

UNRRA (EUROPEAN REGION).

DP H/H/1

Vol. I: CLOSED DEC. 1945

Date of Paper	FROM WHOM	<h1>RECORD</h1>
Date Registered		
SUBJECT		
BELGIUM. GENERAL REPORTS.		

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

83528D) Wt P470/22 5m 7/44 HJR & L Gp 51

Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date	Referred to	Date
Mr Delecloux	4/10	Mrs Koenig	4/4/46.		
Mr Keam.	5/10	Mr Carter	17/10.		
Dr Stuart	10/10.	Registry	16/11		
Dr Stange	12/10.				
Registry	12/10				
Mr Delecloux	26.10				
Registry	29/10				
Mr Delecloux	30/10				
Registry	31/10				
bel charity	12/11				
Miss Radin (433)	16/11				
Mr. Van Offenberg	28/11.				
	(532)				
Mr Delecloux	29/11				
Registry	30/11				
Mr. Whyming	4/2.				
Mr Delecloux	5/2				
Mr Delecloux	1/3				
Registry	13/3				

NOTE.—Do not retain this File unnecessarily.

Reports and Statistics Branch

Date received: 21.1.46

Copy to: OA Registry (OA 4/x)
for circulation

Extracts to: Mr. Dudley Ward
Supply
Welfare & Repatriation ✓
Health
Personnel
O & M
Admin. Services
Accounts and Audit
Combined Working Party

d) Terminations of DP Personnel: During the month of December as we had expected, with the completion by a large number of the early recruits of six months service, we received a large number of terminations from our personnel. At the end of the month, the number of personnel resigning from the DP Operations in Germany reached the figure of 295 out of a total recruitment of 1022; there remain therefore 727 employees in the field.

4. SERVICES PROVIDED WITH UNRRA RESOURCES

a) Welfare: So far we have had no report, which was expected in November, from the Comité de Repartition de Secours on the distribution of shipments of gift clothing to Belgium from the United States and elsewhere. As soon as this arrives, we will furnish you a copy.

b) Displaced Persons

1) The DP branch of the Military Mission in Brussels having closed down on the 31st December, we are no longer in a position to obtain the statistics of DP population in Belgium as called for in para C of supplement SMR-1 to the Administrative Order Nr A 120 but in any case the number of Displaced Persons in Belgium has become insignificant.

DP 4/4/1

Extracts from Report from the Belgian Mission
for December 1945

INDEXED

1. RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT

We received a cable from E.R.O. number 281, stating that Washington consider providing some types of assistance for United Nations' Displaced Persons during winter in case of real emergency. The Government was consulted on this point, especially in view of the fact that according to statistics received at the end of this month, there are something less than 2000 Displaced Persons remaining in the camps in this country. The Commissariat au Rapatriement is in course of liquidation and our enquiry was referred to the "Ministre des Victimes de la Guerre" who asked us whether such contributions would be free gifts or subject to payment and whether the people under his care were qualified to receive such aid. In view of the rapidly improving economic conditions in Belgium and as a result of the phraseology of your cable emphasising the words "real emergency", considering moreover that Belgian nationals who have suffered as a result of the war hardly come within the category of Displaced Persons, it has been decided not to appeal to the Administration for assistance.

6. GENERAL SITUATION IN BELGIUM

a) Food : There has been no change in the rations distributed to the civilian population in Belgium during the month of December. Fresh milk, meat and fats remain scarce and in fact, fresh milk is non-existent as far as the population between the ages of 6 and 70 is concerned. The black market continues to be active although the general impression is that prices here are tending to fall, particularly in respect of textiles, butter, coffee and tea. In fact, tea may now be bought freely in the shops at a reasonable price and is not rationed, although of course the demand for tea has never been great in Belgium. There was no increased ration for Christmas and the New Year for civilians.

b) Industry: We have no new statistics covering industrial activity in Belgium as at the end of December but from unofficial sources we understand that excellent progress is being made in all directions. The coal output compares now with the quantities produced before the war by the local coal industry, namely an output of some 80.000 tons a day. It should however be remembered that Belgium imported considerable quantities before the war from both northern France, French fields and from England, particularly for shipping. These supplies are naturally absent to-day. The distribution for December of coal to households was raised from 200 kg. to 250 kilogram for the month.

c) With regard to detailed statistics up to the end of September on industrial and other activities in Belgium, we are enclosing two copies of the Bulletin d' Information et de Documentation published by the Banque Nationale de Belgique, the most reliable publication in Belgium on this subject. We suggest that one copy be forwarded to Washington for their information.

Copy to: Personal Representative of
Director General, E.R.O.

10.706/1350

copy for DP H/H ✓
Original on DP H/H/1

8th of December 1945.

To : DP Division, E.R.O.
Attention of Mr. Delierneux.
From: UNRRA Representative in Luxembourg.

Subject : Repatriation Meeting in Brussels.

I have read in the local paper this morning of the Meeting between Representatives of France, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg and UNRRA for the purpose of coordinating the work of tracing and repatriation of DP. I confess that it is hard for me to understand why nobody from this Mission was asked to attend this conference, since I am quite sure that the Luxembourg delegates to the conference will expect this office to be fully informed regarding the decisions taken at the conference and various procedures which may have been determined upon.

In any case I hope you will send us full minutes of this conference.

La

Desmond L.W. ANKER
UNRRA Representative in Luxembourg

Copy to : Personal Representative of
Director General, E.R.O.

DP4/4/1

To: Colonel Charley,
From: A. Delierneux,
10th November 1945.

CINDEXED

Re Report Belgian Mission for the Month
of September 1945.

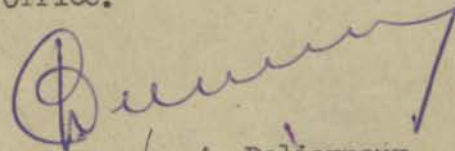
In this report under 4. c) Displaced Persons, the Chief of Mission in Brussels points out that the principal work has been to deal with D.P. Problems relating to the way in which D.P. teams had been sent forward from Granville Base to Germany.

During the month of September, it is stated that apart from ordinary mission work, 1045 visitors were received for settlement of some or other problem.

This seems to me a very high number indeed.

I wonder whether you could examine the possibility of lessening the influx of D.P. personnel in Germany at Brussels Office.

To: Col. Charley



A. Delierneux.

14th November, 1945.
who

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Miss Massez/worked for Brussels Mission during part of the month of September, mentions that the major problems were:

Demands for supplementary equipment. Some of the recruits had not received a greatcoat. Others had worked four, five and six months in the only battledress they had received. They wanted a new battledress or at least trousers, skirts etc.

Complaints about not having received an UNRRA identity card.

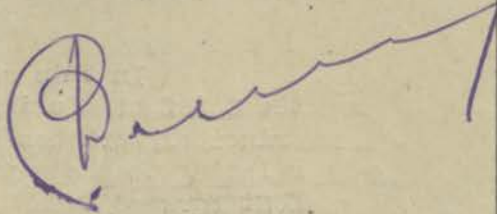
Complaints about not having received a pay book.

Complaints about not having received an A.E.F. card
(Brussels Office has been able to provide these A.E.F.
cards through Captain Jenkins, SHAEF Mission).

Financial Advances.

Change of currency (Reichmarks into Belgian francs etc.)

During that month there were also many visits to complain
about the dismissal of the seventy odd people who had not
been given a trial, the pay off of these people etc.



W. A. Delierneux.

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Central Reports Branch: 19.11.45

Copy to: Mr. Adair

Exec. Regy. - MA 1/1/X
(for circulation)

Extracts to: Mr. Dudley Ward

Dr. Case

Information

Supply

Personnel

Finance

Health

Welfare

~~DP~~

Admin. Services

Organisation and Management

OUT FILE

DP/4/1. Dec No 6

1st November 1945.

To: The Chief of the Belgian
Mission,

From: A. Delierneux,
Chief D.P. Programmes Officer,
Country Missions Section.

In your monthly report for August you mention the fact that you are still waiting for a list of free UNRRA gifts and emergency supplies sent to Belgium.

We have contacted the Division concerned and hope you will soon be receiving it.

Yours sincerely,

A. Delierneux.

W.P. Wrathall,
Chief of the Belgian Mission,
British Embassy,
Basel,
Belgium.

ATTACHMENTS

Statistical reports, according to supplement Nr 1.:

Registration repatriation and care of Displaced Persons:

1. Attached herewith statistics of the DP population in Belgium as at 2nd November 1945.
2. Statistics of those already returned to their home countries have not yet been made available to me by the Military.
3. The only UNRRA operated DP camp in Belgium, at Chateau Lambert, will close on November 8th, after which the team will proceed to Germany.

b) Displaced Persons

1. There is very little to add to my last report regarding D.P.'s in Belgium as they are almost non-existent. The Chateau Lambert camp which was run by an UNRRA team, which incidentally did excellent work, has now closed down and the team is under orders to proceed to Germany and not to Haaren, as I stated in my previous report.

2. Attached herewith is the D.P. situation as called for in para. C. of supplement Nr 1 to the Administrative order No. A 120.

3. I am pleased to report that the number of visits which we now receive on the D.P. questions are considerably less than they have been during the last 6 months. I referred to this matter in my previous report and I hope that this will continue as it will mean that the wheels of the D.P. organisation generally are working more smoothly.

4. There have been no further repercussions whatsoever with regard to the D.P. personnel that I was instructed to dismiss from Belgium and from Hattert camp. This matter therefore in my opinion can be considered closed. We are however terminating a number of Belgium recruited D.P. personnel who have either resigned or been dismissed from service in the field. This matter is working smoothly with the exception of the financial question: the unsatisfactory state of records dating back to Granville is making it very difficult to arrive at the final amount due to the individual. We have had constant communications on this point with E.R.O. and the attached report of the Finance Officer will explain some of the difficulties.

EXTRACTS FROM THE BELGIAN MISSION REPORT

FOR OCTOBER 1945

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DPH/41

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4. SERVICES PROVIDED WITH UNRRA RESOURCES

Attachment C I

D.P. Population Statistics
Belgium 2 Nov. 45

Belgian 78
French 139
Dutch 52

German Austrian 29
Bulgarian 1
Hungarian 2

Egyptian 4

Russian 208
Polish 21
Czechs 173
Yugoslavs 29

Norwegian 1
Danish 4
Icelandish 1

Latvian 1
Lithuanian 2

Greek 128
Italian 18
Swiss 17
Albanian 2
Spanish 43
Portuguese 4

Undertermined
Nationality 17

2
20-11-45

DP 4/4
Duo No 573.

Le 17 octobre 1945.

Mon cher Grimbois,


Bien merci de votre lettre et de votre rapport
y annexé.

J'ai attiré l'attention de qui de droit sur le
fait qu'il y a lieu de vous désigner pour une fonction
réel et responsable.

Je n'ai cessé de le faire et j'espère que cette
fois-ci ce ne sera pas en vain.

Puis-je vous prier de présenter mes respects
à Madame et à Monsieur le Ministre.

Bien vôtre


A. Delierneux.

Major Grimbois,
149, Rue Belliard,
BRUXELLES,
Belgium.

Central Reports Branch: 23.10.45

Copy to: Mr. Adair

MA 4/1/X

Extracts to: Mr. Dudley Ward

Supply

Welfare

Health

~~DP~~

Personnel

Finance

Admin. Services

Information

Organisation and

Management

b) Emergency supplies: There have been practically no emergency supplies sent to this country in the last 4 or 5 months other than 1 ton of evaporated milk which was urgently required for Ukrainian DPs and children in Belgium. It may be of interest to you to know that the supply of fresh milk in Belgium is exceedingly small and is only given to young children and to expectant mothers, e.g. the supply is limited to 8 lit. of fresh milk per month per child. The ton of milk referred to was sent over by air and part of it was issued to the Ukrainian DPs who were actually dispersed to new camps which have been formed by the Belgians at the mining centres of this country. We still have in our possession a supply of this consignment of milk which will be handed out to the urgent necessary cases that are brought to our notice.

2. RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE MILITARY

Our relationship with the local Military continues to be good. We have had considerable set backs on certain points with them but I am pleased to say that we have generally managed to get satisfaction. It would appear however that even now, whatever we have received has been more in the nature of a concession on the part of the Army rather than UNRRA's due under the new agreement which was made between UNRRA and the American and British Military authorities on the cessation of the SHAEF organisation. It is hoped that instructions covering this new agreement will eventually reach the whole of the Units in the field in order to avoid unnecessary delay and difficulties.

EXTRACTS FROM

REPORT TO E.R.O. FROM THE BELGIAN MISSION FOR THE
MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1945

INDEXED

1. RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT

b) In this report I deal with the question of the dismissal of UNRRA DP personnel. It will be noted therefrom that considerable discontent was caused and representations were made to various Belgian Ministries by the dissatisfied parties. I immediately took this matter up with Mr. Van Langenhoven, Secrétaire General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and explained the position to him and the reasons why it was necessary to reduce the DP staff. I got the assurance from him that his Government would do anything they could to assist us to put the matter right, provided they were fully documented.

During the course of the last 2 or 3 weeks, we have had communications from two of the Belgian Government Departments, i.e. from the Prime Minister's Office and from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which brought to our notice an identical claim made by the dissatisfied DP personnel. The Government Departments in question were seen and it was explained to them and confirmed in writing, why it had been necessary to dismiss personnel. No further developments have taken place since and I am hoping that this matter will be satisfactorily terminated.....

3. SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION

b) Displaced Persons

1) Generally speaking, the question of DPs in Belgium has been almost liquidated. The camp at "Chateau Lambert" which is run by an UNRRA team is still in operation and at the moment there are 149 DPs of alleged British, colonial and American nationality still there, pending the decision from the military and civil authorities of their respective alleged countries as to their final destination. The DPs in question are either sent to their home countries or returned to Germany as and when a decision on their application has been made and the present intention is for this camp to be liquidated by November 3rd.

As and when this camp is liquidated, the UNRRA team now responsible for its organisation who have done an excellent job, will go forward to the Assembly Base at Heeren for posting to Germany. I am given to understand by the Military authorities under whom this team works, that they are very satisfied with the manner in which UNRRA has helped them out of their difficulty and carried on the organisation of this camp.

2) Attached herewith is a full report as to the DP situation in Belgium as called for in para C. of supplement Nr. 1 to Administrative Order No. A.120.

3) In my previous reports, I have made it perfectly clear that the principal work of this Mission to this date has been dealing with DP problems relating to the manner in which DP teams were sent forward from the Granville camp to Germany. I will not enlarge on this question, but only wish to state that most of these teams were far from completely equipped, had no pay-books and no AEF cards which were absolutely essential to them before they could proceed to Germany. All these matters, with the exception of the clothing about which we are unable to do anything, were dealt with and this Mission has been receiving a constant stream of UNRRA DP personnel who have been satisfied as far as we possibly could with regard to financial advances and were issued with the necessary AEF cards. This was only possible by making a personal arrangement with the Military under my own responsibility, but it was proved satisfactory and has enabled hundreds of UNRRA personnel to go to Germany who otherwise could not have done so. To give you an idea of the problems with which this Mission is faced, being as it were the halfway-house between Granville-London, Heeren-London and Germany, I would simply state that during the month of September, apart from ordinary Mission work, we received 1045 visitors, all of whom had to be interviewed and some problem or other settled. It is now hoped that with the installation of the new Assembly Base at Heeren, these visits will diminish. There are already signs of this but the volume of visits is still very considerable.

4) On instructions from E.R.O. London, a number of Belgian recruited personnel had to be dismissed owing to there being a surplus to requirements. There were approximately 80 Belgians who had been recruited here but have never been called to Granville and it was with great reluctance that we carried out the instructions to dismiss these people who had never been given an opportunity to prove their worth in the field. Having lived for many years in this country, I pointed out to E.R.O. the danger of doing this as I was of the opinion that it would have been better to

4. SERVICES PROVIDED WITH UNRRA RESOURCES

7. ORGANISATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE MISSION

a) In view of the dismissals of UNRRA personnel referred to in para 4 (d) 4), Miss Massez was sent over from London in order to assist the Mission in dealing with such matters as there is no DP personnel Officer permanently attached to the Mission. The work for which Miss Massez was sent out has now been almost completed and she has trained one of the locally engaged personnel on DP's to carry out this work. She is returning to London about the 22nd October, after which date all personnel matters will be dealt with by Miss Massez' substitute under the supervision of Mr. Fishbourne, the A.O.1 of this Mission.

b) Personnel:

1) We do not require any additional personnel in order to meet E.R.O. requirements, excepting a new shorthand-typist who is reporting for duty on 1st October.

2) The morale of the whole of the Mission personnel is excellent. The main worry of this Mission is the continual stream of UNRRA DP personnel who call here for information and help, see para 4 (b) 3) but it is understood that the moment Haaren functions normally, the bulk of these visits will be dealt with by them. This will be a considerable relief to the present pressure of work on this Mission. The question of billeting UNRRA personnel in transit through Brussels is now handled by the UNRRA Liaison Officer, Mr. O'Driscoll, attached to HQ L of C. This is working satisfactorily although I am still of opinion that Mr. O'Driscoll will require additional personnel in order to help him to cope with the problems with which he is faced, i.e. movement orders, billeting etc. for Haaren personnel in transit.

let them go forward and give them a trial and dismiss those that were unsatisfactory in Germany. My reason for this was the prestige of UNHRA in Belgium, for which I and my staff had fought so hard to maintain since this Mission was established.

This policy however was maintained and further instructions were given for a number of IP personnel to be dismissed from the Hattert camp. These also had not been to Germany and had not been able to prove their value. All nationalities other than British and American were dismissed and this caused great dissatisfaction amongst the personnel concerned as they considered it as being discrimination. While the whole of the personnel in question have now been liquidated as far as this Mission is concerned, there still however remains the question of the dissatisfaction and in fact the people concerned have formulated a definite complaint to the various offices of the Belgian Government. I have seen the Government officials concerned and given them the reasons why it was necessary to dismiss the personnel in question, assuring them on a statement I obtained from E.R.O., from Commander Jackson, that discrimination was not intended or implied. I hope that this matter is now ended, although some of the dismissed persons threatened to approach the press, not only in this country but also in the countries of the other nationals who were dismissed. All this has been reported to E.R.O. London who are fully aware of the details. What I feel so strongly in this matter is that my staff and I have endeavoured to keep UNHRA's flag flying in Belgium and it is actions such as this that make it extremely difficult, however justified may be the cause.

order value
of
27.10.15

Belgian	118	Danish	4
French	25	Swedish	17
Dutch	25	Norwegian	1
Luxembourgers	3		

US	3	Estonian	11
Egyptian	4	Latvian	39
		Lithuanian	12

German-Austrian	115	Greeks	110
Bulgarian	3	Italians	46
		Swiss	26

Russian	211	Albanian	2
Polish	1685	Turks	2
Czechs	28	Spanish	6
Yugoslavs	13	Portuguese	3

		Brazilian	1

		Undetermined Nationality	16

TOTAL 2.529

=====

Note : 155 Claimants to British or US citizenship now being
cared for in Chateau Lambert, Brussels, (HQ L of C
responsibility) pending verification of claims.

COPY

Attachment e)

TEL. 2.99.96
2.17.69

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

U. N. R. R. A.

REFERENCE.....

18, GRAND PLACE, BRUSSELS

YOUR REF.

PERSONNEL RECRUITED IN BELGIUM

CLASSIFICATION	TOTAL RECRUITMENT	TERMINATIONS AND RESIGNATIONS AS OF 1.10.1945	ON THE PAYROLL AS OF 1.10.1945
<u>1. Teams for Assembly Centres</u>			
DIRECTORS	34	13	21
DEPUTY DIRECTORS	88	30	58
DOCTORS	68	7	61
NURSES	114	7	107
PRINCIPAL WELFARE OFF.	16	2	14
ASSISTANT WELFARE OFF.	60	5	55
SUPPLY OFFICERS	84	29	55
WAREHOUSE OFFICERS	83	21	62
MESSING OFFICERS	48	16	32
DRIVERS	243	29	214
COOKS	34	8	26
CLERK-TYPISTS	49	2	47
Totals	921	169	752
<u>2. Recruitment ordered by London to complete "Flying Squads Teams".</u>			
DOCTORS	4	2	2
COOK DRIVERS	14		14
Totals	18	2	16
<u>3. Recruitment for Finance Department H & T Base :</u>			
JUNIOR FINANCE OFFICERS	20	2	18
<u>4. Recruitment of Clerical Personnel ordered by Mr. C.H. Cramer, Frankfurt</u>			
SHORTHAND-TYPISTS	8		8
TYPISTS	10		10
CLERKS	13		13
Totals	31		31
Grand Totals	990	172	817

D.P. 4/4/1

Des No 391

29th September, 1945.

TO:- Chief of the UNRRA Mission, Athens. Attention of Displaced Persons Division.

FROM:- A. Delieroux,
Chief, DP Programmes Officer.

SUBJECT: Camp Supplies.

Dear Sir,

In the report on the organisation and operations of the UNRRA Mission to Greece, dated 1st August 1945, you point out that the Displaced Persons Division had as yet received no camp supplies or other equipment.

We should like to know whether the situation has improved and what supplies you still need and in what quantities.

Yours sincerely,

A. Delieroux.

Chief of UNRRA Mission,
c/o British Embassy,
Churchill Street,
Athens,
GREECE.

1. MISSION

INDEXED

a) Movements

Mr. Brathall left for E.R.O. on the 3rd August to attend the Third Council Meeting and returned to Brussels on the 27th.

b) Visits

The following visits were received during the month of August:

Mr. Graser from Frankfurt arrived on the 17th for a day or two to discuss the question of personnel for DP teams and also the question of a personnel officer for this Mission in order to deal with the question of dismissal of recruits not required in the field.

Mr. Alan Ball who was over with regard to the establishment of the new M. & T. base, arrived here on the 15th.

On August 27th, Col. Katsin, Miss Loughlin, Col. Gouldbourn and Mrs. Deeks arrived by special plane in order to visit the new M. & T. base at Haaren, Holland. They left here by a private plane on the 30th.

We further had the visit of Mr. Mac Gill from Frankfurt on personnel question; of Mr. Hill attached 21 Army Group, also on personnel questions and of Mr. Picard from Frankfurt.

In addition to the above, there were numerous other callers and it is interesting to note that during the 22 days from August 9th to August 30th no fewer than 948 callers were interviewed and their queries dealt with. These queries related to advances of funds, identity papers and a thousand of other queries, the bulk of which emanated through the teams in the field being sent forward from Granville insufficiently documented and equipped. All these visitors were dealt with in addition to the normal Mission work.

c) Staff

The following additional staff were engaged:

- a) Mission: one book-keeper
- b) for DP work at the Mission: nil.

2. COMMUNICATIONS

Our telephone, cable and letter communications are still working satisfactorily. There have been one or two minor hitches but these have been dealt with. We are still however being inundated with private correspondence and parcels of the members of UNHRA teams now in Germany. Those for the British Army zone are being dealt with through Mr. O'Driscoll, attached HQ L of C, but our greatest difficulty is dealing with those for the American zone, as there is no UNHRA representative in Brussels dealing with the American or the French Army zones. I have already put in a request to E.R.O. that the same office should be set up here in Brussels for the American and French Army zones as now exists with the British.

3. RELATIONS WITH BELGIAN GOVERNMENT
AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES

a) Belgian Government

Our relations with the Belgian Government continue to be satisfactory, although I have not yet seen the publication in the Moniteur regularising UNHRA's status, I was given to understand by the Minister of Foreign Affairs that this publication would take place in August. Although I was not advised during August that this had been completed, I did learn early in September that this was regularised in the issue of the Moniteur Nr. 223 of the 11th August, pages 5062 to 5067. Owing however to the short supply of copies of the Moniteur, I have not yet been able

to obtain one but failing this, I will get a certified copy from the Moniteur, authorities and submit it to E.R.O. as soon as available. The fact that this has now been done should simplify a lot of questions which continually crop up between the Belgian authorities and ourselves; the question of taxation, purchase taxes etc. etc. We are continuing to receive full co-operation from the Minister of Economic Affairs with regard to purchases which we are making for the Welfare & Canteen Supplies to Germany. In fact, our relations with this Ministry have never been anything but excellent.

b) Military

Our relations with the Military are reasonably good. The British authorities, through the Hq L of C give us every possible assistance and everything is working far more smoothly than it did previously. It has been established with the Hq L of C, here representing 21st Army Group, that UNRRA is entitled to certain concessions and it is no longer necessary for us to beg for them. We have very little contact whatsoever with the American Group forward but this is due to the fact that we are short of a Liaison Officer. This also applies to the French zone and this should be put in order forthwith if we are to get the utmost result from co-operation. There still however is room for improvement in the passing down of information from the top levels of the Army to those actually doing the job in the field, that UNRRA is working with and for them and should be entitled to all that was agreed between UNRRA and the Military authorities originally and which was confirmed after SHAEF was dissolved.

