director, Information Division

I attach draft letter to Mrs. Moor, and shall be grateful if you will make any amendments you think fit.

Arthur Cohen

Assistant General Counsel

28th June, 1946.

To: Mr. Arthur Cohen, Assistant General Counsel

From: H. R. Cummings

I append three amendments for your consideration:-

- 1) Where marked "A", the bracketed sentence to be changed to "It is not, however, our practice to provide correspondents with covering letters";
- 2) At "B", the addition of "in the usual way";
- 3) At "C", the addition of "and we should be unable to justify such ~~payment~~ payments with our financial controllers".

H.R. Cummings

Director
Information Division

1 July, 1946



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Reference..... DG.45/10

To: Mr. Arthur Cohen, Assistant General Counsel
From: H. R. Cummings, Director, Information Division

Mr. Morhange has handed back this file to me as he thinks it is not a matter upon which he should advise, though my impression is that he is ~~frankly~~ against making any payment.

(19.6.46)

My comment above, was based mainly on the fact that Major-General Lewis and Mr. Dudley Ward considered Mrs. Moor to be a reputable person, and that in her letter to Mr. Dudley Ward she says "... you allowed me to give you a statement of the expenses and extra costs I made on behalf of UNRRA." This, if correct, ~~and~~ seems to imply a readiness to consider some kind of payment. Apart from that, your paragraph 4 appears to me to meet the case.

Perhaps it might be worth while to consult our representative in Holland.

25 June, 1946.

HR Cummings



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TO: Mr. Arthur Cohen.

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FROM: H. R. Cummings.

The answer to paragraph A is to be found in E.R.O. Regional Order No. 30. The central point of it is as follows: -

"3. In general, UNRRA shall extend to correspondents all services and courtesies usually accorded such visitors to theaters of activity. Whenever feasible it should be made clear to correspondents that they are expected to pay their own way insofar as air and rail transport are concerned and that they shall also, whenever possible, be expected to meet the expense of their own meals and lodging even though these are provided in UNRRA messes and UNRRA billets. Expenses which correspondents obviously would not normally incur, such as the expense of ground travel from an UNRRA field headquarters to the scene of UNRRA field activities may be assumed by UNRRA."

On the assumption that ^{Miss} Moor is accredited to a reputable Dutch newspaper, there does seem to be a case for repaying some at least of the £90 expenditure. She appears to have done some public service and has refrained from using the information she acquired to the detriment of UNRRA. It might be beneficial in the long run, apart from legal or other such considerations, if she were kept in a good mood.

H. R. Cummings

19.6.46.

H. R. Cummings.
Director, Information
Division.

INDEXED

Reference.....DG/45/10.....

From: Arthur Cohen

To: Mr. *✓* Cummings, Director of Information (for para.A)
M. Morhange, Director of Finance (for para.B) *see para 1*

1. The attached letter from a lady whom Mr. Ward and I interviewed about a fortnight ago, and who gave some interesting information about activities in Germany, which are now under investigation, has recently been received.
2. As you will see, two requests are made: (A) for assistance in the event of any return to Germany for journalistic purposes and (B) for the refund of expenses incurred in connection with the information which she decided warranted a special trip to this country ~~to give to~~ *see para 2*
3. In regard to (A), I should be grateful if some indication could be given as to the maximum assistance which is accorded to journalists who are not sent out expressly on UNRRA's behalf, as it is felt that this is a case where we should give whatever assistance we can without making a special exception of the case.
4. With regard to (B), although this lady undoubtedly acted in the best possible way in that instead of publishing scandals which would have made good copy, she reported the matter to Headquarters, it is not felt that it would be a proper use of UNRRA funds to reimburse the expenses claimed. There is clearly no legal liability on the Administration, as we never requested Mrs. Moor either to go to Germany on our behalf or, having got there, to make a report to us, and it is felt that the only possible risk taken if no payment is made is that she might decide to publish the story before our investigations are complete. Having seen the lady, *✓* it is unlikely she would take this course, and, in any case, it is a risk that in my view is worth taking. I should, however, be grateful for your confirmation on this point.



Arthur Cohen
Assistant General Counsel

15th June, 1946.

H-13809

ge (10)

28 AUG 1947

INDEXED

Mr. R. J. Polak
Keizersgracht 478
Amsterdam - C

Dear Mr. Polak:

Subject: Mrs. Louise Moor



We have given very careful consideration to your letter of 4 August 1947 with respect to Mrs. Louise Moor's claim. However, it is our conclusion that the decision reached by the European Regional Office is correct and that the claim is not one that can properly be recognized by the Administration.

Sincerely,

Harry C. Lamberton
Acting General Counsel

cc: Mr. Arthur Cohen, ERO



Mr. R. J. POLAK
ADVOCaat EN PROCUREUR

TEL: KANTOOR 48594
HUIS 35934

GEMEENTEGIRO P 2317

BANKIER: NED. HANDEL MIJ. N.V.

AMSTERDAM-C., 4 August 1947
KEIZERSGRACHT 478

100

U.N.R.R.A.
Head-quarters,
New-York.

SC-

BETREFT: Mrs. LOUISE MOOR

Gentlemen,

I beg to draw your attention to the following question, which so far has been handled by your European Regional Office at London with, as it seems to me, very dissatisfying results.

My client, Mrs. LOUISE MOOR at The Hague got in May 1946 various special licences and facilities from the Dutch Government to visit your camps in Germany in order to obtain copy about these camps to be publicated in Dutch and foreign papers.

After her arrival she was approached by some UNRRA-officers who asked her to try to make contact with them without being seen doing so by others, in order to give her detailed information about the criminal and ruthless way in which the goods destined for the camps were withdrawn and brought into the black market. This secrecy of demeanour was necessary, for experience had learned that dangers for their personal safety were run by those who ventured to oppose to the prevailing conditions and situation as the above mentioned officers and Mrs Moor meant to do.

Both two dangers were defied by my client and her personnel interests of collecting and selling this very sensational and valuable copy renounced by travelling back and, being introduced by the Dutch State Department and the London ambassador, transmitting personally these alarming data to the Head of your European Regional Office, who showed himself very grateful and immediately took measures to settle this affair.

Afterwards it appeared that only a few officers were maintained in their posts after a large scale purging.

According to general and indisputable legal principles, those who voluntarily look after other persons interests, may claim a compensation for the expenses made and the deprivation of their expectable profits. So far, however, it has not been possible to induce your European Regional Office to see matters this way and to proceed accordingly. This Office restricted its

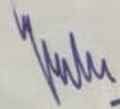
reaction to expressing its sincere gratitude but could not justify such expenses as were asked for by my client. Even the fact my client was not allowed to visit the camps again and was impeded to get at last some of the copy she was out for from the beginning of this unfortunate affair, was not taken into account.

This brings me to putting this matter into your hands in order to consider the righteousness of my client's protestation against the manner in which hitherto her claims have been met.

You will find a statement of my client's expenses and detriments attached to this letter. I make appeal to your high authority to effect the termination of this unjust and unfair attitude assumed against my client's decent demeanour, and beg you to find copies of the mutual correspondence.

Hoping and trusting my client will receive from you what is her due,

yours sincerely,



RECEIVED
Aug 19 11 16 AM '47
COMMUNICATIONS BRANCH
POSTAL SECTION
UNRRA

Mr. R. J. POLAK
ADVOCaat EN PROCUREUR

TEL.: KANTOOR 46594
 HUIS 35934

GEMEENTEGIRO P 2317

BANKIER: NED. HANDEL MIJ N.V.

AMSTERDAM-C.,
KEIZERSGRACHT 478

BETREFT:

Statement of expenses and detriments.

- a. travelling- and lodgingexpenses
(as specified in letter of my client
dated 5th of June 1946) £ 90.--
- b. lost earnings, owing to:
1. the loss of time of one month which
my client spent on this affair £ 50.--
 2. the refusal of readmittance to
the UNRRA-camps, which consequently
made it impossible to collect material
and copy £300.--

total £ 440.--

17 Juni 1947

Your Ref.: DG.45/10 (768)

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE

11 Portland Place
L O N D O N W.1.

Gentlemen :

I herewith beg to inform you that Mrs LOUISE MOOR contracted me in order to assert her rights upon you.

Your letter of 2. July 1946, which will be cited later on more fully, does not give a very complete view of the situation from which the claim of my client originates and I therefore deem it advisable to add a few details.