4. RECRUITING

In spite of our requests for the personnel recruited in Belgium for Granville to be sent forward to Granville, nothing was done at all. Further, owing to a new policy decided at E.R.O., instructions were received that all recruits who had not yet gone forward to Granville were to be dismissed, without having been given a chance to prove their worth in the field at all. The reason given was that we had over recruited and that owing to the number of DP's who have been returned to their homes, the number of UNRRA teams required in Germany was considerably less. I strongly objected to this procedure to E.R.O. London, both verbally and in writing for the simple reason that I am certain that such drastic action would have serious repercussions between UNRRA and the Belgian Government, especially as new teams, consisting of personnel who had never been to Granville but had been recruited in England and U.S.A., were being sent up to Germany. I suggested that it would be far better to commence by dismissing the inefficient members of teams actually in Germany and then progressively continue to reduce the teams from Germany, but not to do so before people had been sent forward and given a chance to prove their worth. I still maintain this opinion, although I have carried out the instructions issued by E.R.O. and some 80 to 90 recruits who have been paid in Brussels since the end of June to go to Granville and who had given up jobs to join UNRRA, have been dismissed. Some have accepted the situation, others threatened all kinds of repercussions. Up to now, none have matured but it is quite on the cards that the matter will be brought to the notice of the public. I have already seen the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the subject with a view of getting their assistance in the event of any adverse criticism on UNRRA in the Belgian press or in the Senat.

The only recruiting that has been done in Belgium recently is a number of shorthand-typists, typists and clerks for UNRRA Frankfurt. These are recruited and are waiting to go forward to the new Haaren camp as soon as this camp is established.

5. TRANSIT CAMPS AT LOUVAIN AND HATTELT

1. The transit camp at Louvain has now been closed.
2. The transit camp at Hattelt is still operating but it is expected that it will close during the month of September as and when the new H. & T. base at Haaren, Holland, is established.

6. DISSATISFACTION OF TEAMS FROM GRANVILLE

Again this month a considerable amount of time has been taken up in this office, dealing with cases of Granville's shortcomings. As will be seen in para Nr. 1 "visits", this office has been inundated with teams either on the way up from Granville or coming down from Germany requiring military permits, money etc. etc. It is sincerely hoped that all these points will be put in order as quickly as possible, not only to reduce the work at this office but also for the general satisfaction of the teams. Further, we are receiving people at this office who have been sent back from Germany for what is commonly described as "disposal" which is a very ambiguous term. We would much prefer that such candidates be sent down with definite instructions to be dismissed and at the same time accompanied by a definite reason for dismissal signed by some competent UNRRA authority in Germany. This matter has been put forward and it is hoped that it will be followed.

7. COLLECTION AND STORAGE OF CANTEN & WELFARE SUPPLIES FOR GERMANY IN ANTWERP

During August the new organisation set up in Antwerp under Major Brokenshire dealing with this matter has collected a quantity of stores which I purchased in Belgium on instructions from E.R.O. All goods collected are stored in Antwerp and it is hoped that they will eventually be sent forward to Germany. Beyond buying goods on E.R.O.'s instructions and giving the Antwerp organisation instructions for collection, I have no other responsibility with regard to the Canteen & Welfare Supplies Organisation in Antwerp. This organisation, in my opinion, still requires a considerable amount of attention which I understand it is now receiving from E.R.O. Please see my July report on this matter.

8. EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

No additional emergency supplies have been received in Belgium since the second hand gift clothing shipped on the s/s WILLIAM PIERRELL and referred to in my July report. I have asked the Belgian Committee dealing with the distribution of these goods to let me have a full report as to how they were distributed, which they promised to give me towards the end of September. I am also informed that a further quantity of 1½ million lbs. of second hand gift clothing was to be shipped in August for Belgium and Luxembourg by the s/s JACOB GILLESCHER. I have still no news of this quantity having arrived at Antwerp, but I have notified the Government Committee that it should be arriving shortly. I still have not yet received from London the full list of all free gift or saleable emergency supplies which have been sent by UNRRA to Belgium since Belgium was liberated, in spite of many requests. This I hope will be forthcoming as it puts one rather in a difficult position not having this information.

9. MOTOR TRANSPORT

After 3 months patience, one Austin 10 HP car eventually arrived in Brussels for the use of this Mission. We now have two station wagons and 1 Austin 10 on the establishment of this Mission and the call on these vehicles is enormous and is likely to increase in view of the establishment of the new camp at Haaren Holland. As Brussels is the main air-port for all people arriving in Europe, especially going forward to Germany, we have a constant stream of people who arrive and leave by plane and who have to be met. However, the situation on transport is better than it has been previously.

10. DP TEAM FOR ALLIED BRITISH COLONIAL AND AMERICAN DP's WHICH ARE BEING DETAINED IN BRUSSELS PENDING INVESTIGATION

This camp is still functioning and I understand from the Military that they are very satisfied indeed with the way in which the UNRRA team is dealing with it. There is a rumour that the camp will not be required after September, although up to date there is no actual date fixed for this. The Military are endeavouring to dispose of all the D.P.'s in that camp as quickly as possible. Once the camp is closed, the UNRRA team will proceed to Haaren camp for eventual drafting to Germany.

I would like to put on record that I am personally very satisfied indeed with

the work that Col. Walla, the Director of the team and his staff have done.

11. PROCUREMENT IN BELGIUM

While the Ministry of Economic Affairs have done everything to help us, it has not been possible to procure everything that I believed was available in Belgium. I refer principally to the 10,000 pairs of scissors and 75,000 yards of cotton tape. I have had to report to E.R.O. that neither of these are available. In addition to the 40 tons each of steel screws and steel wire nails, I have been asked to find:

glue pots, brushes and glue

hemp and cotton twine for the manufacture of fishnets for

Greece, together with fish-hooks.

I have also been asked by E.R.O. to try and purchase a further 25 million cigarettes in Belgium for Germany. This may or may not be possible.

12. PUBLIC RELATIONS

UNRRA Film: On the 29th August I had a visit from Mr. Matagne, Public Relations Officer to Paris who was in Brussels preparing an itinerary for Captain David Miller of the U.S. Cinematographic Corps and his party who were due to arrive in Brussels in order to "shoot" various pictures for the UNRRA film. I was informed that Captain Miller and his party were due to come here on September 4th and undertook to do anything I could to assist them.

13. USE OF SOYA BEANS IN FOOD IN BELGIUM

When I was in E.R.O., I met Mr. Payne and Miss Keenleyside who were on a European trip and who offered their expert services to Belgian Government representatives, should they be required, with regard to the use of soya products in food supplies. The Belgian Government would be only too pleased to see them and I have tentatively fixed an appointment for them with the relevant Belgian authorities for early October.

14. FINANCE

I attach herewith Mr. Hughes, Finance Officer to the Mission's report on the financial position and suggested improvements.

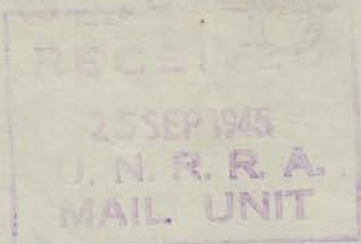
15. NEW N. & T. BASE HAAREN NETHERLANDS

There has been some confusion in E.R.O. with regard to the location of the new camp at Haaren which is in Holland between 's Hertogenbosch and Tilburg, about 70 to 80 miles from Brussels. It was however understood by a number of people that this new camp was at Haren in Belgium, which however is not the case.

(Sdg) W.F. BRATHALL
Chief of Mission

10th September, 1945

GEORGES BESSE



BRUXELLES

~~231A CHAUSSEÉE DE CHARLEROI~~

140, rue de l'Aqueduc

19st September, 1945.

Annexed: 1 Report.

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

Dear Sirs,

On the 7th. of August 1945, returning from Germany, I wrote the annexed report which I gave at the Direction at Jullouville.

Conscious of my task, as formerly Director of team in Lübeck I send you a copy of my report, as I feel you will perhaps, with other reports, take advantage of it.

I remain to your disposal for further informations, for which you would be interested.

Also if any appointment as Administrative Officer remains free in your services in Greece, country where I lived three months in 1938, I should readily like have a talk with you at your Office in London.*

Yours faithfully

Georges Besse

** Because I prefer to be enlisted in London rather than in Brussels.*

*Personnel
to deal.*

Copy of my report concerning the situation in
Germany. (dated on 7-8-1945)

GEORGES BESSE

BRUXELLES

231, BOULEVARD DE CHARLEROI
140, rue de l'Aqueduc

If the international situation or difficulties of transport make it unable the redintegration of the D.P.s in their respective countries before Winter, it is to be feared that serious difficulties appear at the point of vue feeding and warming.

Other difficulties will be added regarding the economic situation of Germany. A climax of dissatisfaction together with disturbances are to be forecast if steps are not taken to prevent them in view of the winterseason. If the D.P.s are short of warming and food, they will steal and plunder in the open country.

With regard to the large number of D.P.s still to bring back to their countries, this rush of D.P.s returning in their desolated and unprepared country, will create too a state of large need at the most difficult period of the year : the Winter.

As it is the aim of UNRRA to relieve emigrated people and those who suffered effects of the War, it is certainly this Winter that the task will be the hardest while in the meantime it will be necessary to face the situation in the far East.

I suggest therefore the following improvements:

1. UNRRA should be an independant Organisation with Centers of organisation and Centers of relief distribution.
2. To create, in view of the Winter: Food, Coal and pharmaceutic Stores.
3. To make use of the Officers and soldiers (Polish and others) still in uniform to keep guard of the D.P.s Camps and Stores.

Concerning 1 :

The work of UNRRA should be more effective if the services were centralized in one building and divided in departments such as :

Rapatiation- Registration - Supply - Transport - Hygiene - Welfare
Labour - a.s.o.

These Offices should be organised by UNRRA with competent Direction. Each Area Office should receive instructions and general rule from a central Office established in London or Berlin.

UNRRA should have his own facilities of transport as well his own repair services and spare Lorries.

The D.P.s Camps should be located and distributed in an area near each area Office building, for example no more than 25 Miles away, so as to obtain a more effective control of D.P.s Camps, as well as a quicker distribution of food. UNRRA personnel should not be dispersed as it is now. The D.P.s Camps should be under direction and responsibility of national Officers (not UNRRA Officers) but under control of UNRRA Area Section.

In order to stimulate the D.P.s to work, D.P.s Camps could be purchased with Canteens in order to enable the labourers, who should be paid, to buy some articles they want, but under a severe control. Salaries saved, should be exchanged in the national money at the moment of rapatriation and would constitute a small property for the first necessity when D.P.s are returning home.

Food rations should be equal in all Camps, what does not happens now.

Concerning 2.

.....

GEORGES BESSE

BRUXELLES

25, CHAUSSEE DE CHARLEROI

Concerning 2.

It is a necessity to create stocks for Wintertime all the more there will be previous deductions for the Occupation Army and the Civil population.

During the Winter it will be necessary to face difficulties of transport due to inclemency of weather, scarcity of rail-transport together with insufficiency of food in Germany. Will Allies not be obliged to help the civil population? Famine is reason of troubles which solution is not the indifference or repression.

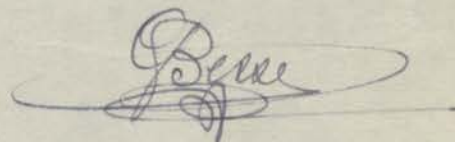
While all countries ask for coal for their Industries, the Winter will appeal more and more for light, warming and cooking. Stocks of coal will be necessary and if not possible the cut of wood, from now on, is urgent so as assume his transport.

Dearth may bring the need of pharmaceutical products. The condition of health of civil population and D.Ps is the guarantee of health for the allied troops in Germany. It is a fact which cannot be neglected.

Concerning 3.

Officers awaiting their repatriation, actually unemployed, represent a strength useful to the good order and organization of the D.Ps Camps. Why should they not been employed? They have an ascendant to their compatriots due their grade, their uniform and could be helped by liberated soldiers for the police of the Camps.

7 - 8 - 1945.



- Copy for D.P. N/W -
Original on DP 6/11

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

U. N. R. R. A.

REFERENCE WPW/MV Nr. 21

Grand' Place 18

BRUSSELS

YOUR REF.

2nd August 1945.

RC

To: E.R.O. London, DISPLACED PERSONS

10 AUG 1945

From: W.P. Wrathall, Belgian Mission

U.N.R.R.A. (REGY.)

Subject: Liaison in Brussels between the various
Army Groups with which our DP teams are
working in Germany

1. The question of Liaison between UNRRA in Brussels and the various Army Groups in Germany requires attention.

2. 21st Army Group: Our liaison with this Army is perfectly satisfactory in that Mr. O' Driscoll is now appointed Liaison Officer between the 21 Army Group Rear and UNRRA. He is also in charge of any matter arising between Mattered camp in Holland and the Army. Up to now, a large amount of detail work regarding DP's has been dealt with by this Mission, but from now onwards all queries dealing with DP's, whether in Germany or Granville or Belgium, appertaining to 21st Army Group, will be handled by Mr. O' Driscoll.

3. American and French Army Groups in Germany: There is no UNRRA liaison Officer in Brussels for these Groups. This Mission is often asked to deal with questions relating to DP teams attached to the American and French Army Groups and we are of the opinion that it would be to UNRRA's advantage if a similar Liaison Officer were appointed in Brussels for these Groups as is the case with Mr. O' Driscoll for the 21st Army Group. We often have cases of members of UNRRA teams in the American and French zones who pass through Brussels and there is no one to contact here, in order to give them movements instructions back to Germany.

We suggest that a Liaison Officer, preferably an ex American Army Officer, who has knowledge of American Army procedure, should be appointed and attached to the Chanor Base HQ in Brussels who are at present occupying the Shell Building.

4. Mission in Brussels: Since SHAEF was disbanded, it has been a difficult matter for the Mission to locate the actual military unit to which we can apply for such things as movement orders, billeting accommodation for visitors etc. We have however finally arranged that any movement orders which may be required by the Mission as apart from DP questions connected with the 21st Army Group, would be given on application by me by the Officer commanding HQ L of C, in Brussels. As however Mr. O' Driscoll is appointed to HQ L of C for DP work only, the fact that this Mission has also to apply there, sometimes leads to misunderstandings.

Could it therefore be made perfectly clear to Mr. O' Driscoll and to HQ L of C that any questions which we may have to bring up to O/C HQ L of C in Brussels for Mission work only have nothing whatever to do with Mr. O' Driscoll and will be dealt with direct by this office with HQ L of C. We receive a number of visits in Brussels of UNRRA E.R.O. personnel who may be visiting Brussels or in transit through Brussels, who require movement orders and billets for a day or two. Many of them have nothing whatever to do with DP and application has been made by me direct to HQ L of C for movement orders. They have always been granted without hesitation but it has caused some

.....
misunderstanding at times, between Mr. O' Driscoll and ourselves. You will appreciate that this Mission is entirely separate and distinct from Mr. O' Driscoll's work with DP's and I would like a definite ruling so that misunderstandings can be avoided.

W.P. Wrathall

W.P. WRATHALL
Chief of Mission

Grand' Place 18

12th July 1945.

To: D.D.G. Operations, E.R.O. London

From: W.P. Wrathall, Belgian Mission

for the attention of Col. KATZIN, Administration

In the light of our recent experiences in Belgium and as the result of some consideration of the problems that have confronted us already in this Mission in dealing with the persons recruited under the D.P. operations, we think some of our conclusions may prove of use to you at the present stage of reorganisation.

In recent days, the flood of D.P. personnel that call at the Mission with all sorts of problems and, in particular for advances of pay, have reached fantastic proportions, so much so, that we have all become hopelessly inundated and the normal work of the Mission has practically come to a standstill.

Not the least of these problems have been those arising out of terms of service, all of which need considerable consideration at the present stage; problems that will increase in complexity in the course of time as well as in number. -

For instance, we are already having cases of resignations notified at present by Granville with a simple request that we reclaim from the person in question his equipment and uniform. But we have no knowledge here of details of the articles we should reclaim. We are also unaware of what other claims may outstand against this person and, thereby, how long we should retain his Provident Fund contributions against eventual liabilities. There arise all the problems connected with conditions of service and release which only an official with experience in the Establishments Division can solve.

Our impressions lead us to expect that there will be a considerable increase of such cases in the very near future and we are very concerned that steps should be immediately taken to meet the problem in good time. -

At present, the dossiers of Belgian and Dutch recruits are being held temporarily at the respective Missions to facilitate the compiling of financial records and Personal Earnings Cards. We suggest that it would be an opportune time to create a new Personnel Section for D.P. Operations immediately at the rear of the new organisation for the control of teams in Germany in a town strategically situated both for lines of communication, recruitment of local labour and offering good chances of finding accommodation.

Liege suggests itself to us as the most appropriate place fulfilling all these requirements. To Liege could be advised all the changes effected by the forward executives in status of personnel. Here could be recorded all the details necessary concerning leave, sickness, resignations and issues of kit etc. and from there the directives could be easily issued to the Finance Sections established at the Hague, Brussels and Paris, responsible for the payment of allotments to dependents. From Liege the Paybooks could be issued and carried to the forward teams and all the arrangements made for the payments due in the field.

must be in the same town as where the Prov. center is situated.

W.P. Wrathall

To: D.D.G. Operations, E.R.O. London

.....

We are convinced that this step should be taken without delay. The files held in The Hague, Paris and Brussels could be systematically moved forward to create the new department in an orderly manner and the new organisation could be inaugurated and brought into efficient operation well within the next two months with the least amount of friction.

In the meantime, we think that it would be more than politic to attach to the Missions in the Hague and Brussels, to handle and coordinate all the present problems arising daily in connection with conditions of service referred to above, someone from Establishments Division, who is well versed in procedure and policy in relation to staff problems. Such officials properly authorised, could not only give the necessary guidance to Finance Sections concerned but could also prepare the records in readiness to moving forward with them to the new DP Staff Records section to be created.

The foregoing has been discussed by all the Officers of this Mission in the light of their separate experiences and they are all unanimous that this is the only practical solution to overcome the existing chaotic conditions now ruling and to avoid a complete breakdown in the future.

It is generally felt that unless something along these lines is immediately introduced, UNRRA will be unable to cope with its increased responsibilities when taking over from the Military. It would also facilitate the saving of large sums of UNRRA's resources and remove the danger of financial chaos during eventual liquidation and demobilisation.

W.P. Wrathall
W.P. WRATHALL
Chief of Mission

OUT FILE

DL4/4
Copy DL10/11

4th July 1945.

Dear Mr. Maben,

There are still 44 Greek D.Ps. in Belgium.

It is hoped that they will be repatriated by the end of July.

They are housed in Assembly Centres in Belgium under the control of the Army Authorities, who are working in close conjunction with the Belgian Commissariat for Repatriation.

Their moral and material condition is good.

Yours sincerely,

5
A. Delierneux.
Head of the Displaced Persons
Unit, Country Missions.

Mr. B. Maben,
Chief of the Mission to Greece,
Taneon Building,
4 Churchill Street,
c/o British Embassy,
Athens.

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

5/7

OUT FILE

DP 4/4
Copy DP 10/13
4th July 1945.

Dear Mr. Keeny,

There are still 822 Italian civilians D.Ps.
in Belgium.


It is hoped that they will be repatriated
by the end of July.

They are housed in Assembly Centres in
Belgium under the control of the Army Authorities,
who are working in close conjunction with the Belgian
Commissariat of Repatriation.

Their moral and material condition is good.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. F.M. Keeny,
Chief of the Mission
to Italy,
c/o British Embassy,
Rome, Italy.


A. Delierneux.
Head of the Displaced Persons
Unit, Country Missions.

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

57

OUT FILE

DP 4/4

DP 10/28

4th July 1945.

Dear Mr. Sergeichic,

There are still 255 Yugoslavs in Belgium.

It is hoped that they will be repatriated by the end of July.

They are housed in Assembly Centres in Belgium under the control of the Army Authorities, who are working in close conjunction with the Belgian Commissariat for Repatriation.

Their moral and material condition is good.

Yours sincerely,

✓

A. Delierneux.

Head of the Displaced Persons Unit.
Country Missions.

Mr. M. Sergeichic,
Head of the UNRRA Yugoslav Mission,
c/o British Embassy,
Belgrade.

LONDON, W.1.

11, PORTLAND PLACE,

EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE,

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION,

DESPATCHED BY
REGISTRY

57

Telephone: 3090
Langham

To: Miss Gibbons,
 From: A. Delierneux,
 28th June 1945.

The deployment of our UNRRA teams has had to be carried out at an accelerated tempo/¹⁰⁰ reasons beyond our control.

Our Administration made a very great effort to meet this Emergency Situation in very difficult conditions and has been most successful. There are however a few matters that still need dealing with.

During my stay in Belgium I have come into contact with several teams on their way through to Germany and members of teams coming back from Germany where they have been on operations. On the other hand I have also received letters that some have sent me from Germany.

I think I should make you a brief summary of what I have gathered from them. I am not doing this in a spirit of stifle criticism but with a view to improving our organisation.

1) The spearhead teams that were first sent out should have extra staff allotted to them to bring them up to full strength.

2) The composition of these teams should be looked into and followed so that the inefficient members may be eliminated.

UNRRA

3) An inspection service (attached to the central occupation authorities/where the UNRRA teams are in action) should be organised without delay. This Service's mission would be as follows:

- a) to look after the welfare of the teams so that at least the minimum of moral and material comfort be provided for them, so that they can carry out their work efficiently.
- b) to see that the composition of the teams is the one required so as to eliminate all those who prevent its efficient working.
- c) to see that discipline is maintained in the teams and to establish the necessary machinery to this effect.
- d) to see to the execution of UNRRA's general plan of action.

4) The repeated complaints, which I think are justified are the following:

- a) Once the teams are in action they feel they have lost all contact with our Administration, they feel abandoned and even that they are not being backed up by UNRRA. This lack of directives and of supervision is making them very depressed.
- b) The postal service is very infrequent both ways, and I have had the visits of several of their relatives complaining bitterly about this.
- c) Those recruited on the Continent are insufficiently equipped at Granville. The access of the Officers' Shop being barred them they are very apprehensive about the future. Some of them have not even got the bare minimum of the equipment required and this situation cannot be allowed to continue.
- d) Some teams who have been in action for over three months have not yet received any payment in the field, and they will soon be destitute.

- e) As most of them were not allowed to use the canteens they are without soap, tobacco etc. and are almost reduced to the same position as the D.Ps themselves.


I am enclosing, of the numerous letters, I have received three of the most typical.

a very efficient

It is more than urgent that Administrative UNRRA Service be established in Germany to remedy this deplorable state of affairs. All the urgency of the matter can be clearly seen.

I think that in the formation of such a service, the fact that most of the personnel of our teams consist of Continentals, should be kept in mind and that the key-positions in this Service be given to those who understand the psychology and the language of these members of the UNRRA teams.

This question is vital not only because the international character of UNRRA should be maintained, but also to acquire the confidence of the many Continentals serving in the UNRRA teams.



A. Delierneux.

MG/MG

Copy for
OUT FILE

27th June, 1945.

Mr. W.H. Wrathall,
Chief of UNRRA Mission to Belgium,
c/o British Embassy,
Brussels.

Dear Mr. Wrathall,

I understand from a note from Mr. Tracy Phillips that Mr. van Zeeland has kindly offered to allow UNRRA personnel proceeding from Granville to Germany to visit the UCCLE (Brussels) Reception Centre in order to see how this centre works, and so prof profit by the experience.

I should be glad if you would thank Mr. van Zeeland for us for his kind suggestion, but tell him that for administrative reasons we are, unfortunately, unable to avail ourselves of it.

for Fletcher C. Kettle,
Deputy Director,
Displaced Persons Division.

INDEXEDBrussels, 23rd June 1945.
Grand' Place 18

To: D.D.G. Operations, E.R.O. London

From: W.P. Wrathall, Belgian Mission

re: refugees in Belgium for repatriation to
Italy, Greece and Yugoslavia

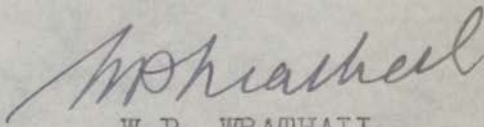
Your cable number 49 of the 20th inst. received.
I obtained the following information from SHAEF
Mission to Belgium:

1. The numbers of refugees for repatriation from Belgium are: a) to Italy 822
b) to Greece 44
c) to Yugoslavia 255
2. At the present moment, a conference is taking place as to the ultimate date of their despatch from Belgium to their respective countries. It is hoped that they will all be away by the 15th July, although the final date for this work to be completed has been fixed at the 1st August 1945.
3. All the above refugees are housed in centres in Belgium under the control of the army authorities who are working in close conjunction with the Belgian Bureau de Rapatriement. The actual responsibility however lies with the former.

RECEIVED

28 JUN 1945

UNRRA


W.P. WRATHALL
Chief of Mission

Sent to Commander Jackson
by M. Delmon

Non-Repatriable Displaced Persons

The Repatriation of Displaced Persons from Germany

The repatriation of displaced persons from the Shaeff Zone of Germany is being effected with considerably greater speed than was originally anticipated. Almost all the displaced persons from the western countries (France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Holland) who were located in the Shaeff Zone have now been repatriated, leaving only sick persons who cannot for the moment be transported, and here and there a few isolated cases engaged on farm work.