During the month of May 1946 my client went to Germany in and on behalf of one of the important Netherland weekly magazines, duly provided with exclusive and strictly personal passports and permits as well as facilities of the Royal Netherlands Government Press Service, in order to obtain material and copy about the organization, arrangements and functioning of the UNRRA-camps and life therein.

Almost immediately after her arrival my client was approached by one of the few honest persons left in that camp, who gave her certain information - being obliged to do so in a very secretive and careful way - as to the wellnigh unbelievable and criminal conditions prevailing in those camps, and who told her in particular how all kinds of means and methods were good enough to obtain the goods, supplied for the general and public welfare and to use them for the profit of the black market and of private persons.

It must be assumed with certainty that my client run personal danger in lending ear to this detailed information and in trying to communicate it to the proper authorities, who -it seemed- did not know on what enormous scale these scandalous transactions were managed. It is equally certain that a person with less social responsibility than my client might have profited very considerably of the publication of such detailed information, whereas my client were properly preferred to inform the responsible authorities descreetly of the facts, as they had been given to her.

I furthermore want to point out that my client not only spent important sums of money (travelling and lodgings-expenses) on this affair of public interest, but also had the unfortunate experience of being refused readmittance to the camps, after having settled this affair, and consequently she could not get the copy, at a time when the copy was still exclusive "news" and easy to sell.

Your letter, already above cited, of July 2nd 1946, takes all these facts into account only partly and it is my established opinion that my client has a perfect and undeniable right to revert to this matter again.

In this connection it is of special interest that only recently a home-coming UNRRA-officer informed my client that her information and evidence which she communicated to the proper authorities, and which she collected with so much trouble, expense and danger, led to a thorough investigation and subsequent purge on a grand scale: countless persons were dismissed. By this client got certainty that her work had been completely successful and consequently in no little degree useful and beneficial for your Administration.

Under these circumstances I think it right to ask you to compensate my client for her direct expenses and lost earnings, amounting to (calculated on a modest basis):

- | | |
|--|----------|
| a) travelling- and lodging expenses
(as specified in letter of my client
dated 5th of June 1946) | £ 90.-- |
| b) lost earnings, owing to: | |
| 1e. the loss of time of one month
which my client spent on this
affair | £ 50.-- |
| 2e. the refusal of readmittance to the
UNRRA-camps, which consequently
made it impossible to collect
material and copy. | £ 300.-- |

Total. . . . £ 440.--

I should appreciate to hear from you regarding this claim before July 1st. 1947. In case I do not receive a satisfactory reply to the just claim of my client before that date of July 1, 1947, I shall have to consider what other ways there are to obtain a satisfactory settlement of the claim above referred to.

Awaiting your reply, I beg to remain, Gentlemen,

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE,
11, Portland Place,
London, W.1.

Reference DG 45/10

20th June 1947

Dear Sir,

Mrs Louise Moor

I have been requested to reply to your letter of 17th June with regard to the claim made by Mrs Moor against the Administration.

I regret that Mrs Moor is dissatisfied with the decision of the Administration contained in my letter of 2nd July 1946 but I can assure you that, except for the matter referred to in paragraph 6 of your letter under reference, all the other points you make were, at the time of the decision, taken very carefully into consideration.

As regards paragraph 6 of your letter it is necessary to state that in the view of the Administration the reports received by Mrs Moor from the UNRRA officer mentioned are undoubtedly exaggerated and are by no means accurate. In fact the enquiries referred to were instituted a considerable time before Mrs Moor made her report to the European Regional Office, although it is true that they were not completed and any consequent action taken, until a little time afterwards. It cannot therefore be said that the enquiry and any resulting action were instituted as a result of Mrs Moor's report. Even if this had been the case the decision of the Administration with regard to meeting Mrs Moor's claim would not have been altered.

It is realised that Mrs. Moor may regard the decision as a hard one and I would assure you that, as already stated in earlier correspondence, the Administration is very much alive to the attitude adopted by Mrs Moor in not selling her story to the press, but for reasons given in the last paragraph of my letter of 2nd July 1946 it is still felt that the funds of the Administration cannot be used to meet a claim of this sort which clearly has no legal basis.

Yours truly

Arthur Cohen
Assistant General Counsel

Mr. H.J. Polak,
Advocaat en Procureur
Keizersgracht 478,
AMSTERDAM-C.

10 July 1947

your ref. DG 45/10
Mrs. LOUISE MOOR

U.N.R.R.A.
European Regional Office,
11. Portland Place,
London, W.1.