It is no less true, however, that in the American and British Zones there are still at this moment nearly 2,000,000 persons to be repatriated (Poles, Czechs, Yugoslavs, Italians etc.). The majority of these will probably be repatriated within a very short time; there remains, however, a residue composed of non-repatriable displaced persons - those who are either "stateless" or unwilling to return to their country of origin. It is very difficult to calculate the total number of these non-repatriables, but a figure of 250,000 can be regarded as a conservative estimate.

The future of these unfortunate people raises a serious problem. Their lot during the war years has been hard and tragic; and now the war is over they run the risk of living out the rest of their lives as outcasts - without home or nationality, or even a refuge in a friendly land. A solution to this great human problem must be found, and put into operation at once. It seems to me that this would be an ideal task for Unrra to perform, and one which falls well within its scope. In support of this, I quote an extract from its charter -

... "The Intergovernmental Committee has the function of finding places of settlement for such of them as fall within its competence and as cannot or do not desire to be so repatriated. It should be the responsibility of the relief organs of Unrra to assist, for a reasonable period, in the care of such of these refugees as cannot be repatriated until the Intergovernmental Committee is prepared to remove them to new places of settlement."

No purpose is served by merely stating the problem, unless at the same time one suggests its solution. In the following pages I am going to attempt to suggest that solution.

The solution, as I see it, has several different aspects, or stages, as follows:-

- (1) General - To determine the question of policy as to whether Unrra should take responsibility for the formulation of a general plan to deal with this problem.
- (2) Immediate - To house temporarily the displaced persons in question in the British and American Zones in Germany, in the most favourable conditions possible.
- (3) To be put into operation as rapidly as possible - To organize special "Training centres" in which the non-repatriable displaced persons can be taught to adapt themselves to a new life, so that they may be assimilated easily into the national life of the country which will eventually receive them, and may become useful and efficient citizens of that country.
- (4) - To formulate a general policy for the negotiation of the various agreements required to be concluded and carried out in order that countries in need of manpower may receive the displaced persons in question (taking into consideration as far as possible the wishes of the displaced persons as to their country of final settlement) and in such conditions that the process of assimilation may be facilitated and that the displaced persons may not prove a danger to any trade union or other similar movement in the country of their reception.
- (5) - To provide for the direction and international control of this process of migration and settlement.

Let us now analyse these different steps, one by one.

- (1) - This raises a question of higher policy and as such falls to be decided by the authorities of the Administration.

(2) - This involves "uncovering" and registering the non-repatriable displaced persons, and the selection of the most suitable type of centre for them, that is to say the centre most appropriate for dealing with their particular type of experience.

(3) - Once these centres are selected, Unrra take them over, put them in order and equip them suitably for their task. First class personnel would be required, capable not only of running the centres, but also of organising, directing and operating successfully a real programme of adaptation or readaptation - in the professional, social and civic senses. This could only be achieved by a carefully chosen staff, which could be augmented by recruitment from among the displaced persons themselves.

On completion of the centres, such displaced persons as are in need of a period of adaptation or readaptation would be selected and transferred to the centres chosen for them.

In this connection, one or more appropriate bases would be required to which the displaced persons could be sent for careful individual examination. Such examination would aim at discovering the potentialities of the displaced persons (both in the professional and social sense) and determining, as far as possible their choice of country for eventual settlement. It would further disclose those of the displaced persons who were in need of a period of "training" for readaptation, would give an indication of the nature of the training required and the type of centre to which the displaced person should be sent to receive the required training. The examination would also reveal those of the displaced persons who had the personal qualifications required to assist in the training of others and who might therefore usefully be recruited to the staff of the centres. It would also disclose those who were not in need of such a period of training prior to "emigration". These latter could be sent to "settlements", where they would remain until large scale emigration of displaced persons was planned and put into operation. Such settlements would not require to be of the same type as the training centres. Their object would rather be to provide useful occupation for the displaced persons, for whom a period of idleness might be dangerous to the morale, and to care for their moral and material welfare etc.

To realise successfully the aim of the training centres, that is to say to provide a real means of adaptation or readaptation to a new life, the centres must plan their programmes with particular regard to the qualifications and potentialities of the displaced persons. Thus, for example, two particular and distinct types of centre would be required - industrial and agricultural.

A few examples of the industrial type of centre are -

(a) Training centres for persons suitable for work in mines. Such centres could easily be established in the Ruhr, where a mine or a section of a mine could be adapted as a school for training the workers. The settlement to which persons with this particular type of training would eventually be sent could be established within easy reach of the mine.

There is in many countries a permanent and pressing demand for trained mine-workers - permanent in the sense that before the war such workers had to be imported into certain countries, and pressing in the sense that mining is a key industry on which depends in great measure the economic life of a large number of countries.

Countries which would have an undoubted interest in this scheme are France, Belgium and Britain.

Such training centres would not be very difficult to organise. They would provide an immediate solution to the problem of the future of a large number of non-repatriables. There is a further advantage in that mining involves a variety of different jobs and therefore offers considerable scope for a variety of people.

(b) Training Centres for Building Trade Workers - In the above-mentioned countries there is a serious shortage of building trade workers, and in addition wartime destruction has led to an acute housing shortage. There is an obvious future vocation for numerous displaced persons in one of the many branches of the building trade. Such a centre is equally worthy of consideration and could be successfully organised.

(c) Training Centres for agricultural workers - A large number of countries, not only those whose agricultural policy is fully developed, such as Canada, but also

/countries

countries like France, have an obvious shortage of experienced agricultural workers. It would not be difficult to requisition a few large agricultural undertakings in Germany and to organise ad hoc training centres for such of the non-repatriables as might wish to take up agricultural work in the future and who required a period of adaptation and training in this type of work beforehand.

(d) A series of training centres for particular trades connected with those industries which are at present in process of expansion in certain countries as, for example, South America whose industrial evolution is in full swing.

A large-scale scheme of training would require to be established. This could easily be achieved when the relevant factors of the problem are known, i.e. statistics as to the number of non-repatriable displaced persons, their age groups, profession or trade, origin, language, sex etc., and this I consider as one of the first things to be done.

Part of the programme of these centres would be devoted to training in the civic sense (i.e. in the principles of liberty, respect for human life, duty to the state etc.), to the learning of the language of the displaced persons' new country, etc., - in a word to all aspects which will hasten and facilitate the assimilation of the displaced person into the country which is to receive him. Thus having by training in a profession or trade acquired the means to make himself a useful and productive citizen on the one hand, and by an educational and civic training the means to enable him to integrate himself into the social and national life of his new country on the other hand, the displaced person is in no danger of becoming a misfit in his new environment.

Care will require to be taken to avoid sending large groups of displaced persons of the same origin to the same country; otherwise such groups might tend to form themselves into some sort of colony which would be contrary to the policy of assimilation - and this policy of real assimilation is the only one which will be assured of success.

(4) While this training scheme is in process, the necessary negotiations should be put in train, on the highest international levels, to ensure that the countries who are in a position to receive and assimilate the displaced persons thus trained will accept them under proper and permanent conditions and in such a way as to ensure their fitting into the national life of the country.

The successful solution of this vast problem calls for a plan conceived on the grand scale. I have outlined the first part of that plan in its various aspects. The second part, which I would regard as of major importance and which constitutes the condition sine qua non of success is certainly more complicated, but is not, in my opinion, impossible of achievement.

The second part, as I see it, requires the collaboration of countries in process of expansion and who have a shortage of manpower - such countries, for example, as Brazil, Mexico, Australia, Canada, etc. Several of these countries are in full economic evolution; their potentialities in the future and their experience during the war years must certainly impress on them the advantages to be gained from the importation of trained workers (of whom there is such a general shortage) if this can be arranged in conditions favourable to their national and social life.

In these countries, where vast public works will have to be undertaken, and where public utilities of varying kinds must be initiated or extended, enormous agricultural possibilities exist. The two things which they lack to achieve this end are on the one hand the shortage of trained manpower and on the other hand the lack of the necessary capital. The trained manpower required could be supplied by the carrying out of an emigration scheme for non-repatriable displaced persons such as I have outlined above, and in the carrying out of the scheme the countries concerned could have their say. As regards the necessary capital, some international financial plan could be arranged. The richest countries are almost always those which are the most highly industrialised and the most heavily populated. These countries cannot make room for the non-repatriable displaced persons, but they could assist the scheme by co-operating in the financial arrangements.

It should be made clear that there would be no question of advancing the necessary capital until the chances of success of the enterprise have been considered and proved, and until reimbursement of the capital and a reasonable amount of interest (spread over a period of twenty to thirty years, for example) has been assured, with the guarantee of the country concerned.

It could further be laid down that the equipment required for such work should be furnished by the countries advancing the funds, thereby assisting these

countries to solve their own problem of "full employment", which will be one of the special post-war problems. Finally, therefore, while assisting to resolve one of the greatest human tragedies resulting from this war, every nation concerned would find therein something to its own advantage. In the first place, the non-repatriables would be enabled to find a new life and to be received into a national group; secondly the countries which received these displaced persons thus adapted and trained would augment richly their economic potential; and lastly, the rich countries which financed the scheme would create for themselves an extra source of full employment at home and a sound investment abroad.

Is such a plan merely a dream, a Utopia? I do not think so. Certainly it involves a vast effort demanding not only the co-operation of men of good will but also powerful international action. Provided that the necessary co-operation was assured from all the parties concerned, it seems to me that the realisation of such a project would indeed be worthy of the ideals and the *raison d'être* of Unrra. By parties concerned, I mean - (a) the countries capable of receiving large numbers of these non-repatriables; (b) the countries in a position to, and interested in, financing the scheme; (c) the occupying authorities in Germany; (d) the new League of Nations; (e) the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees; (f) the International Labour Office.

Such a scheme demands the creation of an international body designed to plan it in its entirety, to direct it and to supervise its successful execution. In the meanwhile, the execution of (1), (2) and (3) above should be begun without delay; they involve no more than is in line with those tasks which Unrra has already agreed to undertake in accordance with the terms of its charter -

"It should be the responsibility of the relief organs of Unrra to assist, for a reasonable period, in the care of such of these refugees as cannot be repatriated until the Intergovernmental Committee is prepared to remove them to new places of settlement."

I realise that in fact the IGC is responsible for dealing with the problem of non-repatriables, but I firmly believe that this problem is of such magnitude that neither the IGC nor Unrra alone can undertake it, and that its accomplishment requires a vast international plan of action.

It is because so many human lives are involved that I have felt it my duty to submit this plan to the superior authorities of Unrra, although I realise that Unrra may say that this problem is the responsibility of the IGC and not of this Administration. I have discussed this question with several continental statesmen who have encouraged me warmly to submit this project to Unrra. They are real friends of Unrra, and have told me that in their estimation this would indeed be a great and noble task for our Administration.

June 23rd 1945.

DP44
U.N.R.R.A. Mission to Belgium.

18th June 1945.

TO: E.E. Rhatigan, Esq.,
D.D.G. (Operations), E.R.O.,
U.N.R.R.A.,
LONDON.

Dear Mr. Rhatigan,

Now that Mr. Delierneux has been recalled to E.R.O. from Brussels, I would like to put on record the efficient and business-like manner in which he has organised and carried out, in Belgium, the recruiting for Granville.

It is only when one is on the spot that one realises the hundred and one difficulties which he has had to overcome, and in my opinion it is due to his knowledge of his own Country, and his personal relations with the Heads of the Belgian Ministries that this has been so successful. He and his team have been untiring in their efforts; they have worked long hours, and have gone out for quality of candidates rather than quantity. Further, they are imbued with a very strong belief in U.N.R.R.A. and all it stands for.

I do not know what work you have in mind now for Mr. Delierneux, but I would strongly recommend that he be given a job where organising ability is required, and I wish him every success.

Yours sincerely,

W. P. Wrathall

(W.P. WRATHALL)

Miss Gibbons:

Tolson to Dr. Topping.

DP 4/4

INDEXED

UNRRA
10 Place Royale,
Brussels

14th June 1945

RECEIVED

19 JUN 1945

UNRRA (REGY.)

The Director of Health
UNRRA ERO
170 Gt. Portland St.
London W.I.

Dear Sir,

Stateless People

This letter aims at suggesting a means of tackling a problem which is going to become more acute as time goes on and the DP UNRRA commitment becomes narrower.

It has long been known that among the classes of DP at present being dealt with, there is the large number of wretched "Stateless", who will present a special problem. The Inter-Governmental Committee is charged with the handling of this in matters of policy and in the international aspect. Has the I.G.C. any effective machinery of its own for action in the field, and for the actual dealing with these people in person, or do they act through voluntary agencies, Jewish Relief etc.?

The present position is that there are thousands of "Stateless", "Apatrides" both among the DPs in Germany and also scattered in different Allied European countries, such as Belgium for instance.

The work of the I.G.C. will last for many years and in the meanwhile the Stateless will be growing older and more hopeless both physically and in their outlook. The free countries will no doubt accept some of them but always as more or less unwelcome guests, admitted under protest.

It is suggested that here is a job which might well be given to UNRRA. The aims of an UNRRA organisation of this kind might be crystallised in the three headings of (a) the concentration of the Stateless, (b) the provision of means whereby their value as citizens might be raised and their self-respect and morale restored to them, and (c) the provision of a pool of labour which might well be drawn upon by receiving countries in accordance with their own needs, thus again raising the value of the Stateless.

It is not suggested that all the Stateless are helpless people. On the contrary a proportion of them are highly trained and able persons of a type who cannot help but succeed in any country to which they could be given access. But there are huge numbers including the young who through lack of opportunity, have had no training in a useful vocation.

A concentration or concentrations of this kind might well have as its basic theme the training for emigration under the advice of the Governments of the proposed receiving countries concerned. The concentrations could very well be staffed technically and economically by the Stateless themselves, and the administration could be in the hands of UNRRA. It would also be primitive justice that the countries responsible for

the arbitrary declaration of "Stateless" in the case of their own Nationals, in accordance with their own ideas of "Race" and "Quality", should shoulder the whole cost of such an undertaking in proportion to the number of their ex-nationals concerned, and dealt with.

One visualises such a concentration as an immense school or better, university, with basic training in languages and education in general, and with technical training of all sorts including modern methods of farming.

There should be many years of life for such an institution. The I.G.C. would have a certain advantage in that it would be accurately advised of the size of one section of its field of endeavour at any rate.

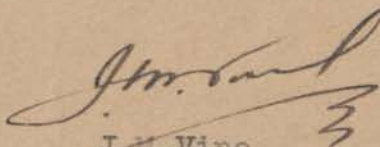
There should be no lack of suitable accommodation for such a concentration as the camps in present use become depleted. Nor should there be any great difficulty in the provision of equipment for every trade by the process of appropriation and requisition.

The possibility of profitable trade for the members of the camps is not out of the question.

Here is surely a task for UNRRA worth while from every point of view.

The above represents certain views put forward by A. Delierneux to J.M. Vine who thought them worthy of reference to the Chief of his Department in UNRRA in the hope that they might receive consideration and be forwarded with observations to the DP. Division.

Yours sincerely



J.M. Vine
Liaison Officer (Medical)
UNRRA and Govt of Belgium.

*After taken
See report by Delierneux sent Commander Jackson*

INDEXED

Mr. Kelce, ✓ D. Langrod, ✓

You will wish to read Mr. Delorme's report below.

Are any real negotiations going on with Russia about repatriating Nationals within their jurisdiction?

I should have thought that we could have usefully acted as Amicus curiae.

From the report it looks as if we were approaching the hard core of persons who are temporarily, if not permanently non-repatriable.

Know that we are not yet in a position to be responsive for these. But we shall be soon: and we need to

envisualize (1) a short term } policy ad hoc.
(2) a long term }

R.H.P.

11. VI.

Mr. Delorme
5/6

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

U. N. R. R. A.

BRUSSELS

Grand' Place 18

9th June 1945.

WPW/MV.

REFERENCE

YOUR REF.

INDEXED

To: D.D.G. Operations, E.R.O. London

From: W.P. WRATHALL, Belgian Mission

re: UNRRA TEAMS IN GERMANY

~~AC~~
Coby Luvace

Although this office has no direct connection with the UNRRA teams that go from Granville to Germany, as Brussels is "half way house" between these two places, we are constantly in touch with people going up to or coming down from Germany.

Whilst I am under the impression that the majority of the teams are happy and doing good work, there are several cases of teams which are not so. It is my opinion that it is necessary for the success and contentment of the UNRRA teams in Germany that some central UNRRA inspectorate be fixed in Germany which would be responsible for the discipline and contentment of the teams. This cannot be done by any Mission in a foreign country and I am sure if and when organized, it would give extra results.

I would bring one or two minor points to your notice:

1. Personal correspondence: This, in some cases, is bad and the teams complain that they get no letters.
2. Payment in the field: This may eventually be put in order when all teams get their pay-books, but they have not all got them yet and I understand that some of the teams are having difficulty in getting money.
3. There seems to be a lack of appreciation of the duties of the respective officers of the teams. This would be the job of the inspectors referred to.

I will go fully into this matter when I see you next week- end in London but in the meantime, I should be glad if you would give it your consideration.

W.P. Wrathall

RECEIVED

W.P. WRATHALL
Chief of Mission

14 JUN 1945

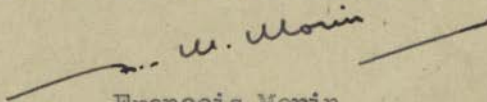
U.N.R.R.A. (REG)

Reference..... 640

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To: Mr. R. H. Parker,
From: François Morin,
8th June 1945.

With reference to Monsieur Delierneux's letter marked with an action/slip, in the attached file, it seems to me that none of the points raised are within my competence.


François Morin.

DISTRIBUTION

Mr. Myer Cohen
Miss Cracknell
Sir Michael Creagh
Dr. Cahn Debré
Mrs. Gibbons
Mr. Herbert
Mr. Homan
Cdr. Jackson
Col. Katzin
Mr. Kearn
Mr. Kettle
Mr. Ingrams

Mr. Macmillan
Mr. Mooney
M. Morhange
Mr. Parker
Mr. Pickard
Sir George Reid
Sir Frederick Leith Ross
Mr. Rhatigan
Mr. Robertson
Mr. Scott
Dr. Topping
Mr. Dudley Ward.
Col. Whitely.

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DP 4/4
AC 4/1/X

6th June 1945.

REPORT TO E.R.O. FROM THE BELGIAN MISSION

FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1945
=====

1. CHIEF OF MISSION

- a) I arrived in Belgium on the 12th of May for a reconnaissance of the general situation in this country and returned to London to report on the 17th May. I returned again later, on the 27th May, with Mr. Hughes our Finance Officer.
- b) The offices of the Mission which were originally at 34 rue aux Laines, were transferred to 18 Grand' Place telephone No. 121760, on May 22nd.
- c) Until May 27th, the only UNRRA work which was carried out at the UNRRA offices was the recruiting for Granville under Mr. Delierneux. The other members of UNRRA then in Belgium, i.e. the medical, welfare and DP officers, were attached to SHAEF Mission.
- d) The new offices at 18 Grand' Place will be adequate for the Mission once the recruiting ends. At the moment, space is very limited. These offices were requisitioned for us by the Belgian Government, for which UNRRA pays no rent whatsoever.

2. RELATIONS WITH THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE
MILITARY AUTHORITIES

- a) Belgian Government: I made contact with the principal Belgian Government officials, including:
 - Mr. Spaak, Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Prime Minister who was absent
 - Mr. de Smaele, Minister of Economic Affairs
 - Mr. Van Zeeland, Minister of Repatriation

All the above were only too anxious to do everything they could for UNRRA and I made it clear to them that our aim was to do everything we could to assist Belgium. Some of the above gentlemen were known to me before the war and I am perfectly satisfied that any reasonable request we may make to them will be granted.

- b) Military authorities: I saw General Erskine, Chief of the SHAEF Mission to Belgium and in a short interview he outlined the conditions then ruling in Belgium as to supplies which, according to him, were coming in well and as far as rationing is concerned, would soon enable all Belgians to have an adequate ration of say 2000 calories per day, provided that the distribution was satisfactorily carried out. General Erskine also granted me and any permanent officer of the Mission every facility with regard to messing, petrol, communications etc.

- c) Governor of the National Bank: Here too, I was promised every assistance on the question of finance, provided it came within their power to give it.

In short therefore, as far as our relations are concerned with the authorities on this side, there is nothing to worry about.

/3. Work

3. WORK OF THE MISSION

a) Recruiting: This has been the principal activity of the Mission up to the time of writing and has been satisfactorily carried out by Mr. Delierneux and his staff. Up to the 31st May, the total number recruited were the following:

Directors	26
Deputy Directors	80
Doctors	60
Nurses	95
Principal Welfare Officers	13
Assistant Welfare Officers	61
Supply officers	84
Warehouse officers	76
Messing Officers	41
Clerks	41
Cooks	33
Drivers	229
	<hr/> 839

Of these 463 had left for Granville by the 31st May and the remainder are proceeding there as quickly as their papers are approved by the Belgian Security Office.

I am of opinion that the cream of recruits from Belgium have already been taken and would suggest that recruiting here ceases as quickly as possible.

b) I would like to put on record the work carried out by Mr. Delierneux and also Dr. Vine, medical officer, and Mr. Samson, welfare officer, in connection with this recruiting. This has been done in full cooperation with the various Ministries of the Belgian Government concerned and with their full approval.

c) Mr. Trevithick, DP officer, has also done a good job in keeping the contact between this SHAEF Mission and UNRRA as well as with the 21 Army Group. I wish to put this on record as I understand that he will be leaving the Belgian Mission very shortly.

d) Mission staff: On arrival here on the 27th of May, it was necessary for a new staff to be engaged to deal with the Mission work as separate from that of the recruiting. Part of the staff required has been engaged and the remainder will be taken on in due course.

e) Military facilities for staff: The bulk of the staff engaged on the recruiting will eventually go to Granville as and when recruiting is ended. In the meantime, they are retained in Brussels but unfortunately, as no definite understanding has been entered into between the military authorities and UNRRA, they have not been able to enjoy any facility whatsoever for billets, food, military canteens, or Q.M. This matter was dealt with under a separate report from me to D.D.G. Operations, E.R.O. for I think it is essential that such an agreement be made as a similar situation may arise in other countries in which the cost of living for the ordinary civilians may be as exorbitant as that ruling now in Belgium. I strongly suggest that this be done as the only reason why the military do not grant these concessions to UNRRA personnel generally is because they have no directives to do so and not because they do not wish to. This also applies to the non-permanent UNRRA staff that may come to Brussels for any period over three days. At the moment we are entirely dependent on the goodwill of the military but, failing an agreement of the type referred to, we have no authority to ask the military for any of the above facilities. This should be remedied.

/4 Problems..

4. PROBLEMS RAISED WITH BELGIAN GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS
ON WHICH A RULING IS REQUIRED

a) Deduction of income tax and social security contributions from salaries paid to dependents of recruits in Belgium: As this Mission is taking over from Paris the question of the above payments as from June 1st, a definite ruling is required as to whether UNRRA personnel are liable to deductions of the above taxes from their salaries. Attached herewith copy of a letter written to the Minister of Foreign Affairs on the subject, to which no reply has been received. All the question of finance will be dealt with in a detached report from Mr. Hughes the Finance Officer.

b) Supplies from Belgium: In view of the fact that Mr. Herbert (Supplies E.R.O.) is desirous of purchasing certain commodities in Belgium, it was necessary to ascertain whether the Government would be prepared to grant export licences. A letter therefore was written to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (at his request) on this subject as per copy attached. This was done as it is useless to solicit offers from manufacturers in Belgium unless one knows beforehand that export licences will be granted.

No reply has yet been received to this letter, although I have an appointment with the Minister of Economic Affairs early in June, when I hope to have a settlement on this point.

c) Finance: Further to Mr. Morhange's interview with Chevalier de Selliers de Moranville of the Belgian Ministry of Finance, with regard to the letter written by Mr. Morhange to the Belgian ambassador, requesting the Belgian Government to supply the funds for the payment of the dependents of people recruited in Belgium for Granville, I have been advised that they concur entirely with the attitude taken up by the Banque Nationale, of which a full report has been made by the Finance Officer, Mr. Hughes, and is attached. I understand that the Ministry of Finance have cabled E.R.O. to this effect.

5. GENERAL SITUATION IN BELGIUM

From the interviews which I had with various responsible people in this country, it would appear that the outlook for the next 12 months in Belgium is grim. I have an appointment with the Minister of Economic Affairs in a few days, but owing to the lack of coal in this country and the fact that the Belgian industry cannot produce finished goods which are so urgently required, it has been pointed out to me that, unless additional miners can be obtained immediately from either German prisoners or Poles, serious difficulties may arise in Belgium which would have repercussions further afield.

I have been asked therefore to bring to the attention of UNRRA of London and Washington the fact that until this position is remedied, extra efforts should be made to supply Belgium with the following commodities:

- a) clothing of all kind, new or second-hand
- b) piece goods for men's clothing
- c) boots

I will report more fully on this point after I have seen the Minister of Economic Affairs.