Mr. Arthur Cohen,
Assistant General Counsel.

Dear Sir,

Your decision is not so much considered as hard as unjust. I can't imagine that any legal system you could refer to should not contain the rule that anybody who had made expenses on behalf of some other body has the right to get those expenses back from who has taken benefit of them.

Therefore I cannot quite understand on what ground your refusal to meet these expenses is based. High Dutch Officials could testify that the data furnished by client were received as quite unknown, and even if they should not have been all of them quite to the point, which could not be astonishing, taken into consideration the general confusion and which never could be used as a means to degrademy clients sacrifices - they must have been of a great value to your administration. It does not seem to be a quite fair attitude to try to diminish afterwards my clients merits in order to contradict her righteous claims.

I therefore beg your administration to take into reconsideration those claims, and to possibly suggest a solution that lies between our mutual points of view. I should appreciate a quite as soon answering of my letter as last time, in order to be able if neccessary to apply to the Headoffice or other instances in good time.

Yours truly,

lawyer.

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE
11, Portland Place, LONDON, W.1.

Copy

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL.

DG 45/10

15th July, 1947.

Dear Sir :

In the temporary absence of Mr. Arthur Cohen I am replying to your letter dated 10th July, concerning Mrs Louise Moor. This matter has been again examined in this office and I have to inform you that we have nothing to add to what Mr. Arthur Cohen said in his letter of 20th June.

Yours faithfully,

K.A.Aickin.
Assistant General Counsel.

Mr. R.J. Polak,
Advocat en Procureur,
Keizersgracht 478,
AMSTERDAM-C.

1947. 15th July

OUT FILE

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DE 45/10.

15th July, 1947.

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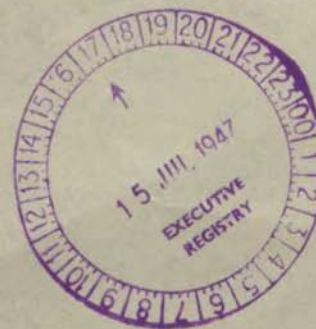
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Yours faithfully,

K.A. AICKIN.
Assistant General Counsel.

Mr. R. J. Polak,
Advocat en Procureur,
Keizersgracht 478,
AMSTERDAM C.



REGISTERED.

Mr. R. J. POLAK
ADVOCaat EN PROCUREUR

KANTOOR 46594
TEL. HUIS 35934

GEMEENTEGIRO P 2317

BANKIER: NED. HANDEL MIJ N.V.

AMSTERDAM-C. 10 July 1947
KEIZERGRACHT 478

BETREFF: your ref. DG 45/10
Mrs. LOUISE MOOR

U.N.N.R.R.A.
European Regional Office,
11. Portland Place,
London, W.1.

Mr. Arthur Cohen,
Assistant General Counsel.

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lawyer.



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OUT FILE

DG 45/10

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY
20/6

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Reference DG 45/10

20th June 1947

Dear Sir:

Mrs. Louise Moor

See (b)

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I regret that Mrs. Moor is dissatisfied with the decision of the Administration contained in my letter of 2nd July 1946 but I can assure you that, except for the matter referred to in paragraph 6 of your letter under reference, all the other points you make were, at the time of the decision, taken very carefully into consideration.

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Yours truly

Arthur Cohen
Assistant General Counsel

Mr. R.J. Polak
Advocaat en Procureur
Keizersgracht 478
AMSTERDAM C.



Mr. R. J. POLAK
ADVOCaat EN PROCUREUR

KANTOOR 46594
TEL. HUIS 35934

GEMEENTEGIRO P 2317

BANKIER: NRD. HANDEL MIJ N.V.

AMSTERDAM-C. 17 Juni 1947.
KEIZERSGRACHT 478

BETREFF: Your Ref.: DG.45/10 (768)

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE

11 Portland Place
L O N D O N, W.1.

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Your letter of 2. July 1946, which will be cited later on more fully, does not give a very complete view of the situation from which the claim of my client originates and I therefore deem it advisable to add a few details.

During the month of May 1946 my client went to Germany in and on behalf of one of the important Netherlands weekly magazines, duly provided with exclusive and strictly personal passports and permits as well as facilities of the Royal Netherlands Government Press Service, in order to obtain material and copy about the organization, arrangements and functioning of the UNRRA-camps and life therein.