6. EMERGENCY SUPPLIES

I have made arrangements with the Ministries here that in the near future a definite central organisation will be established to which all emergency supplies may be consigned. This applies both to free gifts and to any supplies for which Belgium may have to pay. This will obviate the difficulties which arose in the past as to clearing goods from the quay in Antwerp. As soon

/as full ..

as full details are obtainable, you will be advised.

As the Mission has only been functioning for a few days in May, I have nothing further to report but will enlarge on all the points mentioned in my next report.

Signed: W. P. Wrathall
Chief of Mission

June 1945.

Attachments:

1. copy of letter addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs re taxation
2. copy of letter addressed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs re export licences
3. Financial Officer's report
4. Financial Officer's budget for July to September 1945.

WPW/MV

Grand' Place 18

2nd June 1945.

Dear Sir,

I beg to confirm my interview with Mr. de Ridder this morning with regard to persons recruited in Belgium for Displaced Persons work in connection with the military authorities in Germany.

The following information will enable you to appreciate the manner in which they are recruited, their movements as from the day that they leave Belgium and the method in which they are remunerated:

1. The military authorities asked UNRRA to assist them with regard to the repatriation of Displaced Persons throughout the world.
2. In order to do this, UNRRA decided to recruit the necessary personnel in various countries and Belgium was allotted a quota.
3. A number of Belgians have been already recruited. On being accepted, they proceed to the training center at Granville in France where they are formed into teams which are then attached to the various Army Groups and proceed direct from Granville to work in Germany.
4. UNRRA pays the salaries of all recruits. The recruits are free to decide how their salaries are to be paid, but in general they retain only a percentage for use in the field and the bulk of the salaries is paid to their dependents in Belgium.
5. It must be borne in mind that the central administrative organisation of UNRRA is in Washington and that the actual recruitment in Europe is being carried out under the European Regional Office in London through their agents in the various countries.

In view of the foregoing and the fact that the Belgians employed on this work to not operate in Belgium, is UNRRA safe in assuming that such Belgians are not liable to the Belgian taxes and that there is no obligation for UNRRA to make any deduction whatever from their salaries?

Could you therefore please give me a ruling on this point, in order that we may conform with the requirements of your Government?

Thanking you in anticipation, I am

Yours faithfully,

W. P. Wrathall
Chief of Mission.

Monsieur le Ministre
des Affaires Etrangères,
8, rue de la Loi,
Bruxelles.

WFW/MV

Grand' Place 18.

2nd June 1945.

Dear Sir,

re: Exports from Belgium.

I confirm my interview with Mr. De Ridder this morning and at his request, am writing to ask whether it would be possible to obtain export licences for any goods of Belgian origin which UNRRA may wish to purchase for shipment to other countries which have recently been liberated.

I have been requested to try and find supplies of the following types from Belgium:

- a) household goods: razors, ordinary combs, toothcombs, cook's forks, buckets, 8 pt. jugs, double boilers, kettles, 10" knives, razor-blades, spoons, forks and table knives.
- b) portable feeding equipment: Collanders and ten-gallon milk cans, vegetable knives, mechanical can openers, ladles 6" bowl.
- c) for child welfare: feeding bottles
nipples (rubber or substitute)
hot water bottles.
- d) portable folding beds in wood or steel.
- e) portable wireless sets, etc. etc.

You will appreciate that a decision on the question of export licences is essential before I try and obtain supplies.

Would you therefore please give this matter your kind attention and let me have your decision in due course?

Thanking you in anticipation, I am

Yours faithfully,

W. P. Wrathall
Chief of Mission

Monsieur le Ministre
des Affaires Etrangères,
8 rue de la Loi,
Brussels.

INDEXED

3.

1st June 1945.

FINANCIAL REPORT
DISPLACED PERSONS

FUNDS

We have advised Mr. Morhange in our letter of the 31st May of the refusal by the Banque Nationale to advance francs against Sterling collateral placed at its disposal by UNRRA with the Bank of England, the particular transaction involving £13,000 having been arbitrarily treated as a sale of Sterling against francs.

In explanation of its attitude, the Banque Nationale cites Article 17 of its statutes, which preclude advances in francs against balances on current account and in particular those in foreign currency. Such transactions are considered as facilitating currency speculation.

We have, however, been assured by the Gouverneur of the Banque that they ~~will~~ release Sterling to UNRRA for any balances that may accrue to the administration and it may desire to withdraw from the country.

We think the question should be considered as to whether any proceeds of supplies to Belgium should be credited to Mission Fund proper, or whether UNRRA, arising out of the latter assurance, may not use such proceeds to cover the cost of its commitments under the heading of Displaced Persons Operations, by crediting them to the account "Rapatriement" instead of to the Mission account. This would appear to be justified and, we think, would not be objected to by the Minister of Finance.

ALLOTMENTS TO DEPENDENTS

We are awaiting the lists of payments from Paris for payments to dependents due the end of May. As soon as these are received and have been paid, we will extract a financial statement covering payments due up to the end of the month of May and forward it to you. We hope this will be possible by the 10th instant.

TRANSFER OF RECORDS FROM PARIS (D.P.)

It is hoped to arrange the taking over of these records during the week 10th to 16th June when the Mission Finance Officer will consult Mr. St. Maur in Paris.

At the present time, it seems impossible to reconcile the payments to dependents. We are informed that Paris has applied a rate of exchange of 175 francs to £1. We were advised before leaving London that the rate to be applied should be 176.50, an important difference.

We shall endeavour to complete a system of pay-cards and bring it into operation before the end of the month, in time for the monthly payments due the end of June.

Subject to your agreement, it is proposed to initiate and maintain a completely separate system of accounts for Displaced Persons Operations. To these accounts will be charged allotments and normal expenses accruing as well as the salaries of three book-keepers and a typist which are the

/minimum staff

minimum staff which soon necessary for the conduct of the system of accounts and records after they are established.

As soon as the records are established in Brussels, we shall advise you in good time each month of our requirements for the payments in respect of allotments to dependents and the salaries of staff employed here on the relative accounts.

Signed: L. Hughes
Finance Officer.

BELGIUM MINIMUM MISSION
BUDGET FOR QUARTER JULY - SEPTEMBER 1945

4

		<u>EXPENDITURE IN</u>	
		<u>STERLING</u>	<u>BELGIAN FRANCS</u>
00.	<u>PERSONAL SERVICES</u>		
01.	Salaries of 5 officers	1525	
02.	Temporary employees recruited locally:		
	2 clerks Fr. 30.000		
	2 typists Fr. 25.500		
	1 driver Fr. 12.000		
03.	Professional services non-employees		67.500
04.	Fees, Commissions, etc.		6.000
06.	Provident Fund		1.000
	Employees: obligatory social contribution 16 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of salaries: 67.500	152. 9. 6.	11.200
10.	<u>TRANSPORT AND SUBSISTENCE</u>		
	11 Common carrier		
	12 Local transportation	120. 0. 0.	9.000
	15 Detention allowance		150.000
	19 All other, including passports, visas, photos, uniforms etc.	1000. 0. 0.	
20.	<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>		
	21 Telephone		50.000
	22 Telegrams		20.000
	23 Postages		10.000
30.	<u>GENERAL SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS</u>		
	31 Office supplies	100. 0. 0.	1.600
	32 Printed reports		7.500
	34 Automotive supplies		50.000
	39 Other supplies	100. 0. 0.	
40.	<u>GENERAL EQUIPMENT</u>		
	41 Office equipment (supplementary)	200. 0. 0.	10.000
	42 Motor vehicle equipment	400. 0. 0.	
	49 Sundry expenses	100. 0. 0.	
50.	<u>OTHER CONTRACTUAL SERVICES</u>		
	54 Rent		
	55 Services (caretaker 2.100 (charwoman 6.000)		10.000
	56 Property insurance		8.100
	Employees compensation Ins.		1.000
	59 All other		1.000
			10.000
Total		3697. 9. 6.	423.900
Emergency Fund		500. 0. 0.	60.000
		£4197--9--6	483.900

Signed: L. Hughes.

BELGIAN QUARTERLY BUDGET
PERIOD JULY - SEPTEMBER 1945

NOTES

01. The figure inserted for the officers of the Mission includes merely the salaries of the Chief of Mission, Finance Officer, Liaison Officer (Health), Administrative Officer (1) and Administrative Officer (2). It has been inserted only in the Sterling column since it appears that all the officers in question have available here Belgian franc assets, which they prefer to use for the time being. We think you may prefer to amend this figure and insert a proportion in the franc budget as a matter of policy.

02. The initial estimate of two clerks and two typists for the Mission appears to be adequate for the moment, but we shall have to pay an average of 5000 francs for clerks with a knowledge of English and book-keeping.

In the existing building there is a telephone switchboard. We have arranged to pay the existing operators Bfcs. 500 a month as an honorarium. Three persons are involved at present, but they will be reduced to two shortly.

03. We propose to carry the latter charges on this account.

04. Nominal amount to cover unforeseen charges.

06. Provident Fund in respect of London recruited members of the Mission.

11.) We have carried forward this amount from the initial budget in the
12.) absence of adequate data.

15. We have inserted the maximum figure which the Mission should pay under the existing standard of \$7 for those officers with dependents and \$5.50 for those without. As long as officers have the present messing or billeting arrangements facilitated by SHAEF and appropriate deductions are made, this maximum will not be reached. Should, however, such facilities cease to be available, this whole question will have to be reviewed under existing circumstances.

19. The figure quoted in the initial budget in the absence of data.

21. The figure we have quoted is an arbitrary one, since with the improvement of facilities, such as permits to call London and Luxembourg, will involve additional expense, difficult to estimate at this stage.

34. Automotive supplies should be adequately covered by this figure since the Mission has one car, and this would appear to be sufficient for the moment.

41. The Sterling figure inserted for office supplies to cover initial supplies of stationery, ledgers and two typewriters brought from London and any possible further needs.

42. We have reduced the figure shown in the initial budget to cover the one car brought from England.

54. The offices occupied have been placed at our disposal by the Belgian Government and we are assured by Mr. Delierneux that no rent is charged.

55. Cleaning: A contract has been made with a firm of office cleaners responsible for the rest of the building, whose charges will be covered by the figure inserted.

Caretaker: We have arranged to pay Bfcs. 700 each month to the caretaker of the building.

56)

57) Figures taken from the initial budget, pending the accumulation of
58) experience.

6th June 1945.

Signed: L. Hughes

United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation
Administration

BRUSSELS

Brussels 23rd May, 1945.

Dear Chief,

Attached is a report relating to the working and the actual material results obtained by the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement.

(Sgd.) A. Delierneux.

Mr. T. T. Scott,
Director - Displaced Persons Division,
European Regional Office,
170A, Great Portland Street,
London, W.1.

THE FUNCTIONS AND MATERIAL RESULTS

OBTAINED BY THE COMMISSARIAT BELGE

AU RAPATRIEMENT

I. GENERAL ORGANISATION

mission In the aim of carrying out its task to the best of its ability and accomplishing its ^{most}, the Commissariat Belge Au Rapatriement has an organization covering the following different categories of centres or camps:

- (a) Reception Centres
- (b) Assembly Centres
- (c) Shelter Centres
- (d) Permanent Camps

II. THE STRUCTURE OF REPATRIATION ORGANIZATIONS

A. Reception Centres

(i) What is a Reception Centre

The reception centre is where the first contact is established with the repatriates who are returning to Belgium, individually or in small organized groups. The Reception Centres are established all along the frontier and particularly in the vicinity of each Customs Bureau.

(ii) The Organization

The reception centre contains:

- (a) a canteen
- (b) a first-aid post
- (c) an information bureau
- (d) the restricted possibilities of lodging for one night for people arriving late in the evening. The people who arrive only pass in transit and are directed on to the Assembly Centres. Here they find temporary lodging (a night at the most) when they can be sent on directly and accommodated in an Assembly Centre.

(iii) Where they are installed

The list of centres now working is given in enclosure II.

B. The Assembly Centres

(i) What is an Assembly Centre

The Assembly Centre is where control operations are carried out and all displaced persons are classified. It is the most important link in the system. It entails a minute *precise* organisation destined to ensure the rapid development of operations envisaged within the framework of repatriation.

Passage through Belgian Assembly Centres is obligatory for every displaced person passing through Belgium. Displaced Persons who have not passed by this centre are sent back here in order to complete the formalities by the Commune of their dwelling or by the Commune where they used to live.

(ii) Functions

The different formalities to which every displaced person has to submit, are as follows:

(a) Registration of Repatriates

This is directly assured by the officials of the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement following the instructions which have been given them in the set up of the general dispositions of SHAEF and UNRRA. Every Assembly Centre has a "dossier SHAEF" completed for each displaced person present.

(b) Health Control

This entails medical visits, first aid, delousing, possible vaccinations, the evacuation of the sick to hospital centres. The service has been entrusted to the Belgian Red Cross, who have the necessary material and experienced and trained staff. The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement keeps the control of this organization's activities within the framework of its centres. The assistance of the Belgian Red Cross is assured by an agreement.

(c) Security Control

A delegate of the State Security assisted by the necessary personnel is present. As is the case for monetary control, the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement has given the possibility to different security controls to understand *themselves into* easily the mechanics of the repatriation organization and permits the competent services to take measures necessary to its functions.

(d) Monetary formalities

This concerns the declaration of valuables, foreign title deeds, and foreign bills. The exchange of old against new notes and the return of money. These operations are carried out by a delegate of the National Bank assisted by the necessary personnel. The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement has organized the repatriation service so that the National Banks activities can easily be included. It does not intervene in the internal organization of monetary control.

(e) Welfare Assistance

The aims of the Welfare Assistance are:

- (i) Information to repatriates, ^{information} advice, tracing of individuals advice.
- (ii) The contacting with organizations interested (Oeuvre Nationale de l'Enfance, Oeuvre de Secours aux Sinistres, etc...).
- (iii) Liaison between the different services contained in the Assembly Centres, each time that it is necessary to decide a special case.

(iv) The hearing of complaints of the repatriates as regards their well-being in the Assembly Centres and the verification of the truth of these complaints.

(v) The organization of the leisure for the displaced persons who are remaining for some time in this Centre

(f) Clothing

This service distributes to repatriates, clothing which is absolutely indispensable for them to finish their journey. The clothing is provided by the service of l'Intendance du Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement.

(g) Lodging - Food

Displaced Persons are sometimes billeted with the inhabitants. More generally together in one or more shelter houses. Three meals are provided each day for each person. They receive a ration equivalent to the official ration with an additional 50%.

(h) Religious Administration

This is provided by the Ministers of the different sects as designed by their superior ecclesiastes. The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement has in principle provided for liberty in the centres and camps as regards religious cults and provides for every displaced person the possibility of fulfilling his religious obligations.

(i) Transport

The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement assures the transport of displaced persons in their national territory in conformity with the instructions regarding their repatriation. Transport vouchers are delivered by the Assembly Centres either to organized convoys or individually.

REMARKS

Although officially this is the only organization competent to carry out repatriation in Belgium, the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement does not wish to act as the exclusive organization. It has appealed to a great extent for the collaboration both of public authorities as well as national organizations or youth groups. Certain services are entirely taken over by one or other of the qualified organizations through a system of agreements made between these organizations and the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement, for example:

Food: The Comité National de Secours, or other organizations for the sitting up of restaurants.

Health Service: The Belgian Red Cross, National Defense Organization against Tuberculosis. The control of security and monetary control are entrusted legally to the only authorities who are competent. The Commissariat supervises the activities of the organizations collaborating for repatriation.

(iii) Length of Stay for a Displaced Person in a Centre

The carrying out of the different formalities as required requires a few hours and goes on night and day. In case a displaced person might have to remain 24 in an Assembly Centre: organization of a convoy

(iv) Where are they Established

The list of present Assembly Centres now working (enclosure 3).

Centres are established:

- (a) Abroad: displaced persons ^{who} should pass through, thus are ^{here} in order before undertaking the return journey and are brought without any interruption straight to their homes.
- (b) In the frontier zones: communication centres for individual repatriates.

C. Shelter Centres

(i) What is a Shelter Centre

The shelter centre is where repatriates returning either individually or in groups and who have already passed through an Assembly Centre stay, (one or two days) until they can return home or be sent to permanent camps.

(ii) Functions

Besides the Director they include:

- (a) an Administrative Service (secretariat, finance, interpreter),
- (b) a Shelter Service (food and lodging)
- (c) a Welfare Service (a nurse or a doctor and a welfare assistant)

The organization of a shelter centre can be compared with that of an hotel.

(iii) Where they are set up

Shelter Centres are established in a communication centre and in big towns. (The list of shelter centres is given on enclosure 4).

D. Permanent Camps

(i) The description of a permanent camp.

The permanent camp is destined for foreigners who ^{cannot} returned immediately to their countries. Distinct camps are established as much as possible according to nationality.

(ii) Where they are set up.

The list of permanent camps is given on enclosure 5.

NOTE

Following on a recent agreement with the Allied Military Authorities, the latter are taking under their care "Oriental displaced persons" who are now in Belgium and who will be sent to Belgium following on the Allied advance into Germany and in the territories occupied by Germany.

III. MOVEMENTS IN THE CENTRES AND CAMPS

The detailed description of the camps on the 5th April, 1945 gives an idea of the movements of the population. This of course, will be increasing from day to day and are further from having attained full strength. (See enclosure 6) ^{far} ^{reached their maximum}

IV. THE ACTUAL CONDITIONS

From the "PLAN VAN ZEELAND" of which the text is given enclosed, an all round idea of the centres and camps can be obtained. (Enclosure 1).

CONCLUSION

The "PLAN VAN ZEELAND" attached to the present report recapitulates and gives the situation, as we have explained in detail in the previous account. It has only undergone a slight modification. This has been accounted for in the report.

It must not be forgotten that the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement only began to function with an extremely reduced personnel as from 8th October, 1944.

At this moment this new Administration is faced with the task of creating the general organization of repatriation in Belgium. It began this task in a country altogether worn out and destitute after more than four years of enemy occupation.

On the other side the vital necessity of military operations frequently paralyses civilian transport and forces the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement to give up establishments it hoped to take over or to give up centres already equipped.

These events compelled the Commissariat to reorganize completely several times, the general plan first set up. Successive modifications ended in the establishing of the "PLAN VAN ZEELAND". We are glad to report that SHAEF has now guaranteed that the centres provided for in the "PLAN VAN ZEELAND" will not be requisitioned by the Allied Armies.

Brussels, 6th April, 1945.

DP 4/4

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
U. N. R. R. A.

REFERENCE

BRUSSELS

YOUR REF.

Bruxelles, le 23.5.45

INDEXED



Cher Patron,

Ci-joint un rapport ayant
trait au fonctionnement et aux réalisations
matérielles actuelles du Commissariat Bel-
ge au Rapatriement.

Votre Dévoué.

A. Delierneux.

Mr. T.T. SCOTT,
Director Division
Displaced Persons
U.N.R.R.A.
European regional Office
170 A Great Portland Street
London W 1.

FONCTIONNEMENT ET REALISATIONS MATERIELLES
ACTUELLES DU COMMISSARIAT BELGE
AU RAPATRIEMENT.-

I. ORGANISATION GENERALE.-

Dans le but de mener à bien sa tâche et d'accomplir sa mission, le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement a une organisation comportant les différentes catégories de centres ou camps suivantes :

- A.- Centres d'accueil.
- B.- Centres de rassemblement.
- C.- Centres d'hébergement.
- D.- Camps permanents.

II. STRUCTURE DES ORGANISMES DE RAPATRIEMENT.-

A.- Centres d'accueil.

1°- Qu'est ce qu'un centre d'accueil.

Le centre d'accueil est celui où un premier contact est établi avec les rapatriés qui rentrent en Belgique, isolément ou par petits groupes organisés.

Les centres d'accueil sont établis tout le long de la frontière et notamment à côté de chaque bureau de douane.

2°- Fonctionnement.

Le centre d'accueil comprend :

- a) une cantine.
- b) un poste de secours pour les premiers soins.
- c) un bureau de renseignements.
- d) des possibilités restreintes de logement, pour une nuit, pour les personnes arrivant tard dans la soirée.

Les personnes qui s'y présentent ne font que passer et sont dirigées sur les centres de rassemblement. Elles y trouvent un logement provisoire - une nuitée au maximum - lorsqu'elles ne peuvent être acheminées directement et commodément vers un centre de rassemblement.

3°- Où sont-ils installés.

La liste des centres en activité est reprise en annexe (annexe II).

B.- Centres de Rassemblement.

12) Qu'est-ce qu'un centre de rassemblement ?

Le centre de rassemblement est celui où s'effectuent les opérations de contrôle et de triage pour toutes les personnes déplacées (D.P.)

C'est le chaînon le plus important du système.

Il fait l'objet d'une organisation minutieuse et rationnelle destinée à assurer le déroulement rapide des opérations prévu dans le cadre du rapatriement.

Le passage par un centre belge de rassemblement est obligatoire pour tout D.P. passant par la Belgique.

Les D.P. qui n'auraient point passés par ce centre y sont renvoyés pour l'accomplissement des formalités, par la commune de leur domicile ou par la commune où ils ont été domiciliés.

29) Fonctionnement.

Les diverses formalités auxquelles toute personne déplacée (D.P.) doit se soumettre sont les suivantes :

a) Enregistrement des rapatriés.

Celui-ci est assuré directement par les fonctionnaires du Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement, suivant les instructions qui leur sont données dans le cadre des dispositions générales de SHAEF et d'U.N.R.R.A. Chaque centre de rassemblement constitue un "dossier SHAEF" complet pour chaque D.P. présent.

b) Contrôle sanitaire.

Celui-ci comporte la visite médicale, les premiers soins, l'épouillage, les vaccinations

éventuelles, l'évacuation des malades vers les centres hospitaliers. Le service a été confié à la Croix-Rouge de Belgique qui dispose du matériel nécessaire et d'un personnel expérimenté et entraîné.

Le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement garde le contrôle de l'activité de cet organisme dans le cadre de ses centres. Il s'est assuré le concours de la Croix-Rouge de Belgique par contrat.

c) Contrôle de la Sûreté.

Il est assuré par un délégué de la Sûreté de l'Etat aidé du personnel nécessaire.

Comme pour le contrôle monétaire, le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement a fourni la possibilité aux divers contrôles de Sûreté de s'insérer facilement dans le mécanisme du rapatriement organisé par lui et laisse aux services compétents le soin de prendre les mesures nécessaires à son fonctionnement.

d) Formalités Monétaires.

Il s'agit de la déclaration des devises, des titres et des valeurs sur l'étranger, de l'échange d'anciens billets contre des nouveaux, de la remise des viatiques.

Ces opérations sont assurées par un délégué de la Banque Nationale aidé par le personnel nécessaire.

Le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement a organisé le mécanisme du rapatriement de telle façon que l'activité de la Banque Nationale puisse aisément s'y insérer.

Il n'intervient pas dans l'organisation interne du contrôle monétaire.

e) Assistance Sociale.

Les buts de l'assistance sociale sont :

1^{re} information aux rapatriés, renseignements, recherches (tracing) et conseils individuels.

2^{de} mise en contact avec les oeuvres intéressées (Oeuvre Nationale de l'Enfance, Oeuvre de Secours aux Sinistrés, etc...).

3^{de}) liaison entre les différents services que comportent les centres de rassemblement et les rapatriés, chaque fois qu'il s'agit de résoudre des cas spéciaux.

4^{de} réception des doléances des rapatriés en ce qui concerne leur bien-être dans les centres de rassemblement et vérification du bien-fondé de celles-ci.

5^{de} Organisation des loisirs pour les D.P. qui sont amenés à rester quelques temps dans un centre.

f) Vestiaire.

Ce service distribue aux rapatriés les vêtements strictement indispensables pour achever leur voyage. Le vestiaire est alimenté par le service de l'Intendance du Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement.

g) Logement - Ravitaillement.

Les D.P. sont parfois logés chez l'habitant, plus généralement en commun, dans une ou plusieurs maisons d'hébergement.

La nourriture leur est assurée à raison de trois repas par jour et par personne.

Ils bénéficient d'un rationnement équivalent à la ration officielle majorée de 50 %.

h) Aumônerie.

Elle est assurée par les Ministres des différents

cultes désignés par leurs supérieurs ecclésiastiques. Le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement a érigé en principe le respect de la liberté des cultes dans ses centres et camps et prévoit pour tout D.P. la possibilité de remplir les obligations de son culte.

i) Transports.

Le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement assure le transport des D.P. qui se déplacent sur le territoire national, conformément à ses instructions en vue de leur rapatriement.

Les bons de transport sont délivrés par les centres de rassemblement, soit aux convois organisés, soit aux personnes isolées.

REMARQUES :

Quoiqu'il soit officiellement le seul organisme compétent pour organiser le rapatriement sur le territoire belge, le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement entend ne pas agir en organisme exclusif.

Il a fait largement appel à la collaboration tant des autorités publiques que des oeuvres nationales ou groupement de jeunesse.

Certains de ses services sont pris en charge entièrement par l'une ou l'autre des oeuvres ou organismes qualifiés, par un système de contrats passés entre ces organismes et le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement, ainsi par exemple :

Ravitaillement : Comité National de Secours, ou autres oeuvres, pour l'organisation des Restaurants;

Service Sanitaire: Croix-Rouge de Belgique,

Oeuvre Nationale de Défense contre la
Tuberculose.

Le contrôle de la Sûreté et le contrôle monétaire sont
confiés, de droit, aux seules autorités compétentes.

Le Commissariat garde la haute main sur l'activité des
organismes collaborant au rapatriement.

3° - Durée du séjour du D.P. dans un centre.

Le déroulement des diverses formalités en vue du rapatriement demande quelques heures et se fait de jour comme de nuit.

Exceptionnellement, le D.P. pourrait être amené à séjourner 24 heures au maximum dans un centre de rassemblement : organisation d'un convoi, transport, etc...

4° - Où sont-ils établis ?

La liste des centres de rassemblement actuellement en activité figure en annexe (annexe III).

Les centres sont établis :

- a) à l'étranger: les D.P. qui y passent se mettent ainsi en règle, avant d'entreprendre le voyage de retour qui les ramène, sans interruption, jusqu'à leur domicile.
- b) dans les zones frontalières, à proximité des noeuds de communication, pour les rapatriés isolés.
- c) à l'intérieur du pays, à raison d'un au moins par province, en principe, au chef-lieu.

C.- Centres d'Hébergement

1^o - Qu'est-ce qu'un centre d'hébergement

Le centre d'hébergement est celui où les rapatriés rentrant soit isolément, soit en groupes et ayant déjà passé par un centre de rassemblement, séjournent - un ou deux jours - jusqu'à ce qu'ils puissent se rendre dans leur foyer ou être envoyés dans les camps permanents.

2^o - Fonctionnement

Ils comportent outre le Directeur :

- a) un service administratif (Secrétariat, Comptabilité, Interprète)
- b) un service d'hébergement (logement et nourriture)
- c) un service d'assistance (une infirmière, éventuellement un médecin et une assistante sociale).

On peut comparer aisément l'organisation d'un centre d'hébergement à l'organisation d'une hôtellerie.

3^o - Où sont-ils installés (1)

Les centres d'hébergement sont établis aux principaux noeuds de communications et dans les grandes villes.

(1) La liste des centres d'hébergement figure en annexe (annexe IV).-

D.- Camps permanents

1º - Nature du camp permanent

Le camp permanent est destiné aux étrangers qui ne peuvent rentrer immédiatement dans leur pays.

Des camps distincts sont établis autant que possible par nationalité.

2º - Où sont-ils installés

La liste des camps permanents figure en annexe (annexe V).

REMARQUE

A la suite d'un récent accord intervenu avec les Autorités Militaires Alliées, celles-ci prennent en charge les "Orientals D.P." se trouvant déjà en Belgique ou qui seront dirigés sur le Royaume à la suite de l'avance alliée en Allemagne et dans les territoires occupés par elle.

III.-MOUVEMENTS DANS LES CENTRES ET LES CAMPS.-

L'état détaillé et global des présences au 5 avril 1945 donne un aperçu de ces mouvements de population. Ceux-ci vont évidemment en s'accroissant de jour en jour, et sont encore loin d'atteindre leur amplitude maxima. (voir annexe VI)

IV. - REALISATIONS EN COURS.-

On trouvera dans le "Plan van Zeeland" dont le texte figure en annexe, un aperçu complet des centres et des camps en voie d'équipement (annexe I).

CONCLUSION

Le "Plan van Zeeland" (1) annexé au présent rapport, récapitulé et résume la situations globale que nous avons eu l'honneur d'exposer de façon détaillée dans les pages qui précèdent. Il n'a subi que de très légères modifications. Il en a été tenu compte dans ce rapport.

Il ne faut point perdre de vue que le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement n'a commencé à fonctionner, avec un personnel d'ailleurs extrêmement réduit, qu'à partir du 8 octobre 1944.

A ce moment, cette administration nouvelle s'est trouvée devant la tâche de réaliser au plus tôt, en la créant de toutes pièces, l'organisation générale du rapatriement en Belgique. Elle commençait cette tâche avec des moyens de fortune, dans un pays entièrement épuisé et vidé par plus de quatre années d'occupation ennemie.

D'autre part, les nécessités impérieuses des opérations militaires ont fréquemment paralysé les transports civils et amené le Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement à devoir renoncer à des locaux prévus ou à abandonner des Centres déjà équipés.

Ces événements ont obligé le Commissariat à revoir complètement, à plusieurs reprises, le plan général primitivement établi. Ces modifications successives ont abouti à l'établissement du "Plan van Zeeland".

Nous nous plaisons à signaler que SHAET nous a maintenant donné la garantie que les Centres prévus dans le "Plan van Zeeland" ne feraient plus l'objet de réquisition de la part des Armées Alliées.

Bruxelles, le 6 avril 1945.

(1) annexe I.

COMMISSARIAT BELGE AU RAPATRIEMENT.

PLAN van ZEELAND.

TOTAUX RECLAMES :

ANVERS	9.020
BRABANT	9.000
FLANDRE OCCIDENTALE	1.200
FLANDRE ORIENTALE	900
HAINAUT	7.975
LIEGE	12.350
LIMBOURG	5.500
LUXEMBOURG	5.450
NAMUR	8.570

59.965

=====

A N. V E R S.

=====

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Moll +	Weldadighoudeschool	1.000
Turnhout +	Kursaal) Amicitia)	400
Borgerhout	Gildenhuis, Wijnegemstraat	200
Malines	Salle des fêtes	220
Erchem	Caserne du génie	1.600
Lierre	Caserne Nazareth	800
Brasschaet ++	Hof ten Bosch	800

Centres en opération : 5.020

=====

II. Centres réclanés et nécessaires pour le bon fonctionnement de notre programme.

Lierre	Caserne Sion	1.500
Turnhout +	St. Victorgesticht	500
Herenthals	Ecole Normale	1.000
Anvers +	Caserne Desguin	1.000

Centres non encore obtenus : 4.000

=====

Centres en opération 5.020

Centres non encore obtenus ... 4.000

9.020

=====

Autres locaux demandés.

Anvers - Ecole de Navigation - Capacité 600

+ Centre de rassemblement.

++ Cam permanent.

B R A B A N T. =====

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Bruxelles	Comité de Coordination	3.000
Uccle-Stalle +	Rue de Stalle, 97.	2.000
Louvain	Ecole Communale n° 1	350
	Ecole libre Enfant Jésus	200
	Ecole voer des Capucins	400
	Ecole Reine Astrid (rue Vital Decoster).	450
	Ecole des Beaux-Arts (rue Vanderkelen).	450
	Ecole St. Jean.	150
Tourneppe ++	Château Waucquez	1.000
Lembeek ++	Couvent des Frères	<u>1.000</u>
	Total réclamé et en opération :	9.000

Autres locaux demandés.

Ecole St. Paul - rue de Stalle - Capacité 250.

+ Centre de rassemblement.

++ Camp permanent.

FLANDRE OCCIDENTALE.
=====

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Ostende +	Musiekschool	500
Ypres	Centre Croix-Rouge	200
Centres en opération :		<u>700</u>

II. Centre réclamé et nécessaire pour le bon fonctionnement de notre programme.

Bruges +	Ecole des Frères Capucins	<u>500</u>
Centre non encore obtenu :		500

Centres en opération 700
Centre non encore obtenu 500

Total réclamé : 1.200
=====

F L A N D R E O R I E N T A L E.
=====

		<u>Capacité.</u>
I. <u>Centre habituellement équipé et en opération.</u>		
Gand +	Couvent Pattijntjesstraat	300
II. <u>Centre réclamé et nécessaire pour le bon fonctionnement de notre programme.</u>		
Termonde	Collège Ste-Vierge.	600

Centre en activité	300
Centre non encore obtenu	600

Total réclamé :	900
	=====

+ Centre de rassemblement.

M A I N A U T. =====

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Mons +	Cour du Bailly Propriétaires Réunis Grande Fabrique Maison Paternotte Château Demarez	600
Tournai +	Ecole du Textile Ecole Professionnelle Don Bosco	500 500
Morlanwelz	Académie de musique	300
Charleroi	Maison de Huit Heures	500
Givry ++	Institut St-Joseph	800
Casteau ++	St-Alfred	300
Maisières ++	Camp Casteau	475
Bonsecours ++	Dames Bernardines	1.000
Momignies ++	Couvent des Frères	1.000
Chinay ++	Secours St-Chrétienne	500

Centres en opération : 6.475
=====

II. Centre réclamé et nécessaire pour le bon fonctionnement de notre programme.

Soignies	Athénée Royal	500
----------	---------------	-----

Centre non encore obtenu: 500
=====

Centres en opération 6.475
Centre non encore obtenu ... 500

6.975
=====

Autres centres réclamés.

Braine-le-	Comte	Ancienne Eglise des Dominicains	Cap	{ 400
		Hôtel de la Tour		
Manage		Asile St-Bernard		300
Froyennes		Couvent des Dominicains		300
Erquelines		Couvent des Frères français		500
+		Centre de rassemblement.		
++		Camp permanent.		

L I E G E.

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Liège +	St Christophe	500
	St Marguerite	400
	Rue Maghin	400
	St-Servais	1.000
	St-Laurent	500
Verviers +	St-Claire (rue Sècheval)	1.000
	St-Xavier	200
Seraing	Casernes	500
	Turnhalle	200
	Junglinghaus	200
	Ueters Peters	300
Visé	Corrivoine de l'abattoir	0
	Corrivoine	1.000
Hombourg	Casernes	750
Hannut	Ecoles	400

Centres en opération : 7.350

II. Centres réclamés et nécessaires pour le bon fonctionnement de notre
PROGAMME

Verviers	Casernes	4.000
Seraing	Ecole Moyenne et Normale de l'Etat	1.000
	Centres non encore obtenus :	5.000
		=====

Centres en opération 7.350
Centres non encore obtenus 5.000

Total réclamé : 12.350
=====

+ Centre de rassemblement.

L I M B O U R G.
=====

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Hasselt	Athénée	500
Neerpelt +	Usine Swaen	300
Tongres	Pensionnat	500
Maesijck	Couvent Ursulines	500
		<hr/>
Centres en opération :		1.800

II. Centres réclamés et nécessaires pour le bon fonctionnement de notre programme.

Hasselt +	Nouvelle Caserne	1.200
Beverloo ++	Camp de cavalerie	2.500
		<hr/>
Centres non encore obtenus :		3.700
		<hr/>

Centres en opération 1.800
Centres non encore obtenus 3.700

Total réclamé : 5.500
=====

+ Centre de rassemblement.
++ Camp permanent.

L U X E M B O U R G.

=====

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Neufchâteau +	Collège St-Michel	400
	Athénée	300
	Cinéma Union	150
	Cin. Maison Libérale	150
Marche	Couvent des Frères	600
Poix St-Hubert.	Centre près gare	350
Herbeumont ++	Camp du Travail	500

Centres en opération : 2.450

=====

II. Centres réclamés et nécessaires pour le bon fonctionnement de notre programme.

Arlon +	Caserne Léopold	2.000
Virton +	Collège St-Joseph	1.000

Centres non encore obtenus 3.000

=====

Centres en opération 2.450

Centres non encore obtenus ... 3.000

Total réclamé : 5.450

=====

Autres centres demandés.

Luxembourg (Hachy) - Couvent - Capacité 1.000

+ Centre de rassemblement.

++ Camp permanent.

N A M U R.
=====

I. Centres actuellement équipés et en opération.

		<u>Capacité.</u>
Namur et Jambes +	Ecole Comm. (Jambes)	450
	Ecole des Oblats	150
Andenne	Ecole du Centre	600
++	Ecole Normale	2.500
Lustin	Château de Fresnes	320
Godinne	Villas	650
Philippeville ++	Rue de l'Abreuvoir	300
Marionbourg	Centre Croix-Rouge	100
Ciney	Ecole Moyenne Etat	500

Centres en opération : 5.570
=====

II. Centres réclamés et nécessaires pour le bon fonctionnement de notre programme.

Jambes + Casernes. 3.000

Centres non encore obtenus : 3.000
=====

Centres en opération 5.570
Centres non encore obtenus .. 3.000

Total réclamé : 8.570
=====

+ Centre de rassemblement.
++ Camp permanent.

LES SECTIONS LOCALES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE DONT DEPENDENT
LES LOCALITES CI-APRES ORGANISERONT EN VERTU DU CONTRAT
AVEC LE COMMISSARIAT BELGE AU RAPATRIEMENT UN OU DES
"CENTRES D'ACCUEIL" A CHAQUE POSTE DE DOUANE IMPORTANT
SE TROUVANT A PROXIMITE.

Heer
Bouillon
Florenville
Virton
Athus
Arlon
Martelange
Bastogne
Schönberg (StVith)
Burgенbach
Eupen
Hergенrath (doit desservir la Calamine)
Eynatten
Hombourg (doit desservir Gemmenich)
Aubel (pour route de Schilberg)
Visé (pour route de Mersch)
Riempst (pour route de Maestricht)
Lanaeken
Namont
Lommel

LISTE DES LOCALITES OU L'ON INSTALLERA DES POSTES D'ACCUEIL
GERES PAR UN AUTRE ORGANISME MAIS OU LA CROIX-ROUGE ORGANISE
LE SERVICE SANITAIRE

Postel - Arendock - Poppel - Meerle -
Meere - Wuestwezel - Esschen - Putte.

REMARQUE : "a plupart de ces centres d'accueil sont en activité ;
les autres le seront dans un jour ou deux.

CENTRES DE RASSEMBLEMENT EN ACTIVITE

Prov. d'ANVERS

Anvers

24, Longue rue Neuve (centre administr) M. Hertogs

Prov. de LIEGE

Liège

Ste Marguerite r. Ste Marguerite	500	M. Paulis
rue Maghin	500	M. Thys
St. Laurent	500	M. Mousel
St. Christophe	500	M. Engelman
St. Servais	1.000	M. Harzee

Verviers

Ste Claire, rue Secheval 1.000 M. Pagnoul

Visé

Ecole Normale 1.000 M. Lehaen

Prov. du LUXEMBOURG

Neufchateau

Collège et Athénée 1.000 M. Dumoulin

Arlon

1, place Léopold (bureau administratif) M. Gelshen ?

Prov. du HAINAUT

Charleroi

Maison des 8 heures 1.000 M. Bardeaux

Mons

Cours Bailly 600 M. Heinz

Prov. de NAMUR

Jambes

Ecole 600 M. Cochard

FLANDRE OCCIDENTALE

Ostende

Muziekschool, rue de Rome 500 M. Ureel

Bruges

rue des Prédicateurs (bureau administr.)

FLANDRE ORIENTALE

Gand

Patijntjestraat, 33 300 M. Jacobs

Prov. du LIMBOURG

Tongres

Athénée - Kielenstraat 500 M. Christiaens

Hasselt

Athénée Roayle - Capucinenstr. 500 M. Govaerts

Prov. du BRABANT

Uccle-Stalle

161, rue de Stalle 2.000 M. Van Loo

Louvain

boul. de Tirlement 1.000 M. Verbist

CENTRES DE RASSEMBLEMENT EN VOIE D'EQUIPEMENT
fonctionneront dans une huitaine de jours.

		<u>Capacité</u>	<u>Directeur</u>
<u>Prov. de LUXEMBOURG</u>			
Machy	Couvent des Frères	1.000	M. Mauer
<u>Prov. d'ANVERS</u>			
Moll	Weldadigheidschool	1.000	M. Manderfeld
Turnhout	Amititiat)	900	M. Stroobants
	Kurzaal)		
Neerpelt	Usines Swaen	500	M. Spaas

CENTRES DE RASSEMBLEMENT EN PROJET

Nous attendons la mise à disposition des locaux par les
 Autorités Alliées.

BRUGES	- Capucinenstraat	280 places
ARLON	- Caserne "Léopold Pensionnat "Jésuites"	2 à 3.000 places
ANVERS		1.000 "
HERENTHALS	- Ecole Normale	1.000 "
ATH	- 4 locaux pour total de	2.000 "
TERMONDE	- Ecole Ste Vierge Ecole	1.000 "
VIRTON	- Collège St Joseph	1.000 "

Note 8/6

Copies of
attachments to
this letter are
being made &
will be added to
the file

CENTRES HEBERGEMENT EN ACTIVITE

		<u>Capacité</u>	<u>Directeurs</u>
<u>Prov. d'ANVERS</u>			
Borgerhout	Gildenhuis - Wijnegemstraat	200	M. Gielen
Malines	Salle des Fêtes	220	M. Casseur
Berchem	Caserne Génie	1.600	M. Vos
Lierre	Caserne Nazareth	800	M. De la Haye
<u>Prov. de LIEGE</u>			
Hombourg	(occupé par les Américains)	750	
Eupen	idem	1.000	
Hannut	Ecole	800	M. Flagothier
<u>Prov. de LUXEMBOURG</u>			
Poix St-Hubert	Près de la gare	350	M. Seiffert
Marche	Couvent des Frères	600	M. Hanin
<u>Prov. du HAINAUT</u>			
Tournai	Ecole Textile	500	} M. Durieux
	Ecole prof. Don Bosco	500	
Morlanwelz	Académie Musique	300	M. Hecq
Chimay	Soeurs Ste Chrétienne	500	M. Lebrun
<u>Prov. de NAMUR</u>			
Andenne	Ecole du Centre	600	M. Simetin
Lustin	Chateau des Fresnes	320	M. De Halu
Godinne	Villas	650	M. Bouty
<u>Prov. du LIMBOURG</u>			
Maeséyck	Couvent des Ursulines	500	M. Janssens
<u>Prov. du BRABANT</u>			
Comité de Coordination (voir listes ci-jointes des centres de Bruxelles)		5.000	M. Gombert

CENTRES HEBERGEMENT EN VOIE D'EQUIPEMENT

<u>Prov. d'ANVERS</u>	Borgerhout (Collège)	800	M. Gielen
<u>Prov. du HAINAUT</u>	Manage (Asile St-Bernard)	300	
	-Braine-le-Comte (Anc. Eglise Domini- caine et Hôtel de la Cour).	400	

CENTRES HEBERGEMENT EN PROJET

<u>Renaix</u>	Ecole Moyenne Garçons	800	
	Collège St. Antoine	800	
<u>Roulers</u>	Bâtiements militaires	500	

LISTE DES CENTRES D'HÉBERGEMENT DE L'AGGLOMERATION
BRUXELLOISE, en activité.

		Capacité	Telephone
Centre n° 5	-MAISON D'ACCUEIL 25, rue du Marché au Parc	200 places	17.84.19
"	n° 7 -CLUB SOLVAY SPORTS 142, ch. de la Hulpe, Boitsfort	84 "	48.50.66
"	n° 8 -ECOLE COMMUNALE 16, av. des Eperons d'Or Ixelles	600 "	48.62.80
"	n° 9 -HOTEL DE CALAIS 1, rue de Russie St Gilles	90 "	12.39.49
"	n° 10 -ECOLE COMMUNALE 68, rue du Vantour, Bruxelles	400 "	12.97.01 11.31.20
"	n° 13 -ECOLE COMMUNALE rue des Soldats, Berchem-Ste Agathe	200 "	26.21.63
"	n° 14 -ECOLE COMMUNALE 55, rue des Six Jetons LE FIR 44, rue des Six Jetons Bruxelles	400 "	(Duyver) 12.61.46
"	n° 16 -ECOLE DE POLICE 95, rue Linné, St Josse	350 "	17.78.29
"	n° 18 -ECOLE DE LA CHASSE, Auderghem	200 "	--
"	n° 19 -ECOLE COMMUNALE 103, av. de Roodebeek, Schaerbeek	200 "	34.34.63
"	n° 20 -ECOLE COMMUNALE 125, rue Edouard Stuckens, Evere	200 "	15.73.99
"	n° 22 -ECOLE COMMUNALE 82, rue Gustave Demanet, Laeken	200 "	(Fonck) 26.27.92
"	n° 24 -CENTRALE JOCISTE 78 79, boul. Poincaré, Bruxelles	200 "	21.00.35
"	n° 25 -ECOLE COMMUNALE 46, av. Fonsny, St Gilles	300 "	--
"	n° 26 -88/92, rue des Champs Elysées, Ixelles	300 "	47.14.34
"	n° 27 -HOME 4, rue Rauter, Anderlecht	400 "	21.79.48
"	n° 28 -ECOLE COMMUNALE, rue Gallait, Schaerbeek	360 "	à ouvrir
"	n° 29 -ECOLE CARDINAL MERCIER rue du Nid, Ixelles	100 "	48.62.80

Centre n° 30

Casa d'Italia

- 38, rue de Livourne

3736.66

CAMPS PERMANENTS EN ACTIVITE

	<u>Capacité</u>	<u>Directeur</u>
<u>Prov. du BRABANT</u>		
Tourneppe (Russes)	1.000	M. Maujean
Lembeek " couvent des Frères	1.000	M. Hôwart
<u>Prov. du HAINAUT</u>		
Givry (Russes)	1.200	M. Transon
Casteau St Alfred "	350	M. Wattlelet
Maisières "	475	M. Musain
Bonsecours "	1.000	M. Van Hallen
Momignies "	1.000	M. Doumont
<u>Prov. de NAMUR</u>		
Andenne - Ecole Normale	2.500	M. Simeton
Philippeville - r. de l'Abreuvoir	300	M. Dubois
<u>Prov. d'ANVERS</u>		
Brasschaet "Hof ten Bosch"	800	M. Hackray

CAMPS PERMANENTS EN VOIE D'EQUIPEMENT
seront en activité dans une huitaine de jours

Prov. du LUXEMBOURG

Herbeumont	600
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ETAT DE POPULATION DES CENTRES EN ACTIVITE

Annexe VI.

Centres de	Belges	Russes	Franç.	Itall.	Polon.	Luxemb.	Holl.	Youg.	Bulg.	Divers
LIEGE										
St Christophe										
Ste Marguerite		118								
rue Maghin	1									
St Laurent	2			5						
St Servais					527					
VERVIERS										
Ste Claire	131	29	4		5		2			8all
Hannut Ste Marie					102					resp:
Visé		112								
NAMUR										resp:
Jambes	1	8	2	30	1	1	14	63		resp:
Andenne		1.828		37				2		resp:
Cerfontaine					198					
Godinne							422			
Mariembourg					157					
Couvin					162					
St Hubert		10			254					
Lustin							199	7		
Neufcaâteau	2	3		77		10		6	17	
Marche					483					
Herbeumont										124all
HAINAUT										
Givry		1.200								
Casteau		263								
Maisières		443								
Mons		4								
Morlanwelz		371								
Charleroi	4	1.176	16(transit)							
Chimay		330								
Tournai		603								
Bonsecours		407								
Momignies		484								
Lembeek		758			2					2 1 Tchèq.
Tourneppe		837								
Louvain					614					10 Letto
Hasselt		4			201					2 apatr
Brasschaet	9						109			1 Tchèq.
Termonde		257								
Cte Coordin.	212	603	8	508	47	1	148	59		2 apatr
Uccle Stalle	700						234			1 all
										10 nou
										1 et
										1 et
										1 honz
	1.062	9.846	30	657	2.753	12	1.128	137	19	185

RECAPITULATION

1.062	Belges	
9.846	Russes	
30	Français	15.829
657	Italiens	121
2.753	Polonais	1.000
12	Luxembourgeois	1.000
1.128	Hollandais	93 Belges
137	Yougoslaves	4 Hindous
19	Bulgares	arrivés Bruxelles
185	Divers	en dernière heure
	Total	18.047 D.P.

15.829 D.P.

Monsieur Delierneux

Bruxelles, le 16 mai 1945.
4, Place du Petit Sablon.

Annexe I

Monsieur,

À la demande de la Croix Rouge de Belgique, je vous prie de trouver sous ce pli deux documents - dont un avec une annexe - signé par le Président de la Croix Rouge et relative à la coopération que cette Institution est disposée à apporter à U.N.R.R.A. en Allemagne.

Répondant au désir qui m'a été exprimé, tant par les délégués de U.N.R.R.A. à Bruxelles que par le délégué de la Croix Rouge, j'ai pris connaissance de ces documents et me fais un plaisir de vous dire qu'ils ont l'approbation du Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement.

Pour éviter toute confusion, je crois utile de répéter ici que, conformément aux règles établies, les activités concrètes, déployées par la Croix Rouge en Allemagne sous la coordination de U.N.R.R.A., seront, en chaque cas, arrêtées avec l'accord du Commissariat au Rapatriement.

Je m'empresse d'ajouter qu'une première manifestation de cette collaboration tripartite a déjà abouti à un résultat particulièrement heureux, à savoir la constitution et l'envoi imminent de six équipes médico-sociales fournies par la Croix Rouge et financées par le Commissariat.