Almost immediately after her arrival my client was approached by one of the few honest persons left in that camp, who gave her certain information - being obliged to do so in a very secretive and careful way - as to the wellnigh unbelievable and criminal conditions prevailing in those camps, and who told her in particular how all kinds of means and methods were good enough to obtain the goods, supplied for the general and public welfare, and to use them for the profit of the black market and of private persons.

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Mr. R. J. POLAK
ADVOCaat EN PROCUREUR

AMSTERDAM-C. 17 Juni 1947.
KEIZERSGRACHT 478

KANTOOR 46594
TEL. HUIS 35934

GEMEENTEGIRO P 2317

BANKIER: NRD. HANDEL MIJ N.V.

BETREFF:

I furthermore want to point out that my client not only spent important sums of money (travelling and lodgings-expenses) on this affair of public interest, but also had the unfortunate experience of being refused readmittance to the camps, after having settled this affair, and consequently she could not get the copy, at a time when this copy was still exclusive "news" and easy to sell.

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In this connection it is of special interest that only recently a home-coming UNRRA-officer informed my client that her information and evidence which she communicated to the proper authorities, and which she collected with so much trouble, expense and danger, led to a thorough investigation and subsequent purge on a grand scale: countless persons were dismissed. By this client got certainty that her work had been completely succesful and consequently in no little degree useful and beneficial for your Administration.

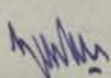
Under these circumstances I think it right to ask you to compensate my client for her direct expenses and lost earnings, amounting to (calculated on a modest basis):

- a. travelling- and lodging expenses
(as specified in letter of my client dated 5th of June 1946).....£ 90.-
- b. lost earnings, owing to:
 - 1° the loss of time of one month which my client spent on this affair: £ 50.-
 - 2° the refusal of readmittance to the UNRRA-camps, which consequently made it impossible to collect material and copy £ 300.-

Total £ 440.-

I should appreciate to hear from you regarding this claim before Juli 1st. 1947. In case I do not receive a satisfactory reply to the just claim of my client before that date of July 1, 1947, I shall have to consider what other ways there are to obtain a satisfactory settlement of the claim above referred to.

Awaiting your reply, I beg to remain, Gentlemen,
faithfully yours,

 lawyer.

Ref. DG.45/10

2nd July, 1946.

Dear Mrs. Moor,

I must apologize for the delay in answering your letters of 6th and 15th June in relation to your meeting with Mr. Dudley Ward on 31st May, at which, you may remember, I was also present.

We shall be pleased to do what we can to help you should you desire at some future date to pay a further visit to Germany in order to study UNRRA activities. It is not, however, our practice to provide correspondents with covering letters; but if you will let us know if and when you propose to undertake such a trip, we will inform our Headquarters, in the usual way, to afford you appropriate facilities. These would include the provision of billeting and messing, which would be subject to reimbursement by yourself, and, where possible, the use of a car in going to some of the more inaccessible camps, though this latter facility cannot, I am afraid, be guaranteed.

With regard to the expenses which you unfortunately incurred in making your trip to London, the cost of these is fully realised; but I fear we should be unable to justify the payment of these expenses with our financial controllers. I am afraid this decision may seem somewhat hard; but I trust that in spite of it you will accept my assurance that the Administration deeply appreciates the motive which influenced you in taking the action that you did.

Yours truly,

Assistant General Counsel

Mrs. L. Moor,
Huizen, N.H.,
Oud-Bussumerweg 4.

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY
2/9/46



(4)

DRAFT 28/6/46

Dear Mrs. Moor,

I must apologize for the delay in answering your letters of 6th and 15th June in relation to your meeting with Mr. Dudley Ward on 31st May, at which, you may remember, I also was present.

(A) We shall be pleased to do what we can to help you should you desire at some future date to pay a further visit to Germany in order to study UNRRA activities. [We do not, however, ^A feel able to provide you with the covering letter for which you ask;] but if you will let us know if and when you propose to undertake such a trip, we will inform our Headquarters ^A to afford you appropriate facilities. These would include the provision of billeting and messing, which would be subject to reimbursement by yourself, and, where possible, the use of a car in going to some of the more inaccessible camps, though this latter facility cannot, I fear, be guaranteed.

(B) With regard to the expenses which you unfortunately incurred in making your trip to London, the extent of these is fully realised; ^{unlike} but I fear it ~~will~~ not be in accordance with the policy of the Administration to compensate you in respect of them. I am afraid this decision may seem somewhat hard; but I trust that in spite of it you will accept my assurance that the Administration deeply appreciates the motive which influenced you in taking the action that you did.

Yours etc.



INDEXED

Huizen, N.H. June, 15th. 1946

Oud-Bussummerweg 4

Dudley Ward Esq.,
Unrra Head Quarters,
Portland Place 11 A,
L O N D O N



Dear Mr. Ward,

Now that I had the occasion to stay a few days longer in Holland, waiting for renewal of my papers to enter the British and American Zones in Germany, I will not fail to come back to my letter of the 5th. instant.

In this letter the item 2) travelling, lodging and other expenses in Holland, might not have been quite clear to you. I on my part should very well understand your possible surprise in stating a rather high amount for expenses in Holland, this being my home-station. I therefore think you entitled to a short explanation.

I arrived at the Hague with a car from Frankfurt in the night of the 24th of May, and had there to arrange a hotel for the night with great difficulty. Early in the morning of Saturday, the 25th, I left the Hague by train and reached my home at Huizen, a 130 KM. farther. From there I rang up to the Foreign Office - whom I knew to have had contact with the Military Mission already - and I asked them, what they wanted me to do. They answered that they were still discussing the matter and told me, to ring up later in the morning. As it is very difficult to come through to the Hague from here, I had to ask the operator for "Blitz-calls". Foreign Office thereupon judged it advisable to come over to the Hague again by taxi, offices being closed at 12.30 on Saturdays.

In the meantime I had to go to the Hague once more on Monday next, but then, of course, I took the train. It was arranged that I should take the Tuesday's boat from the Hook of Holland. Visa Section of the Foreign Office had given me an introduction for the British Embassy in Amsterdam to get an "urgent"-visa but on arriving in Amsterdam, I found at the address mentioned the British Consulate, where I learned that only the Embassy at the Hague gave visa. So I cabled to the Hague and Tuesday afternoon I once again had to go to the Hague and hired a motor-car, in order to have the possibility to catch the night-boat.

Now perhaps the item "travelling-expenses" will not be a puzzle to you anymore, taxi's in Holland being very expensive. To this item must be added the expenses for meals outdoors during three days, for cables to the Hague and to England, for visa-expenses, etc. If I had had a few days more time, I could have travelled at my ease with less expenses. You know, however, after our discussion, how tense the situation was at Muenchen and it was not justified to lose a day.

Yours very sincerely,

paid / 85.- Huizen. The Hague
visa. versa.

Loeise Kuor.

Mrs. Louise Moor

Huizen, N.H. June 5th. 1946
Oud-Bussummerweg 4

Dudley Ward Esq.,
c/o Unrra Head Quarters,
L O N D O N

Portland Place 11A



Dear Mr. Ward,

Our conference of the 31st of May left no time to get your opinion on some personal matters which I now should very much like you to consider.

On the 2nd of October 1945 the first negotiations started to get me to Germany as a correspondent. In Holland it takes a long time to have all the preparations settled for a journey like this, also owing to the fact that one has to be militarized. Only half a year later, on the 30th. of April 1946 the necessary papers were in order and I left the day afterwards, though at that moment the journey did not suit me at all, as I was then expecting a happy event for next autumn. Nevertheless I took the plane to Paris, got travel-orders from U.S. Army Western Base Commanding in Paris and arrived two days later at Munich. It is known to you what happened almost directly after my arrival there.

Though I sincerely hope you will understand that I consider the way I dealt with this interference to be a mere fact of duty, I completely subordinated my own interests to Unrra's which I thought of much more importance.

Though I had to wait for the returning to Munich of the Dutch liaison-officer, I several times a day rung up to Munich - which meant a question of several hours every time to get a line - wherever I found myself and as soon as I heard of the gentlemen's arrival, I came over to Munich.

In the meantime I had made appointments with several people which I had then to put off. When I had my travel-orders ready for Vienna, I instead of that, put my luggage on the train up north and said good-bye to any further journalistic activity.