Veillez trouver ici, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments très distingués.

Monsieur S.A. BRIDSON
Chief U.N.R.R.A. Liaison Officer
S.H.A.E.F. (Main)
A.P.O. 757, U.S. Army

*Commissariat Belge
au Rapatriement*

COPIE

Croix-Rouge de Belgique

Subject : Application and Plan of the Belgian Red Cross for
Operations in Germany in connection with Displaced persons

-:-:-:-

To: Mr. S.A. EMIDSON
Chief U.N.R.R.A. Liaison Officer
Supreme Headquarters , Allied Expeditionary Force (Main)
A.P.O. 757 ; U.S. Army.

- 1.- Attached hereto are a proposal by the Belgian Red Cross for participation in the work in Germany relative to displaced persons, and a plan for carrying on those activities.
- 2.- Sent also herewith a copy of a letter of approval by the proper authority in the Belgian Government to operations of the Belgian Red Cross in Germany.
- 3.- The Belgian Red Cross is most anxious to offer whatever services it is able to assist in solving the great and humanitarian problem of care of those unfortunate people who have been kept in Germany against their will. We would be willing if it might help to send a Belgian Red Cross representative attached to Allied Headquarters in Germany, for the purpose of assuring the fullest and more effective use of the Belgian Red Cross teams in Germany, under the supervision and coordination on U.N.R.R.A.
- 4.- Since the need for all available assistance to displaced persons in Germany is urgent, we hope that our plan will receive early consideration and approval.

The President,

Dr. Pierre Depage.-

DA.

C O P I E.

5 May 1945.

PROPOSAL.

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION AND THE
Belgian RED CROSS.

-
1. The purpose of this proposal is to expedite services to displaced persons in Germany.
 2. The proposal develops a working relationship between the Belgian Red Cross and UNRRA in connection with work^{with} displaced persons in Germany.
 3. The Belgian Red Cross is a voluntary relief agency and as such would be affected by SHAEF policies and procedures governing voluntary relief agencies which deal with the care and repatriation of displaced persons in Germany.
 4. The Belgian Red Cross desires to work in Germany in the SHAEF program for displaced persons and agrees to :
 - a) Perform its activities with displaced persons in Germany under the supervision and coordination of UNRRA.
 - b) Submit to UNRRA (Attention : J.A. Edmisson - Chief UNRRA Liaison Officer, G-5, Supreme Hqs., A.E.F., APO 757, U.S. Army) a plan of operations which will include:
 - (1) Name of organization.
 - (2) Names of principal officers, etc.
 - (3) Type of activities in which the Belgian Red Cross desires to engage and methods to be employed.
 - (4) Official statement of approval by the Government of Belgium of the Belgian Red Cross' desire to operate in Germany in displaced persons program.
 - (5) Number and qualification of personnel involved and personal and organizational equipment required and available.
 - c) Arrange for the compensation, clothing and equipment of personnel employed by Belgian Red Cross.
 - d) Comply with military law and to serve under the jurisdiction of the commander of the formation to which members of the Belgian Red Cross may be attached as individuals or as a group.
 - e) Negotiate with UNRRA from time to time such further detailed arrangements and procedures as the situation requires.
 5. It is understood that UNRRA will :
 - a) Present the Red Cross plan to SHAEF
 - b) Serve as the channel of communication between the Belgian Red Cross and SHAEF.
 - c) Arrange with appropriate military commanders for such UNRRA coordination and supervision as may be required at the various military echelons.
 - d) Develop, for the Belgian Red Cross, through coordination the fullest possible opportunities for service to displaced persons in Germany.

Signed :

Pierre DEPAGE.

COPIE.Croix-Rouge de BelgiqueI.- Name

Belgian Red Cross, branch of the International Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies -98, Chaussée de Vleurgat-Brussels.

II.- Officers

Président and Chairman of the Board : Dr. Pierre Depage

Vice-President : Prince Albert de Ligne and Professor Joseph Sebrechts

Director-General : General Edmond Dronsart

Directors : Colonel Maurice Lambin and Colonel Louis C. Picalausa

Director of the National Office for Relief to Prisoners of War: Major Félix Landrien

III.- Proposed Activities

1°) First Aid Services and medical care

2°) Transport by Ambulances

3°) Assistance with the Sanitary Services in the camps

4°) Temporary Hospitalization

5°) Assistance in the distribution of supplies and in the setting up and operations and rest-stop facilities.

IV.- Methods of Operation

1°) The first choice of the Belgian Red Cross would be to perform its services through complete teams :

2°) In those instances where need required, individuals could be furnished or taken from teams to perform emergency services.

V.- Statement of Approval

Hereto attached a letter from the Belgian Government showing approval for Belgian Red Cross operation in Germany in connection with Displaced Persons.

VI.- Number of Personnel Available

1°) The Belgian Red Cross is prepared to furnish immediately at least 6 teams of 11 persons each, depending upon the type of job to be done, each team to be made up as follows :

- I Leader
- I Assistant Leader
- I Doctor

.../....

- I Nurse
- 2 Ladies Officers drivers
- 2 Alternate drivers and first aid assistants
- I Welfare Assistant
- I Secretary
- I Cook

VII.- Qualifications of the Personnel

The members of all Belgian Red Cross teams are required to possess a certificate of training and competence in their particular fields. Most of the teams which are immediately available have served the Belgian population during the German occupation and have had extensive experience in handling all sorts of problems relating to the impact of war on the civilian population, particularly in connection with bombing and the German counter-offensive in the Ardennes. Three of these teams are now on duty in Germany.

VIII.- Equipment available

1°) 12 ambulances with stretchers, blankets, first aid supplies, emergency rations and other necessary items are now available.

2°) If necessary, a completely equipped and completely staffed mobile surgical unit can be furnished.

3°) All members of the teams are now or could be equipped with Belgian Red Cross Uniforms.

IX.- Requirements :

- 1°) P O L for all vehicles
- 2°) Ration and messing facilities
- 3°) Sleeping accommodations
- 4°) Such privileges as PX and APO, quartermaster -sal estores etc...

TO: Miss Bond for Mr Scott
for ACTION

M. Morin

~~Please circulate to~~
~~copies distributed~~
~~to on.~~

.....Branch Registry

Date.....

Mr. T.I. SCOTT
Director D.P. Division
ERRA European Regional Office
170 A Great Portland street,
London W 1 (England)

DP 4/4.

640

INDEXED

Bruxelles, le 20.5.45

Cher Patron,

Je vous fais parvenir un court rapport.

Je le rédige autant que possible sous forme télégraphique pour deux raisons : parce que je n'ai pas le temps de vous établir un rapport en termes bien policés, et en second lieu, parce que je sais que vous-même êtes tellement occupé.

I - EVOLUTION DU RAPATRIEMENT EN BELGIQUE

Actuellement, plus de 40 % des Belges prisonniers politiques, déportés, prisonniers de guerre, ont été rapatriés, et sont pour la grande majorité, déjà rentrés dans leur foyer. En outre, 400.000 sujets alliés, en grande majorité des Français, sont passés en transit en Belgique pour retourner chez eux. C'est vous dire que la première phase du rapatriement a très bien marché.

Le rythme se ralentit actuellement. Ceci est dû à différentes causes, à savoir :

- a) on a rapatrié d'abord ceux dont l'état physique permettait un transport sans trop de difficultés.
- b) ceux qui se trouvent dans la zone d'occupation russe ne sont guère rapatriés (l'accord en vue de l'échange entre D.P. se trouvant dans la zone russe d'une part, américaine et britannique d'autre part, n'est pas encore entré dans la phase des réalisations).

Un mécontentement réel commence à se faire jour, tant en Belgique qu'en France. Le bruit court que la Russie serait intentionnée de faire le rapatriement via Odessa et d'autres ports, au lieu de le faire directement au travers des lignes de démarcation.

Une réelle inquiétude commence à se faire jour dans l'opinion publique à ce sujet.

- c) les épidémies qui ont éclaté dans de nombreux camps, entravent le rapatriement rapide de bon nombre des D.P. qui se trouvent encore dans la zone SHAEF.

Ceci est surtout vrai en ce qui concerne les prisonniers politiques, qui sont ceux qui ont le plus souffert, et qui se trouvaient dans les camps où les conditions d'hygiène étaient les plus déplorables.

Il est donc probable que l'action de rapatriement, dans sa seconde phase, s'effectuera à un rythme moins rapide qu'au cours de la première phase.

Dans la zone SHAEF, environ 21 ^{millions} de D.P. ont jusqu'à présent été "trouvés". Ce chiffre est notablement inférieur aux estimations antérieurement faites. Ceci provient de ce que :

- a) les chiffres donnés par la plupart des gouvernements intéressés étaient exagérés
- b) bon nombre de D.P. n'ont pas encore été recensés (surtout ceux qui avaient été placés au travail agricole et vraiment dispersés chez des fermiers allemands).

Voici quelques chiffres quant à la répartition au point de vue national de D.P. déjà recensées dans la zone SHAEF.

Russes	40 %
Français	25 %
Polonais	14 %
Belges	5 %
Hollandais	5 %
Italiens	9 %
Yougoslaves)	
Czecks)	
Grecs)	2 %
Luxembourg.)	
Norvégiens)	
etc.)	

En ce moment, le problème de D.P. dans la zone SHAEF semble en main et sous contrôle.

Une preuve : le fait que le problème des Trekkers, dont au cours de la période de planning il fut tant question, ne s'est pas matérialisé aux frontières hollandaises, belges, luxembourgeoises et françaises.

Quoique la première phase du rapatriement se soit effectuée à une cadence rapide, on aurait tort de conclure que d'ici quelques semaines, le problème sera résolu. Il faudra de très nombreux mois avant qu'il n'en soit ainsi.

Les U.N.R.R.A. teams qui, de plus en plus nombreux, opèrent en Allemagne, y auront une tâche des plus importantes à accomplir. Au fur et à mesure que le problème diminue en importance quantitative, il s'intensifiera en difficultés de tous ordres notoires, parce que le reliquat sera de plus en plus difficile à rapatrier.

II - Comme vous l'avez probablement appris, l'accord entre Croix Rouge Belge, UNRRA et Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement est signé. Monsieur Van Zeeland a transmis les documents ad hoc à EDMISON. Je Joins la copie de ces documents (annexe 1).

En ce moment, 18 équipes de la Croix Rouge Belge sont préparées pour prêter leur concours. Six de ces équipes, à la demande des Autorités belges et du 21st Army Group, ont été envoyées directement en Allemagne. Et ce, après qu'un accord ad hoc ait été signé.

Douze autres équipes sont à la disposition de SHAEF (Main) pour être dirigées vers d'autres groupes d'armées.

Un général du 21st Army Group a inspecté les six équipes précitées avant leur départ, et a marqué sa satisfaction.

Monsieur Van Zeeland a personnellement insisté près de moi pour que six de ces équipes, qui attendaient l'ordre de départ depuis quelques jours, soient mises en action sans autre retard. Aussi a-t-il été heureux que le 21st Army Group, d'accord avec le Délégué UNRRA, Mr. SCHLEE, les fasse partir de toute urgence.

~~Veuillez trouver ci-joint, copie de la lettre que j'ai~~
~~écrite à M. EDMISON le 18 courant, sous le titre "Flying Squads" (annexe II).~~

III - FLYING SQUADS.

Celles-ci sont enfin arrivées vendredi 18 courant. Les vingt tonnes de vivres qu'elles apportaient ont été remises à Monsieur Van Zeeland. Les camions supplémentaires, destinés à modifier les deux Messenger Convoys en quatre, viennent également d'arriver et seront remis le mardi 22 (annexe III).

Les Flying Squads partiront pour l'Allemagne le 22 ou le 23.

On a eu quelques difficultés avec certains membres du personnel. Celles-ci sont en partie éliminées. Une voiture a été volée par manque de prudence du driver.

Les Flying Squads étaient déjà depuis deux jours à Bruxelles, avant qu'un des leaders soit venu se présenter devant moi. Mais, le jour même de l'arrivée, une Flying Squad au complet se présentait à mon bureau, ayant perdu contact avec le restant et ne sachant où se rendre. J'ai pu courir toute une demi-journée pour retrouver les autres Squads.

C'est là un détail, mais chose qui ne devrait pas arriver.

IV - RECRUTEMENT.

Veillez trouver ci-dessous la statistique du recrutement jusqu'au 17 mai.

	<u>Belgians</u>	<u>Other Nationalities</u>
DIRECTORS	27	1 French
DEPUTY DIRECTORS	44	
CHIEF DOCTORS	7	
DOCTORS	40	4 Lux.
PRINCIPAL WELFARE OFFICERS	12	
ASSISTANT WELFARE OFFICERS	50	1 Lux.
CHIEF NURSES	10	
NURSES	62	1 French
SUPPLY OFFICERS	42	2 Brit. 1 Tcheg.
WAREHOUSE OFFICERS	39	1 Polish
MESSING OFFICERS	35	1 Brit.
DRIVERS	143	1 Lux.
COOKS	39	
CLERK-TYPISTS	33	1 Brit.
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	556	14
	593	

En outre 116 ont été déclarés "unfit"
pour diverses raisons

In addition 116 have been declared "unfit"
for various reasons.

Vous pouvez vous rendre compte par ces chiffres, que malgré les précautions qui ont été prises, il y a un assez grand déchet :

- refus de la Sûreté de laisser certains éléments qui avaient été sélectionnés et qui avaient introduit des certificats de civisme en règle.
- démission d'éléments nommés et qui, avant le départ renoncent.
- refus de visa français à certains, qui avaient été admis, par sécurité belge et par sécurité SHAEF, mais qui se trouvaient sur la liste noire française.

L'envoi à Granville de ceux qui sont O.K. se réalise à un rythme accéléré. Avant la fin du mois, le premier contingent belge sera à Granville.

Nous avons commencé une nouvelle action de recrutement et la pousserons avec énergie et rapidité. J'ai organisé, à cet effet, un petit plan d'action qui donnera, je l'espère. J'ai remis à WRATHAL le schéma de ce plan. J'espère qu'il vous l'aura transmis.

Cette semaine, nous avons recruté une centaine d'éléments. La semaine prochaine, j'espère voir dépasser ce chiffre et arriver ainsi rapidement à vous donner satisfaction.

Il y a cependant, depuis peu de jours, une difficulté supplémentaire qui vient s'ajouter à toutes celles qu'on rencontre déjà : le Gouvernement vient de décréter la mobilisation civile de la grande majorité de la population belge, avec, comme conséquence, interdiction de quitter l'emploi effectué.

J'irai voir cette semaine le Premier Ministre pour qu'il fasse exception en ce qui concerne ceux que nous recrutons. J'espère bien réussir, sinon, nous nous trouverions dans un mess. "Where is a will, there is a way". La volonté de réussir y est, aussi j'espère bien trouver ce "way".

V - MISSION BELGE.

WRATHAL est arrivé il y a une huitaine de jours. Il est resté quatre ou cinq jours ici et est rentré à Londres. Il a pris contact avec différentes autorités. Je lui avais trouvé des locaux pour installer ses bureaux pour la date qui m'avait été fixée. Comme WRATHAL n'est arrivé que quinze jours après cette date, les bureaux, qui avaient été vidés par des services belges, pour être mis à sa disposition, avaient été réoccupés, parce qu'ils n'avaient pas été pris en service par WRATHAL.

J'ai fait de nouvelles démarches et ai trouvé d'autres locaux, situés à la Grand'place de Bruxelles, n° 18.

Ce sont des bureaux très bien et cette fois, je les occuperai directement. Je suis du rest honteux de continuer à occuper les bureaux de Monsieur Van Zeeland, alors que son personnel est tellement à l'étroit, qu'il y a cinq agents travaillant dans une même chambre.

Pour intensifier l'action de recrutement, j'ai du reste besoin de plusieurs bureaux, sinon, le personnel qui travaille ici du matin jusque très tard dans la nuit chaque jour, ne saura pas tenir le coup.

J'ai fait comprendre à Mr. Wrathel que je désirais travailler avec lui en toute confiance et en toute amitié, que je ne m'immiscerais en aucune façon dans ce qui avait trait à la mission - tout en étant prêt à lui être utile chaque fois qu'il le désirait - et que j'espérais qu'il ferait de même en ce qui concerne l'action de recrutement que j'ai à mener. Je crois que nous nous entendrons et que ce gentlemen agreement fonctionnera.

Reste ma situation d'Adviser en matière de displaced persons près Mr. Van Zeeland.

Comme vous le savez, Mr. Van Zeeland et moi-même collaborons avec plaisir et efficience. Il règne entre nous une confiance totale et réciproque.

Enfin, étant Deputy Director Division Displaced Persons pour la North-East-South Europe, je voudrais être définitivement fixé sur ce que j'ai à faire.

D'un côté, je comprends l'importance du recrutement ici, et d'un tas d'autres problèmes en matière de displaced persons, qui doivent être résolus sur place. Mais il y a aussi la responsabilité que j'ai, du fait de mes fonctions au Head Quarters à Londres.

Je voudrais, Cher Patron, que vous preniez une décision et que vous me disiez clairement et nettement ce que j'ai à faire.

Je travaille très dur ici. Vous vous rendez compte vous-même que des résultats sont acquis. Six cents personnes ont déjà été recrutées en Belgique. Tout le monde reconnaît que les Belges recrutés donnent entière satisfaction. Un millier de plus peut, avec difficulté certes, être recruté, de façon à combler de la sorte la déficience de recrutement dans d'autres pays.

Je suis prêt à me consacrer à cette tâche. Mais, d'un autre côté, je me rends compte que la branche North-East-South Europe doit être menée, je dirais presque créée, et il m'est impossible de faire deux choses à la fois.

Je me rends compte aussi qu'à un moment donné, on pourrait me faire le reproche d'avoir négligé ma fonction de Deputy Director, ce qui serait foncièrement injuste, puisqu'on me charge d'autres missions.

En conclusion, il est nécessaire que l'autorité responsable à Londres décide franchement ce que j'ai à faire, en se

basant sur ce qui est le plus nécessaire pour notre action d'ensemble.

Ce qui se fait ici en ce moment produit des résultats pratiques, immédiats, réels. C'est un fait !

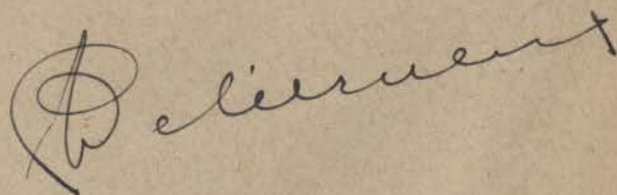
VI - BASE DE HOOGSTRAETEN

Comme je vous l'ai dit antérieurement, je crois sincèrement que cela a été une erreur de ne pas aller carrément de l'avant, dans l'occupation et la réalisation de la base que le 21st Army Group avait réquisitionnée pour nous à Hoogstraeten.

La ligne qui avait été suivie de réserver cette base pour un emploi éventuel, était intenable. Le 21st Army Group avait commencé des travaux, et la base, en peu de jours, aurait été complètement en ordre. Mais, le Gouvernement belge s'étant rendu compte que cette mise en état n'était pas suivie par une occupation de fait, a exigé les bâtiments en retour. SHAEF a soutenu le Gouvernement belge. Il ne nous restait qu'une seule chose à faire, c'était de céder aux exigences de SHAEF et aux exigences du Gouvernement belge. En conclusion, cette base est perdue pour nous.

Il y aurait peut-être moyen d'en trouver une autre. Mais il est inutile de recommencer ces négociations et ces démarches, si c'est pour en arriver en fait, par après, à un résultat identique à celui de Hoogstraeten.

Cette note que je voulais faire en style télégraphique, je l'ai déjà faite beaucoup trop longue. Aussi, je la clôture, non sans vous dire tout mon dévouement.



A. Delierneux.

Mr. T. T. SCOTT
Director D.P. Division
UNRRA European Regional Office
170A, Great Portland Street
London W.1. (England)

Translation

Brussels, 20.5.45.

Dear Chief,

I am sending you a short report.

I am drawing it up as much as possible in telegraphic form for two reasons: because I have not the time to make a report in well organised terms and in the second place because I know that you yourself are so busy.

I - THE DEVELOPMENT OF REPATRIATION IN BELGIUM

At the present moment more than 40% of the Belgian political prisoners, deportees, and prisoners of war have been repatriated and the great majority have returned to their homes. Besides this, 400,000 Allied subjects, the greater part French people have passed through Belgium in transit in order to return home. This is to show you that the first phase of the repatriation has gone very well.

Just now the rythm is relaxing. This is due to different causes:

- (a) first of all, people whose physical health permitted transport without too much difficulty were repatriated:
- (b) those who were found in the Russian zone of occupation have not been repatriated at all (the agreement as regards the exchange of displaced persons in the Russian zone on one side and the American and British on the other side has not yet been brought into actual effect.)
a
The real discontent is starting to come to light in Belgium as well as in France. The rumour runs that Russia intends to repatriate via Odessa and other ports instead of doing it directly across the demarkation lines.
a
The real disquiet is starting to have its effect upon public opinion on this subject.
- (c) The epidemics which broke out in numerous camps hindered the rapid repatriation of a considerable number of displaced persons who are still in the SHAEF zone. This is above, all true as regards political prisoners who are those who have suffered the most and who are in camps where the hygienic conditions have been the most deplorable.

It is thus probable that the carrying out of repatriation in the second phase will be affected less rapidly than was the case during the first phase.

In the SHAEF zone about $2\frac{1}{2}$ million displaced persons have been "found" up to now. This figure is considerably less than the estimates previously made. This is due to the following reasons:

- (a) the figures given by most of the interested governments were exaggerated
- (b) a census has not yet been taken of a considerable number of displaced persons (above all those who were sent to agricultural work and who were in effect dispersed among the German farmers.)

Here are some figures as regards the breaking down from the national point of view of displaced persons of whom a census has already been taken in the SHAEF zone.

Russians	1,000,000
French	750,000
Belgians	125,000

The Flying Squads were already two days in Brussels without any of their leaders coming to introduce themselves to me. But on the actual day of the arrival a complete Flying Squad presented themselves at my office as they had lost contact with the others and did not know where to go. I had to run round the whole day in order to find the other Squads.

This is only a detail but it is a thing which ought not to happen.

IV - RECRUITMENT

Below are statistics of recruitment up to 17th May.

	<u>Belgians</u>	<u>Other Nationalities</u>
DIRECTORS	27	1 French
DEPUTY DIRECTORS	44	
CHIEF DOCTORS	7	
DOCTORS	40	4 Lux.
PRINCIPAL WELFARE OFFICERS	12	
ASSISTANT WELFARE OFFICERS	50	1 Lux.
CHIEF NURSES	10	
NURSES	62	1 French
SUPPLY OFFICERS	42	2 Brit. 1 Czech
WAREHOUSE OFFICERS	39	1 Polish
MESSING OFFICERS	35	1 Brit.
DRIVERS	143	1 Lux.
COOKS	39	
CLERK-TYPISTS	33	1 Brit.
	-----	-----
	556	14
	-----	-----

In addition 116 have been declared "unfit" for various reasons.

From these figures you can see that inspite of the precautions taken there is considerable deficit:

- a refusal of the security to leave certain people who had been selected and who had brought civilian certificates which had been in order.
- the resignation of people nominated who before the departure decided not to go.
- refusal of French visas to certain people who had been admitted by the Belgian Security and by SHAEF Security, but who were entered on the French Black List.

The dispatch to Granville of those who are O.K. is being affected at an accelerated pace. Before the end of the month the First Belgian Contingent will be at Granville.

We have begun a new line of recruitment and will push it with energy and speed. To this effect I have organised a small plan of action which I hope will succeed. I have passed the scheme of this plan to WRATHAL. I hope that he will have sent it to you.

Russians	40 %
French	25 %
Polish	14 %
Belgians	5 %
Dutch	5 %
Italians	9 %

Yugoslavs	} 2 %
Czechs	
Greeks	
Luxembourgers	
Norwegians	
etc.	

At this moment the problem of displaced persons in the SHAEF zone seems to be in hand and under control.

Proof: the fact that the problem of trekkers of whom during the period of planning there has been so much discussion, has not materialised at the Dutch, Belgian, Luxembourg and French frontiers.

Although the first phase of repatriation was carried out most speedily, it would be wrong to conclude that in a few weeks time the problem will be answered. Quite a number of months will be necessary before this could be done.

The UNRRA teams who more and more are operating in Germany will have one of the most important tasks to carry out. As the problem diminishes in quantitative importance, it intensifies in difficulties of the legal order because the remainder will be more and more difficult to repatriate.

II -

As you have probably already heard, the agreement between the Belgian Red Cross, UNRRA, and the Belgian Repatriation Commissariat has been signed. M. Van Zeeland has transmitted the documents ad hoc to Edmison. I am attaching a copy of these documents (enclosure 1).

At this moment, 18 teams of the Belgian Red Cross have been prepared to lend their assistance. 6 of these teams at the request of the Belgian authorities and the 21st Army Group have been sent direct to Germany, and this after an agreement ad hoc had been signed.

12 other teams are at the disposal of SHAEF (Main) to be directed to other Army Groups.