Now I will have to go back to my starting-point/and I need not explain that the loss of a month's time is rather unfortunate in my circumstances. However, I do not want to complain, as I took my choice of free will. At the other side, I am not sure, whether I shall find now the same willingness to help me from the side of M.G.'s Public Relations as before. I personally do not like to explain to them the reason of my going and coming back. It is therefore I want to ask you, to give me your help and I am sure you will know that I will only make use of this in case of necessity. Would you be so kind as to give me a letter of

Arriving at Frankfurt on the 13th of June

See enc 3

To Mr. Dudley Ward, c/o Unrra Head Quarters, London.-

general assistance and
especially

Huizen, June 5th. 1946

- 2 -

introduction from Head Quarters in London, enabling me to ask Unrra in Germany for a car or billeting in case there is no other possibility? You know that it is not possible for individuals to get a car in Germany without orders from M.G., Unrra and so on. As a matter of fact the eventual fares would be for my account.

In the second place you allowed me to give you a statement of the expenses and extra costs I made on behalf of Unrra. If necessary I can give you a detailed specification with accounts, but for lack of time I hope you will allow me to suffice for the moment with the following rough calculation:

1) Travelling, lodging and other expenses in Germany 4/5-23/5	D.Fl. 325.-
2) Travelling, lodging and other expenses in Holland 23/5 - 28/5	" 235.-
3) Travelling, lodging and other expenses in England 28/5-1/6	" 290.-
4) Return-journey Germany via Paris	" 100.-

	D.Fl. 950 = $\frac{1}{2}$ £ 90.--

I kindly request you to refund me this amount in the following way:

- 1) £ 36/-/- to be remitted to the account of Mr. L.H. Kiek, c/o Messrs. Erlangers Ltd., 4, Moorgate, London
- 2) £ 12/-/- to be put at my disposal for the counter-value of ca. 500 allied marks by Unrra Frankfurt Branch on my arrival there.
- 3) £ 33.-/- to be put at my disposal for the counter-value of ca. D.Fl. 350.- (dutch guilders) by Unrra the Hague Branch, Holland
- 4) £ 9/-/- Detailed instructions follow later after consultation with the Dutch Foreign Office. (£ sterling belong to them, countervalue in guilders to me)

I shall be very glad to be kept informed about proceedings in the matter which gave me the pleasure of meeting you and which from now on has been put to the good care of Mr. Lamping.

I am, Dear Sir,
Sincerely yours,

Louise Moore

From: Arthur Cohen

To: Major-General R.G. Lewis



Rejuly
D945/10

INDEXED

1. Last Friday, in company with Mr. Dudley Ward, I saw Mrs. L. Moor, a Dutch newspaper correspondent, who came specially over to London to make a report about certain alleged UNRRA improprieties which had been reported to her on her recent visit to Germany.

2. The full facts will be found in Mrs. Moor's report and copy of Mr. La Roye's statement, which are attached. The case as reported by Mr. La Roye to Mrs. Moor can, however, be summarised as follows:

Mr. La Roye, a Belgian, was assigned to Team 114 in Augsburg in about February this year. Shortly after his arrival, he came to the conclusion that no proper supervision was being kept over the warehouse in which UNRRA goods were stored, and a little later found out that a lot of illicit traffic was going on, particularly in cigarettes, chocolate and milk. As a result, he reported what he had heard to his Team Director, Mr. Smith, and together they informed Major Thurston, the American Provost Marshal in Augsburg. As a consequence of this, a trap was laid by Major Thurston and a number of arrests were made.

3. Very shortly after these arrests, Mr. La Roye ascertained that illicit dealings on a fairly large scale were going on in morphine and other medical drugs and sera. In connection with this abuse, he obtained various declarations from UNRRA personnel which he handed to Mr. Moses, the UNRRA Security Officer, asking him to give them to Major Thurston. On discovering about four days later that the declarations had not been received by Major Thurston, although Mr. Moses lived quite close by, he himself reported the facts to the American Military Police, adding that he thought the UNRRA Security were, to use his own words, trying to iron out the affair. This in my view was the first mistake made by Mr. La Roye, since he should undoubtedly have first reported the facts to his Team Director and should not, in any case, have made allegations against UNRRA officials direct to the Military Police. Very shortly after this, and probably as a result of it, both he and Mr. Smith were recalled from Augsburg to Pasing for re-assignment, and it was while they were awaiting re-assignment that Mr. La Roye contacted Mrs. Moor. He then told her his story, as he said that his impression was that many things had been going on in the American Zone which were being kept dark, and that the only way to get them set right was to have them published in the foreign Press.

This undoubtedly was the second mistake made by Mr. La Roye, as under no circumstances could he be entitled to approach Press correspondents in such a way.

4. Mrs. Moor was much disturbed by what she had heard, and as she happened to meet at Pasing an UNRRA worker whom she knew and felt that she could rely upon, she re-told the story to her, at the same time pledging her to secrecy. This employee, however, apparently felt that she could not keep the matter to herself, and reported it to her superior officer, as a result of which, Mr. La Roye said, he was dismissed and was told to leave Germany immediately. In fact, he did not leave Germany, as UNRRA were ordered to retain him there by the American military authorities, as their investigations were not complete and his evidence was naturally of importance.

5. Although I do not think it can be suggested that UNRRA had not ample grounds for terminating Mr. La Roye on account of his conduct in reporting so serious a matter direct to a foreign newspaper correspondent, it is hard to believe that they should have told him to leave Germany, knowing that the military investigations were still unfinished, and, one would assume, desiring themselves also to investigate the matter to see if things really were as bad as they appeared to be. If, in fact, they did order Mr. La Roye to leave the country, one cannot help being suspicious that all is not well in high places.

6. As far as Mrs. Moor is concerned, Mr. Dudley Ward and myself both formed the view that she is thoroughly honest, and is reporting the matter simply out of a sense of duty; but we do feel that she was inclined to exaggerate, and that she was apt to regard as completely trustworthy evidence facts reported to her second or third-hand. It is possible, therefore, that although there must be some background of truth in the story, it ^{may be} seems fairly highly exaggerated.

As you will see from para.1 of page 2 of Mrs. Moor's statement, she had reported much of the case already to her own Government, and Mr. Lamping is checking up on her as an individual and has agreed to inform us as to the result.

7. The following action is proposed:

- (1) To send a copy of all these papers to Arolsen, asking for their comments. Their attention should be called particularly to the allegation that Mr. La Roye was told to leave Germany immediately on dismissal, though I think we could fairly say in the letter that we assumed that this allegation, at any rate, was untrue. We should also ask how far the military investigation has progressed, and for a copy of the report of the proceedings, which no doubt are being watched on behalf of Headquarters, Germany.

No doubt in their reply, they would indicate whether it is their intention to hold any form of inquiry themselves; but if not, that aspect of the case can be reconsidered in the light of the result of the military investigation. They should probably also be told that the Dutch Government are checking up on Mrs. Moor, so that at a later stage we shall be able to inform them to what extent we think her evidence can be relied upon.

- (2) The Dutch Government should be informed ~~officially~~ that we are investigating the matter. Mr. Dudley Ward did tell Mr. Lamping over the telephone that it was our intention to do so; but the latter was rather reluctant that we should take any step until the Dutch Government themselves had proceeded further. It was pointed out, however, that the report having been made, we were bound to pursue it.

8. In addition to the matters mentioned in her statement, Mrs. Moor made two further points which should be brought to your attention:

- (a) She herself had been staying in a house in the neighbourhood of Pasing where she said she had seen Jews come with suitcases full of food for sale to the householder in exchange for jewels. She had, moreover, seen other Jews in local ~~trades~~ in the district where she was, with suitcases of food, and the practice of their selling this was common talk. She could not, of course, say with certainty that the ~~food~~ was UNRRA food; but she felt it hard to know from where else the supplies could have come.

- (b) She had formed the impression that many of our employees were living too well and being far too highly paid. She gave as an instance a Dutch girl of twenty-four who, she said, was earning £1100 a year although she had no special qualifications. In addition, she thought that the supply of drink (presumably P.X. stores) was too lavish, particularly so far as the younger women employees were concerned. Here again the evidence was thin, as the allowance per head may be reasonable, but there could be nothing to prevent an employee who did not drink from disposing of her share to others who wanted more than they could normally get.

9. Attached to these papers is a copy of an extract from the Ninth ~~German~~ News of Augsburg, dated 30th March, the original of which was ~~shown~~ us by Mrs. Moor. It is not certain, but most probable, that the ~~case~~ referred to is that reported by Mr. La Roye.

H June, 1946.

Assistant General Counsel