A General of the 21st Army Group inspected the 6 teams above mentioned before their departure and expressed his satisfaction.

M. Van Zeeland personally pressed the matter with me that 6 of these teams who were waiting for the order to departure for several days, should be sent into action without any further delay. He was also pleased that the 21st Army Group in agreement with the UNRRA delegate Mr. SCHLEE should arrange for the departure in all urgency.

III - FLYING SQUADS

These at last arrived on Friday the 18th instant. The 20 tons of food supplies which they ^{brought} were ~~were~~ ^{being} passed over to Mr. Van Zeeland. The supplementary lorries destined to ~~alter~~ ^{bring} the two Messenger Convoys ~~into~~ ^{up to} four have also just arrived and will be passed on, on Tuesday 22nd.

The Flying Squads will leave for Germany the 22nd or 23rd.

There have been certain difficulties with some members of the personnel. These in part have been smoothed out. One vehicle was stolen through lack of precaution on the part of the driver.

This week we have recruited 100 people. Next week I hope to exceed this figure and thus succeed quickly in giving you satisfaction.

However, since a few days have elapsed, an additional difficulty has been added to those with which we have ^{made} up to date: the government has just decreed the civil mobilization of a ^(great) great majority of the Belgian population with as a result the interdiction to leave present employment.

This week I shall go to see the Prime Minister so that he may make an exception as regards our recruits. I hope very much to succeed otherwise we shall find ourselves in a mess. Where there is a will there's a way! ^x The will to succeed is there so that I very much hope to find a "way". ^x

V - BELGIAN MISSION

WRATHAL arrived a week ago. He remained four or five days here and has returned to London. He has contacted different authorities. I found him premises to instal his Offices for the date which he had fixed with me. As WRATHAL only arrived a fortnight after this date the Offices which had been emptied by the Belgian Services in order to be put at his disposal had been reoccupied because they had not been taken over by WRATHAL.

Once again I went into the matter and found premises situated at the Grand'place de Bruxelles, No 18. They are very pleasant offices and this time I shall occupy them directly. As a matter of fact I am ashamed to continue to occupy Mr. Van Zeeland's Office as his personnel is so cramped that there are five officials working in the same room.

To intensify recruiting I need several offices otherwise the personnel who are working here from early morning until very late at night each day, will not be able to hold out.

I made Mr. WRATHAL understand that I wished to work with him in all confidence and friendship, that I would not concern myself in any way with what regarded the Mission - whilst being ready to ^{be} make use of ~~me~~ any time he should need me - and that I hoped that he would do the same with me as regards the recruiting which I had to conduct. I think that we shall agree together and that this gentlemen's agreement will work.

There remains my situation of advising Mr. Van Zeeland as regards displaced persons.

As you know Mr. Van Zeeland and I collaborated with pleasure and efficiency. We have total mutual confidence in each other.

Lastly as Deputy Director of the Division of Displaced Persons for North-East-South Europe I would like to know definitely what I have to do.

From one side I under^{stand} the importance of recruiting here and a great many other problems regarding displaced persons which ought to be solved locally. But there is also the responsibility which I have as regards my functions at Headquarters in London.

I would like you Mr. Scott to take a decision and let me know clearly and definitely what I have to do.

I am working very hard here. You recognise the fact yourself that results have been achieved. 600 people have already been recruited in Belgium. Everyone recognises the fact that the Belgians recruited are giving entire satisfaction. A thousand more can with certain difficulties be recruited thus making good in this way the deficiency in the recruiting in other countries.

^x English in the French text.

I am ready to devote myself to this work. But there is another side I must recognise - the fact that the North-East-South Europe Branch must be led. I would most say created and it is impossible for me to do two things at the same time.

I realise also that at a certain moment I could be reproached for having neglected my functions as Deputy Director which would be fundamentally unjust as I have been given other missions.

In conclusion it is necessary for the responsible authorities at London to decide frankly what I have to do basing themselves on what is the most necessary for our work as a whole.

What is being done here at the moment is producing practical, immediate and real results - that is a fact!

VI - HOOGSTRAETEN BASE

As I told you previously, I sincerely believe that it was an error not to go straight ahead in the occupation and realisation of the base which the 21st Army Group had requisitioned for us at Hoogstraeten.

The line followed to reserve this base for eventual use was untenable. The 21st Army Group had begun work and the base in a few days would have been completely in order. But the Belgian government having realised that this was not followed by actual occupation⁺ of having the buildings back again. SHAEF supported the Belgian government. There was only one thing for us to do and that was to give way to the demands of SHAEF and to the demands of the Belgian government. In conclusion we lost this base.

It will perhaps be possible to find another one. But it is useless to commence negotiations again or to take any steps if it means in the end arriving at the same result as that of Hoogstraeten

This communication which I wished to draw up in telegraphic style is already much too long. I will therefore bring it to a close.

Yours,

(Sgd.) A. Delierneux.

+ insisted on

PZ/MB/1496

Brussels, 16th May, 1945
4, Place du Petit Sablon

Dear Sir,

At the request of the Belgian Red Cross I beg to send you enclosed two documents, - one with an attachment signed by the President of the Red Cross concerning the co-operation which this institution is prepared to give to UNRRA in Germany.

In accordance with the wish expressed to me both by the delegates of UNRRA at Brussels and by the delegate of the Red Cross I have taken note of these documents and have pleasure in informing you that they have received the approval of the Belgian Repatriation Commissariat.

To avoid any confusion I think it useful to repeat here that in conformity with the established rules the concrete activities carried out by the Red Cross in Germany under the co-ordination of UNRRA will be, in each case drawn up in accordance with the agreement of the Repatriation Commissariat.

I hasten to add that the first manifestation of this tripartite collaboration has already ended in a very happy result in the constitution and imminent dispatch of 6 Medical-Welfare Teams and supplied by the Red Cross and financed by the Commissariat.

Yours faithfully,

Monsieur S. A. Edmison
Chief UNRRA Liaison Officer
SHAEF (Main)
A.P.O. 757, U.S. Army

Commissariat Belge
au Repatriement

COPY

Croix-Rouge de Belgique

Subject: Application and Plan of the Belgian Red Cross for
Operations in Germany in connection with Displaced Persons

To: Mr. S. A. Edmison
Chief UNRRA Liaison Officer
Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (Main)
A.P.O. 757, U.S. Army.

- 1 - Attached hereto are a proposal by the Belgian Red Cross for participation in the work in Germany relative to displaced persons, and a plan for carrying on those activities.
- 2 - Sent also herewith a copy of a letter of approval by the proper authority in the Belgian Government to operations of the Belgian Red Cross in Germany.
- 3 - The Belgian Red Cross is most anxious to offer whatever services it is able to assist in solving the great and humanitarian problem of care of those unfortunate people who have been kept in Germany against their will. We would be willing if it might help to send a Belgian Red Cross representative attached to Allied Headquarters in Germany, for the purpose of assuring the fullest and more effective use of the Belgian Red Cross teams in Germany, under the supervision and coordination on UNRRA.
- 4 - Since the need for all available assistance to displaced persons in Germany is urgent, we hope that our plan will receive early consideration and approval.

The President,

Dr. Pierre Depage.

COPY

DA.

5th May, 1945

PROPOSAL

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION AND THE BELGIAN RED CROSS

1. The purpose of this proposal is to expedite services to displaced persons in Germany.
2. The proposal develops a working relationship between the Belgian Red Cross and UNRRA in connection with work with displaced persons in Germany.
3. The Belgian Red Cross is a voluntary relief agency and as such would be affected by SHAEF policies and procedures governing voluntary relief agencies which deal with the care and repatriation of displaced persons in Germany.
4. The Belgian Red Cross desires to work in Germany in the SHAEF program for displaced persons and agrees to:
 - (a) Perform its activities with displaced persons in Germany under the supervision and coordination of UNRRA.
 - (b) Submit to UNRRA (Attention: J. A. Edmison - Chief UNRRA Liaison Officer, G-5, Supreme Hqs., A.E.F., APO 757, U.S. Army) a plan of operations which will include:
 - (1) Name of organization.
 - (2) Names of principal officers, etc.
 - (3) Type of activities in which the Belgian Red Cross desires to engage and methods to be employed.
 - (4) Official statement of approval by the Government of Belgium of the Belgian Red Cross' desire to operate in Germany in displaced persons program.
 - (5) Number and qualification of personnel involved and personal and organizational equipment required and available.
 - (c) Arrange for the compensation, clothing and equipment of personnel employed by the Belgian Red Cross.
 - (d) Comply with military law and to serve under the jurisdiction of the commander of the formation to which members of the Belgian Red Cross may be attached as individuals or as a group.
 - (e) Negotiate with UNRRA from time to time such further detailed arrangements and procedures as the situation requires.
5. It is understood that UNRRA will:
 - (a) Present the Red Cross plan to SHAEF.
 - (b) Serve as the channel of communication between the Belgian Red Cross and SHAEF.
 - (c) Arrange with appropriate military commanders for such UNRRA coordination and supervision as may be required at the various military echelons.
 - (d) Develop, for the Belgian Red Cross, through coordination the fullest possible opportunities for service to displaced persons in Germany.

Signed:

Pierre DEPAGE.

Croix-Rouge de BelgiqueI - Name

Belgian Red Cross, branch of the International Red Cross and of the League of Red Cross Societies - 98, Chaussee de Vleurgat, Brussels.

II - Officers

President and Chairman of the Board: Dr. Pierre Depage
Vice-President: Prince Albert de Ligne and Professor Joseph Sebrechts
Director-General: General Edmond Dronsart
Directors: Colonel Maurice Lambin and Colonel Louis C. Picalausa
Director of the National Office for Relief to Prisoners of War:
Major Felix Landrien

III - Proposed Activities

- 1°) First Aid Services and medical care
- 2°) Transport by Ambulances
- 3°) Assistance with the Sanitary Services in the camps
- 4°) Temporary Hospitalization
- 5°) Assistance in the distribution of supplies and in the setting up and operations and rest-stop facilities.

IV - Methods of Operation

- 1°) The first choice of the Belgian Red Cross would be to perform its services through complete teams:
- 2°) In those instances where need required, individuals could be furnished or taken from teams to perform emergency services.

V - Statement of Approval

Hereto attached a letter from the Belgian Government showing approval for Belgian Red Cross operation in Germany in connection with Displaced Persons.

VI - Number of Personnel Available

- 1°) The Belgian Red Cross is prepared to furnish immediately at least 6 teams of 11 persons each, depending upon the type of job to be done, each team to be made up as follows:

- 1 Leader
- 1 Assistant Leader
- 1 Doctor
- 1 Nurse
- 2 Ladies Officers drivers
- 2 Alternate ~~drivers~~ and first aid assistants
- 1 Welfare Assistant
- 1 Secretary
- 1 Cook

nel
VII - Qualifications of the

Red Cross teams are required to possess a
and competence in their particular fields. Most
The members of all immediately available have served the Belgian
certificate of tr German occupation and have had extensive experience
of the teams wh^{ic}h problems relating to the impact of war on the
population dur^{ing} ion, particularly in connection with bombing and the
in handling ion, particularly in connection with bombing and the
civilian pr^o-offensive in the Ardennes. Three of these teams are
German coⁿ-n Germany.
now on d

is available

VIII - Equi-

- 12 ambulances with stretchers, blankets, first aid supplies,
- 1^c emergency rations and other necessary items are now available.
- 2^o) If necessary, a completely equipped and completely staffed mobile surgical unit can be furnished.
- 3^o) All members of the teams are now or could be equipped with Belgian Red Cross Uniforms.

IX - Requirements

- 1^o) P O L for all vehicles
- 2^o) Ration and messing facilities
- 3^o) Sleeping accommodations
- 4^o) Such privileges as PX and APO, quartermaster - sale stores etc.....

TO: Miss Bond for Mr. Scott
for ACTION *W.B.*

Please circulate to
copies distributed
to on

Mr. W. J. Cohen

~~*Mr. V. C. ...*~~

Mr. Adair

Dr. John Debre

Sir G. Reid.

.....Branch Registry

Date.....

SECRET

DP 6714

UNRRA Displaced Persons Representative
c/o SHAEF Mission (Belgium)
B.L.A.

10 May 45.

SMB/G-5/I030

Subject: Report on Displaced Persons
situation in Belgium as
of 12 May 1945.

Dear *Mr. Scott*:

1. Transmitted herewith is a copy of the fortnightly Casum Report of the Displaced Persons Section of this Mission for the period ending 11 May 1945.
2. You will note that the rate of repatriation of Belgians is substantially in excess of anticipations and argues strongly that the job will be complete, except for a small group, by 1 July.
3. I hope to be able to send soon information in answer to some of the other questions regarding displaced persons in which I know you are interested.

Yours

J.R. Trevithick

J.R. Trevithick
UNRRA Displaced Persons
Representative.

Mr. T.T. SCOTT
Director Division on DP
E.R.O. UNRRA
170 A, Great Portland street
London.



SECRET

SECRET

SECRET.

Fortnightly Casum Report- 12 May 1945

DISPLACED PERSONS SECTION

1. As of 10 May 1945, 88,325 Belgians have been repatriated from the following points of origin:

France	5,220
England	588
Switzerland	440
Russia	3,005
Germany	79,072

Total	88,325

RECEIVED

17 MAY 1945

This represents an increase of 31,997 during the six-day period from 4 May 45 to 10 May 45, and an average of more than 5,000 per day.

2. The classification of repatriates from Russia and Germany is as follows:

Political Prisoners	1,742
Prisoners of War	15,806
Deportees, etc.	64,529

Total	82,077

3. Preliminary conferences have been held to make preparations for the return to their homes of the estimated 6,500 Dutch nationals still remaining in billets in the Alost area. Scheduled movements of approximately 800 each will begin on 21 May and will continue at the rate of two or three each week until the evacuees are all returned.

4. French repatriates have been pouring across Belgium at an average rate of 20,000 per day. Feeding and sanitary accommodations have been taxed to the limit, but the flow is being handled successfully, and emergency facilities are being prepared to improve the transit conditions.

5. There has been a tendency for Dutch DP's enroute home from France and Germany through Belgium to clog the movement channels because of the necessity of holding them in centers in Belgium until movement authority for transfer into Holland can be obtained. On 7 May 45, nearly 7,000 Dutch were being held in Belgian centers.

6. Arrangements have been completed for air lift for 2,000 Belgian nationals from the U.K. The first lot of 100 arrived on 12 May 45, and the number moved daily will be increased in order that the lift may be complete in ten days, weather permitting.

7. Arrangements have been completed to assemble all the Yugo- Slavs now scattered in camps throughout Belgium- approximately 250 in number- into one center near Malines. A Yugo- Slav officer will be in charge of the camp which will be a CBR center maintained as a military responsibility.

8. Steps are being taken at the request of G- 5, US 1 Army, to evacuate 675 Stateless children from Buchenwald to Belgium under the auspices of JDC.

9. The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement reports a total of 17,995 DP's in Belgian DP Centers as of 11 May 45. This figure does not include the Dutch in billets or Germans in transit camps operated by the Military. (Note: DP statistics to be found in Appendix "A", this report).

SECRET

Robert U. Ricklefs, Capt. US
for

SECRET

SECRET

Appendix " A " - Fortnightly Casum Report- Displaced Persons Section

DP Population Figures- Belgium- 11 May 1945

a. By Nationality

Russians	5,150	
Belgians	6,966	
Poles	1,856	
Dutch	2,601	(Does not include those in billets)
Italians	649	
French	437	(In transit- 16,500 French)
Yugo-Slavs	101	(Approximately 150 in US Zone not reported)
Spaniards	81	
Germans	414	(Not including those in military transit camps)
Luxembourgeois	15	
Norwegians	9	
Lithuanians	8	
Hungarians	4	
Danes	3	
Esthonians	2	
Czechs	1	
Greeks	1	
Stateless	2	
Unclassified	68	
Totals	17,995	

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17 MAY 1945

b. By location

COMMUNE	CAPACITY	POPULATION	NATIONALITY	REMARKS
(i)- 2I AG Area (British Zone)				
Brussels	6,000	2455	Mixed	
Lembeek	1,000	630	Poles	
Braaschaet	500	148	Dutch	
Herenthals	1,000	1113	Belgians	
Lierre	500	161	Italians	
Mouscron	500	41	Mixed	
Brugés	500	45	Belgians	
Tournai	1,000	21	Belgians	
Ath	1,000	140	Belgians and Dutch	
Total	12,000	4754		
(ii)- Oise Base (US Com/Z)				
Neufchateau	1,000	21	Mixed	
Herbeumont	600	590	Dutch	
Hachy	1,000	1000	Belgians	
Marche	600	354	Dutch	
Total	3,200	1965		
(iii)- Channel Base (US Com/Z)				
Liege	5,000	826	Mixed	
Vise	1,000	436	Belgians	
Verviers	2,000	1217	Mixed	
Huy	1,000	649	Belgians	
Jambes	400	52	Mixed	
Andenne	2,000	1728	Mostly Russians	
Godinne	700	2	Dutch	
Mariembourg	400	301	Poles	
Couvin	1,000	822	Poles	
Lustin	300	129	Mixed	
Philippeville	600	335	Mixed	

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<u>COMMUNE</u>	<u>CAPACITY</u>	<u>POPULATION</u>	<u>NATIONALITY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Ciney	500	334	Mixed	
Givry	1,200	896	Russians	
Casteau	300	259	Russians	
Maisieres	1,500	1171	Russians	
Mons	1,000	197	Belgians and Dutch	
Bonsecours	1,000	294	Russians	
Momignies	1,000	842	Russians	
Hasselt	1,000	14	Belgians	
Maseyck	500	386	Belgians	
Tongres	500	289	Belgians	
<u>Totals</u>	21,900	11,276		
	21,900			
<u>Grand Totals</u>	=	11,179		
2I AG Area	12,000	4,754		
Oise Base	3,200	1,965		
Channel Base	21,900	11,276		
TOTALS	37,100	17,995		

RECEIVED
17 MAY 1945

SECRET

TO:

Miss Bond *for Mr. Scott*
for ACTION

Please circulate to
~~copies distributed~~
~~to on~~

Mr. W. G. Barker

~~*Mr. Barker*~~

Dr. Lopping

Dr. Baker Debre

Sir G. Reid

.....Branch Registry

Date.....

SECRET DP 674
Supreme Headquarters
Allied Expeditionary Force
Mission (Belgium)
B.L.A.

INDEXED

7 May 45

SMB/G-5/1030

Subject: Report on Displaced Persons
situation in Belgium as
of 29 April 1945

Dear *Mr. Scott*:

1. Sent you herewith is a copy of the fortnightly casum report of the DP section of this Mission for the period ending 29 April 1945.
2. Since this report was drawn up approximately 15,000 more Belgians have been repatriated, making the present total approximately 54,000. This is roughly 25 % of the Belgians displaced.
3. It is the anticipation of this Mission that the flow of displaced persons both into and across Belgium will continue to increase until it reaches a climax within 30 days. After that the flow will continue for a short time at an even pace and then begin to fall off.
4. It is the common anticipation here that all Belgian displaced persons except a few stragglers, and whatever residue of non-repatriables there may be, will be repatriated by 1 July.

Yours

D.R. Trevithick

D.R. Trevithick
UNRRA Liaison Officer

Mr. T.T. SCOTT
Director Division on DP
E.R.O. UNRRA
170A, Great Portland street
London



Fortnightly Casum Report - 29 April 1945.

DISPLACED PERSONS SECTION -



1. The repatriation of Belgian nationals by air, train, and motor transport continues at an ever-increasing tempo. As of 1200 hours 28 April 45, 39,049 Belgian Displaced Persons and ex Prisoners of War have been returned to their homes from the following points of origin:

Germany	29,856
France	5,220
Russia	3,005
England	588
Switzerland ..	380

TOTAL 39,049

2. French nationals from Germany and Holland are passing through Belgium at the rate of approximately 20,000 per week. Roughly one third of the total are being taken care of in the British zone and the remainder in the US. Zone. Hot meals and other comforts are provided for the French at Brussels, Verviers, Liege and Namur.

3. A transfer of 985 Dutch nationals from DP centers in the Namur area to Tilburg and Eindhoven was effected 27 April 45

4. The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement reports a total of 18,752 displaced persons in Belgian DP centers as of 27 April 45. This figure does not include approximately 13,000 Dutch nationals in billets nor 800 Germans held in a CBS DP camp at Hombourg.
(Note: Complete DP statistics to be found on Appendix B, this report).

5. Daily intake capacities of Belgian reception centers now totals 16,300 of which number 8,500 are in the British zone and 7,800 are in the US Zone. Feeding facilities for French in Transit total 14,000. (Note: Location and capacity of each center listed in Appendix A, this report).

6. German nationals held by US Military authorities in centers in Eupen were transferred on 28 April 45 to Hombourg which is designated as the one facility to be used for Germans prior to their removal to Germany. The center at Hombourg will continue to be used by the military as a transit and holding point for enemy nationals who are released from PW cages in Belgium to G-5 from G-1. The centers in Eupen will revert to Belgian repatriation authorities.

7. A Belgian convoy under the auspices of the CBR left Brussels for the Buchenwald concentration Camp on 25 April for the purpose of bringing home the Belgian nationals liberated there. Meanwhile air lift has been arranged for the 337 Belgians at that notorious camp and the flight will be made when weather conditions permit.

8. A DP train with 2200 Belgians and French aboard was stopped at Maastricht Thursday night 26 April for a typhus check and two suspects were found. The train was routed to Vise where the DP's were put under temporary quarantine. The following day 650 French were transferred at a center at Huy and the remainder were held at Vise with both centers being placed under quarantine. Attempts are being made by CBS, Com/Z and Shaef Mission Belgium to have the quarantine lifted.

9. Arrangements have been completed for the transfer of Russians now held in DP centers at Tourneppe and Lembeke (approximately 1800 total) to France prior to ultimate repatriation. Polish nationals now at Louvain will be transferred

9. Con't -- to Lembeke; all moves will be completed by 7 May 45. The British zone in Belgium will then be cleared of Russians with the exception of 192 in a center in Brussels.

10. Baron Scammacca del Murgio, Chargé d' Affaires at the Italian Legation, Brussels, is negotiating with the C.B.R. concerning the status and disposition of Italians uncovered within Belgium. All political suspects have been handed over to the Sureté Belge, and the remainder, some 700 in all, will probably be officially accepted as a Belgian repatriation responsibility. When the agreement is duly signed the army jurisdictions will be notified and the Italians will be free to receive employment offered to them, and they will no longer be classified as ex- enemy nationals.

11. The status of responsibility for medical attention given to Russian DP's in the US Zone is vague and confused. CBS made arrangements with Belgian hospitals for the care of Russians in need of hospitalization under the directives designating all Russians as a military responsibility, but it is reported from CBS headquarters that Com/Z will not allow claims covering charges made under the CBS- Belgian agreement.

(A 12th point having only local application has been omitted).

signed

Robert U. Ricklefs, Capt. US

for E.M.M. Warburg, Major US

Appendix "A" - Fortnightly Casum Report - DP Section

RECEPTION CENTER FACILITIES - BELGIUM- 28 APRIL 45

=====

LOCATION	PROVINCE	BELGIANS ^x	FRENCH ^{xx}
BRITISH ZONE			
Brussels	Brabant	2000	2000
Louvain	Brabant	1000 ^{xxx}	2000
Moll	Antwerp	1000	1000
Herenthals	Antwerp	1000	1000
Turnhout	Antwerp	1000 ^{xxx}	1000
Ath	Hainaut	1000	
Tournai	Hainaut	1000 ^{xxx}	
Froyenne	Hainaut	300 ^{xxx}	
Mouscron	W. Flanders	200 ^{xxx}	
US ZONE			
Visé ^{xxxx}	Liège	1000 ^{xxx}	
Liège	Liège	2000	2000
Verviers	Liege	1000	2000
Namur	Namur	1000	3000
Hachy	Luxembourg	1000	
Neufchateau	Luxembourg	1000 ^{xxx}	
Mons	Hainaut	500	
Charleroi	Hainaut	300	
Totals- British Zone		8500	7000
Totals- U.S. Zone		7800	7000
<u>Totals- Belgium</u>		16,300	14,000

x - Reception, processing, and dispersal

xx - Feeding and comfort facilities

xxx - Can be received every other day

xxxx- Temporarily under quarantine for typhus .



Appendix B- Fortnightly Casum Report- Displaced Persons SectionDP Population figures- Belgium - 27 April 1945a. By Nationality

Russians	8,743	
Belgians	3,268	
Poles	2,329	
French	2,135	
Dutch	1,440	(Does not include 13,000 in billets)
Italians	637	
Yugo Slavs	92	
Latvians	14	
Lithuanians	11	
Czechs	11	
Roumanians ;.....	11	
Norwegians	10	
Stateless	10	
Germans	9	(Does not include 800 in US Army transit Camp)
Luxembourgeois	7	
Esthoniens	7	
Greeks	5	
Hungarians	3	
Bulgarians	2	
Danish	2	
Ukraniens	2	
Persians	1	
Turks	1	
Canadians	1	
American	1	
<u>Total</u>	<u>18,752</u>	
In Transit	3,565	(French)
Dutch in Billets ..	13,000	(Approximate)
Germans (U.S. Camp).	800	(Estimated)
<u>Grand Total</u>	<u>36,117</u>	

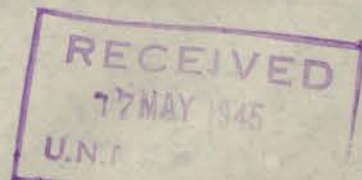
b. By Location

COMMUNE	CAPACITY	POPULATION	NATIONALITY	REMARKS
(i)- <u>AI AG Area- (British Zone)</u>				
Brussels	6000	3473	Mixed	
Mouscron	500	539	Belgian	
Braeschaet	500	102	Dutch	
Louvain	2000	627	Poles	
Tourneppe	1000	873	Russian	
Lembeek	1000	905	Russian	
Ath	1000	210	Belgian	
Tournai	1000	872	Belgian	
<u>Total</u>	<u>13000</u>	<u>7601</u>		
(ii)- <u>Oise Base (US. Com/Z)</u>				
Ste Hubert	400	221	Polish	
Neufchateau	1000	69	Mixed	
Hachy	1000	253	Dutch	
Herbeumont	600	594	Dutch	
<u>Total</u>	<u>3000</u>	<u>1137</u>		

-con't-



COMMUNE	CAPACITY	POPULATION	NATIONALITY	REMARKS
(iii)- Channel Base (US. Com/Z)				
Liege	5000	401	Mixed	
Vise	1000			No report (About 1500
Verviers	1000	32	Mixed	French and
Huy	1000	635	French	Belgians in
Hasselt	1000	206	Polish	Quarantine)
Maeseyck	500	28	Mixed	
Givry	1200	1128	Russian	
Casteau	300	253	Russian	
Maisieres	1500	1182	Russian	
Mons	1000	205	Belgian (190)	15 Russian
Bon Secours	1000	687	Russian	
Charleroi	1200	1108	Russian	
Momignies	1000	842	Russian	
Ciney	500	360	Mixed	345 Hollanders
Jambes	400	55	Mixed	
Andenne	2000	1534	Russian	
Godinne	700	111	Belgian	
Mariembourg	400	301	Polish	
Couvin	1000	882	Polish	
Lustin	300	126	Mixed	115 Italians
<u>Total</u>	21000	10014		
<u>Grand Totals</u>				
2I AG Area	13000	7601		
Oise Base	3000	1137		
Channel Base	21000	10014		
TOTALS	37000	18752		



Nightly Casum Report - 29 April 1945.

DISPLACED PERSONS SECTION -

1. The repatriation of Belgian nationals by air, train and motor transport continues at an ever - increasing tempo. As of 1200 hours 28 April 45, 39,049 Belgian Displaced Persons and ex Prisoners of War have been returned to their homes from the following points of origin :

Germany	29,856
France	5,220
Russia	3,005
England	588
Switzerland	380

TOTAL	39,049
-------	--------

2. French nationals from Germany and Holland are passing through Belgium at the rate of 20,000 per week. Roughly one third of the total are being taken care of in the British zone and the remainder in the US Zone. Hot meals and other comforts are provided for the French at Brussels, Verviers, Liege and Namur.

3. A transfer of 985 Dutch nationals from DP centers in the Namur area to Tilburg and Mindhoven was effected 27 April 45.

4. The Commissariat Belge au Repatriement reports a total of 18,752 displaced persons in Belgian DP centers as of 27 April 45. This figure does not include approximately 13,000 Dutch nationals in billets nor 800 Germans held in a CBS camp at Hombourg.
(Note : Complete DP statistics to be found on Appendix B, this report).

5. Daily intake capacities of Belgian reception centers now totals 16,300 of which number 8,500 are in the British zone and 7,800 are in the US Zone. Feeding facilities for French in Transit total 14,000. (Location and capacity of each center listed in Appendix A, this report).

6. German nationals held by US Military authorities in centers in Eupen were transferred on 28 April 45 to Hombourg which is designated as the one facility to be used for Germans prior to their removal to Germany. The center at Hombourg will continue to be used by the military as a transit and holding point for enemy nationals who are released from PW cages in Belgium to G-5 from G-1. The centers in Eupen will revert to Belgian repatriation authorities.

7. A Belgian convoy under the auspices of the CBR left Brussels for the Buchenwald concentration camp on 25 April for the purpose of bringing home the Belgian nationals liberated there. Meanwhile air lift has been arranged for the 757 Belgians at that notorious camp and the flight will be made when weather conditions permit.

8. A DP train with 2200 Belgians and French aboard was stopped at Maastricht Thursday night 26 April for a typhus check and two suspects were found. The train was routed to Vise where the DP's were put under temporary quarantine. The following day 650 French were transferred at a center at Huy and the remainder were held at Vise with both centers being placed under quarantine. Attempts are being made by CBS, Com/Z and SHAEF Mission Belgium to have quarantine lifted.

9. Arrangements have been completed for the transfer of Russians now held in DP centers at Tourneppe and Lembeke (approximately 1800 total) to France prior to ultimate repatriation. Polish nationals now at Louvain will be transferred to Lembeke; all moves will be completed by 7 May 45. The British zone in Belgium will then be cleared of Russians with the exception of 192 in a center in Brussels.

10. Baron Scammoca del Murgio, Chargé d' Affaires at the Italian Legation, Brussels, is negotiating with the G.B.R. concerning the status and disposition of Italians uncovered within Belgium. All political suspects have been handed over to the Sureté Belge, and the remainder, some 700 in all, will probably be officially accepted as a Belgian repatriation responsibility. When the agreement is duly signed the army jurisdictions will be notified and the Italians will be free to receive employment offered to them and they will no longer be classified as ex-enemy nationals.

11. The status of responsibility for medical attention given to Russian IP's in the US Zone is vague and confused. CBS made arrangements with Belgian hospitals for the care of Russians in need of hospitalization under the directives designating all Russians as a military responsibility, but it is reported from CBS headquarters that Com/Z will not allow claims covering charges made under the CBS-Belgian agreement.

(A 12th point having only local application has been omitted.)

signed : Robert U. Ricklefs, Capt. US

for E.M.M. Warburg, Major US

Appendix "A" - Fortnightly Casum Report - DP Section

RECEPTION CENTER FACILITIES - BELGIUM - 28 April 45

LOCATION	PROVINCE	BELGIANS ^x	FRENCH ^{xx}
BRITISH ZONE			
Brussels	Brabant	2000	2000
Louvain	Brabant	1000 ^{xxx}	2000
Moll	Antwerp	1000	1000
Herenthals	Antwerp	1000	1000
Turnhout	Antwerp	1000 ^{xxx}	1000
Ath	Hainaut	1000	
Tournai	Hainaut	1000 ^{xxx}	
Froyenne	Hainaut	300 ^{xxx}	
Mouscron	W. Flanders	200 ^{xxx}	
US ZONE			
Visé	Liege	1000 ^{xxxx}	
Liege	Liege	2000	2000
Verviers	Liege	1000	2000
Namur	Namur	1000	3000
Hachy	Luxembourg	1000	
Neufchateau	Luxembourg	1000 ^{xxx}	
Mons	Hainaut	500	
Charleroi	Hainaut	300	
Totals - British Zone		8500	7000
Totals - U.S. Zone		7800	7000
<u>Totals-Belgium</u>		16,300	14,000

x - Reception, processing and dispersal

xx - Feeding and comfort facilities

xxx - Can be received every other day

xxxx - Temporarily under quarantine for typhus.

Appendix " B " - Fortnightly Casual Report- Displaced Persons SectionDP Population figures - Belgium - 27 April 1945a. By Nationality

Russians	8,743	
Belgians	3,268	
Poles	2,329	
French	2,135	
Dutch	1,440	(does not include 13,000 in billets)
Italians	637	
Yugoslavs	92	
Latvians	14	
Lithuanians	11	
Czechs	11	
Roumanians	11	
Norwegians	10	
Stateless	10	
Germans	9	(Does not include 800 in US Army transit Camp)
Luxembourgeois ..	7	
Estonians	7	
Greeks	5	
Hungarians	3	
Bulgarians	2	
Danish	2	
Ukrainians	2	
Persians	1	
Turks	1	
Canadians	1	
American	1	

Total 18,752

In Transit 3,565 (French)
 Dutch in Billets 13,000 (Approximate)
 Germans (U.S. Camp) 800 (Estimated)

Grand Total 36,117

b. By Location

COMMUNE	CAPACITY	POPULATION	NATIONALITY	REMARKS
---------	----------	------------	-------------	---------

(i) - 21 AG Area - (British Zone)

Brussels	6000	3473	Mixed	
Mouscron	500	539	Belgian	
Brasschaet	500	102	Dutch	
Louvain	2000	627	Poles	
Tourneppe	1000	873	Russian	
Lebbeek	1000	905	Russian	
Ath	1000	210	Belgian	
Tournai	1000	872	Belgian	

Total 13000 7601

(ii) - Oise Base (US. Com/Z)

Ste Hubert	400	221	Polish	
Neufchateau	1000	69	Mixed	
Hachy	1000	253	Dutch	
Herbement	600	594	Dutch	

Total 3000 1137

Appendix "B" - Fortnightly Casum Report - Con't.

SECRET

COMMUNE	CAPACITY	POPULATION	NATIONALITY	REMARKS
(iii)- Channel Base (US. Com/Z)				
Liege	5000	401	Mixed	
Vise	1000			No report (About
Verviers	1000	32	Mixed	1500 French and
Huy	1000	635	French	Belgians in
Hasselt	1000	206	Polish	Quarantine)
Maeseyck	500	28	Mixed	
Givry	1200	1128	Russian	
Casteau	300	253	Russian	
Maisieres	1500	1182	Russian	
Mons	1000	205	Belgian (190)	15 Russian
Bon Secours	1000	687	Russian	
Charleroi	1200	1108	Russian	
Momignies	1000	842	Russian	
Ciney	500	360	Mixed	345 Hollanders
Jambes	400	55	Mixed	
Andenne	2000	1534	Russian	
Godinne	700	111	Belgian	
Mariembourg	400	301	Polish	
Couvin	1000	882	Polish	
Lustin	300	126	Mixed	115 Italians
<u>Total</u>	21000	10014		
<u>Grand Totals</u>				
21 AG Area	13000	7601		
Oise Base	3000	1137		
Channel Base	21000	10014		
TOTALS	37000	18752		

SECRET DP

67/x.

INDEXED

SECRET

Supreme Headquarters
Allied Expeditionary Force
Mission (Belgium)
B.L.A.

20 April 45

SMB/G-5/I030

Subject: Report on DP situation in
Belgium as of 16 April 1945

Dear *Mr. Scott*:

1. Submitted herewith are two appendices relating to the DP situation in Belgium as of 16 April 1945. Appendix A is a rather literal paraphrase of a narrative report prepared by the DP Section of the Mission. Appendix B is a copy of a statistical summary prepared also by the DP section of this Mission.

2. In view of the fact that the DP problem shifts quickly and substantially from day to day, there is little point in compiling statistics except as they show a trend. Particular figures are antiquated as quickly as they are written and so mean nothing as isolated mathematics. The important meaning in the figures shown in the appendices attached is that the physical matter of returning people from Germany to their countries and localities of residence is now well underway and is increasing in speed and volume as new areas in Germany come under Allied control.

Yours

D.R. Trevithick

D.R. Trevithick
UNRRA

Mr. T.T. Scott
Direction Division Displaced Persons
European Regional Office, UNRRA
170a, Great Portland Street
LONDON W.1.

DRT/mlv



SECRET

REPORT ON D.P. SITUATION IN BELGIUM
AS OF 16 APRIL 1945.

1. There has been a recent rapid increase in the flow of Western Europeans into and across Belgium. The repatriation of Belgian nationals has been proceeding at the rate of approximately 500 a day, and some 2000 French are daily passing in transit through Belgium. Adequate and well functioning machinery has been established to handle this flow. French DP's have expressed great satisfaction with the treatment which is being given them en route through Belgium.
2. On the 15th and 16th April 2000 Belgians and French were repatriated by air lift from 21 Army Group forward areas. The necessary transport was made possible by use of petrol transport planes which otherwise would have returned empty. Reception facilities were set up at an airfield near Brussels. After processing was complete, the Belgians were dispatched immediately to their various localities of residence and the French were transferred from the planes to trains en route to France.
3. As is shown by detailed statistics in appendix B, the total number of DP in Belgian centers as of 13th April 1945 was 17,377. This figure does not include approximately 13,000 Dutch billeted in the Flanders provinces and 1500 Germans held in military controlled DP centers in the province of Liege.
4. The 21 Army Group has made arrangements to move the Russians from the British zone in Belgium into France in preparation for early repatriation to Russia, while US military authorities are investigating the possibility of transferring the Russians from Com/Z to Belgium but to date nothing definite has been accomplished.
5. As of 9th April 1945 10,955 Belgians have been officially repatriated. The areas of origin are as follows: Germany 6210, France 4522, England 153, Switzerland 110. It is estimated that 2,500 additional Belgians have been returned to their homes during the period from the 9th to the 16th April.
6. During the week of the 3rd to the 9th of April, 6,710 French were repatriated from Germany through Belgium, bringing the total number of French who have passed through Belgium to 13,168. Of the total number in transit during last week, 5,154 passed through the Com/Z sector of Belgium, and 1,556 passed through the British sector. It is estimated that 16,000 additional French passed through Belgium during the period 9th to 16th April.
7. 87 former prisoners of war of Hindu nationality were received at the DP center in Liège from the forward U.S. armies area and were subsequently turned over to the 21 Army Group.
8. Two cases of typhus have been reported in DP centers for Russians in the CBS area. Isolation has been effected and full precautions have been taken.

April 45

D.R. Trevithick
UNRRA Liaison Officer

DRT/mlv

DP POPULATION FIGURES FOR BELGIUM AS OF 14 APR 45a. By Nationality

Russians	10.023	
Poles	2.361	
Belgians	2.245	(417 Belgians in transit)
Dutch	959	(5 Dutch in transit)
Italians	670	
French	548	(5.318 French in transit)
Yugo Slavs	224	
Bulgarians	19	
Czechs	17	
Germans	245	
Misc	66	
	<u>17.377</u>	including: 2 Luxembourgais, 3 Estonians, 9 Serbes, 1 Spaniard, 9 Lithuanians, 5 Greeks, 12 Rou- manians, 10 Latvians, 1 Turk, 1 Hungarian, 1 American, 5 State- less, 7 Hindus

b. By location(I) 21 ARMY GROUP AREA *Bulld Zone*

<u>COMMUNE</u>	<u>CAPACITY</u>	<u>POPULATION</u>	<u>NATIONALITY</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
Tourneppe	1000	926	Russian	
Lembeek	1000	860	Russians	
Tournai	1000	603	Russian	
Louvain	2000	736	Poles	
Brussels	5000	1584	Misc.	
Brasschaet	500	201	Dutch	
Mouscron	600	549	Belgians- Ex POW's	
Totals	11.100	5.459	returning from France	

(II) CHANNEL BASE SECTION *U.S. Zone*

Hasselt	1000	207	Poles
Andenne	2000	1979	Misc.
Jambes	400	32	"
Verviers	1000	474	"
Liege	5000	2563	"
Godinne	700	568	Dutch
Lustin	300	169	Misc.
Bonsecours	1000	503	Russian
Charleroi	1000	1092	"
Morlanwelz	400	371	"
Maisieres	500	447	"
Casteau	300	286	"
Givry	1200	1190	"
Mariembourg	200	158	Poles
Momignies	1000	885	Russians
Froyennes	200	13	Misc.
Couvin	400	327	Poles
Totals	16.600	11.264	

(III) OISE/ BASE *U.S. Zone*

Neufchateau	300	102	Misc.
St Hubert	400	308	Poles
Herbeumont	600	244	Germans
Totals	1.300	654	

Note: These Germans are Ex POW's held temporarily in an assembly center at HERBEUMONT. They will be transferred to EUPEN and HOMBURG for repatriation to Germany. (Approx 1300 Germans still held in H & E.)

LANGHAM 3090

DR.
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION,
EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE,
11, PORTLAND PLACE,
LONDON, W.1

Reference MM/MV ²⁰²⁰

RECEIVED

Your Ref.

30 APR 1945

Brussels, 17th April 1945.
34, rue aux Laines

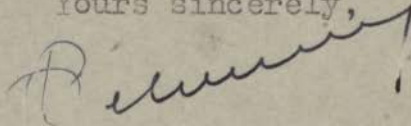
U.N.R.R.A. (REGY.)

Dear Miss Bond,

With reference to your letter dated 21st February 1945, ref. B/D/1, I am sending you herewith several lists giving you the required information about Belgian Displaced Persons, refugees etc.

Unfortunately, I have not been able to send you these particulars earlier since I only received them today from the Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement.

Yours sincerely,



A. Delierneux
UNRRA Delegate.

Miss M. Bond
Intelligence Section
Displaced Persons Division
11, Portland Place
London W.1.

- 1) Nombre de Nationaux Belges déportés en Allemagne depuis
Avril 1944 -
Chiffre total : 14.336 .

Pour le détail, voir annexe n°1.
- 2) Nombre de D.P. de nationalité différente en Belgique au
24 mars 1945 : voir annexe n°2.
- 3) Centres dépendant du Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement
au 24 mars 1945.
voir annexe n°2.
- 4) La coopération des D.P. pour l'organisation des camps, n'a,
jusqu'à présent, rien de systématique.
- 5) Enfants abandonnés.
L'Oeuvre Nationale de l'Enfance ou d'autres oeuvres spé-
cialisées dans ce domaine, prennent à leur charge les
enfants abandonnés.
- 6) Problème des apatrides.

L'Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees vient de nommer
comme son Délégué en Belgique Monsieur DELTENRE, Directeur
au Ministère des Affaires Etrangères et du Commerce Exté-
rieur, qui est chargé de s'occuper de ces questions.

11/4/45 *Recevoir*
Shaw

RAPATRIEMENT.

Nombre de ressortissants belges et étrangers domiciliés en Belgique,
déportés en Allemagne depuis le mois d'avril 1944.-

ARRONDISSEMENTS.	HOMMES	FEMMES	TOTAL
Anvers	1.801	133	1.934
Malines	465	19	484
Turnhout	602	5	607
La province d'Anvers	2.868	157	3.025
Bruxelles	2.227	106	2.333
Louvain	529	13	542
Nivelles	189	7	196
La province de Brabant	2.945	126	3.071
Bruges	236	6	242
Dixmude	64	-	64
Ypres	216	3	219
Courtrai	450	11	461
Ostende	199	4	203
Roulers	181	3	184
Tielt	115	1	116
Furnes	69	1	70
La province de Flandre Occidentale	1.530	29	1.559
Alost	393	2	395
Termonde	275	8	283
ENkloo	90	3	93
Gand	702	47	749
Audenaerde	198	8	206
Saint Nicolas	285	10	295
La province de Flandre Orientale	1.943	78	2.021
Ath	263	3	266
Charleroi	594	10	604
Mons	555	7	562
Soignies	441	12	453
Thuin	256	5	261
Tournai	364	4	368
La province de Hainaut	2.473	41	2.514
Liège	1.204	28	1.232
Varemmé	78	-	78
La province de Liège (partie)	1.282	28	1.310
Hasselt	284	27	311
Arlon	93	7	100
Virton	73	5	78
La province de Luxembourg (partie)	166	12	178
Namur	266	6	272
Philippeville	74	1	75
La province de Namur (partie)	340	7	347
LE ROYAUME (résultats incomplets).	13.831	505	14.336

Saturday, March 17th 1945.

NUMBER OF D. P.

BELGIAN Nationality.

CENTER D.P.

Jambes.....	4
Brasschaet.....	4
Verviers.....	100
Bruxelles.....	1

TOTAL.....109.

FRENCH Nationality.

CENTER D.P.

Jambes.....	1
Verviers.....	2
Bruxelles.....	45

TOTAL.....48.

RUSSIAN Nationality.

CENTER D.P.

Jambes.....	238
Givry.....	1207
Casteau.....	257
Maisières.....	466
Brasschaet.....	1
Tourneppe.....	865
Lembeek.....	715
Verviers.....	12
Bruxelles.....	553

TOTAL.....4294.

DUTCH Nationality.

Center D.P.

Andenne.....	10
Jambes.....	44
Brasschaet.....	2
Balenheit.....	103
Geel.....	181

D U T C H Nationality. (Suite.)

Verviers.....	24
Brussels.....	85
Living in citees or Villages.....	12333

T O T A L.....12782.

P O L I S H Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Ardenne.....	241
Jambes.....	1
Lustin.....	221
Lenbeek.....	2
Verviers.....	18
Brussels.....	58

T O T A L.....541

G E R M A N Nationality.

CENTER D.P.

Paix St-Hubert.....	281
Verviers.....	9
Marche.....	672

T O T A L.....962.

I T A L I A N Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Andenne.....	36
Jambes.....	4
Lustin.....	60
Brussels.....	524

T O T A L.....624

L U X E M B U R G E R Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Jambes.....	1
Verviers.....	4
Brussels.....	2

T O T A L.....7;

C Z E C H Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Lebbeek.....I
Brussels.....3.

TOTAL.....4

H U N G A R I A N. Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Verviers.....I
Brussels.....I

TOTAL.....2

U. S. A.

CENTER. D.P.

Verviers..... I

TOTAL..... I

D A N I S H.

CENTER. D.P.

Brussels//.....I

TOTAL.....I

R O U M A N I A N Nationality.

CENTER D.P.

Brussels//.....10

TOTAL.....10

I R A N I A N.

CENTER. D.P.

Brussels..... I.

TOTAL.....I

YUGOSLAVIAN Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Andenne..... 6
Lustin..... 8
Brussels..... 61

TOTAL..... 75

SPANISH Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Jambes..... I
Verviers..... I

TOTAL..... 2

LITHUANIAN Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Jambes..... 4.
Tourneppe..... I
Brussels..... 2

TOTAL..... 7

LETHONIAN Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Maisières..... 9

TOTAL..... 9

GREEK Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Lustin..... I
Brussels..... I

TOTAL..... 2.

BULGARIAN Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Lembeek..... 2

TOTAL..... 2

WITHOUT Nationality.

CENTER. D.P.

Brussels.....I

T O T A L.....I

G R A N D T O T A L. Number of;D.P.

Belgian.....	109
Russian.....	4294
French.....	48
Dutch.....	12782
Polish.....	963
German.....	962
Italian.....	624
Luxemburger.....	7
Jougoslavian.....	75
Spanish.....	2
Lithuanian.....	7
Lettonian.....	9
Greek.....	2
Bulgarian.....	2
Czeck.....	4
Hungarian.....	2
Roumanian.....	10
U.S.A.....	1
Iranian.....	1
Danish.....	1
Without Nationality.....	1

T O T A L.....19484

I M P O R T A N T R E M A R K.

We have not received any report at March 17th from the Centers of Mouscron, Philippeville, Godinne, Hasselt, Neufchâteau, Liège, Visé, Mariembourg, Mons, Morlanwelz, Charleroi, about 4,000 D.P. must be in these Centers.

NUMBER OF D.P. IN THE CENTERS AT MARCH 24th

1945.

-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-1-

P O L I S H.

CENTER NUMBER.

Hannut.....	102
Poix St-Hubert.....	238
Louvain.....	379
Marche.....	488
Justin.....	8
Verviers.....	4
Hasselt.....	208
Philippeville.....	154
Brussels.....	51
Lembek.....	2
Neufchâteau.....	15
Godinne.....	1

T O T A L.....1644.

R U S S I A N.

CENTER NUMBER.

Poix St-Hubert.....	10
Andenne.....	1149
Verviers.....	20
Jambé.....	28
Hasselt.....	9
Braschaet.....	1
Brussels.....	853
Lembek.....	787
Neufchâteau.....	184
Godinne.....	474
Tourneppe.....	833
Casteau.....	260
Waisières.....	483
Givry.....	1307

T O T A L.....5235.

R U S S I A N.

CENTER NUMBER.

YUGOSLAVIAN.

CENTER. NUMBER.

Andenne.....	3
Justin.....	9
Jambe.....	3
Hasselt.....	1
Brussels.....	61
Neufchâteau.....	5

TOTAL.....27.

ITALIAN.

CENTER. NUMBER.

Andenne.....	37
Justin.....	35
Jambe.....	4
Hasselt.....	1
Brussels.....	512
Neufchâteau.....	77
Gedinne.....	4

TOTAL.....579.

DUTCH.

CENTER. NUMBER.

Verviers.....	3
Geel.....	181
Jambe.....	28
Hasselt.....	3
Brasschaat.....	2
Brussels.....	167
Balenhaet.....	100

TOTAL.....483.

BELGIAN.

CENTER NUMBER.

Louvain.....	22
Verviers.....	12
Janbe.....	2
Hasselt.....	281
Brasschaet.....	5
Brussels.....	52

TOTAL.....374.

FRENCH.

CENTER NUMBER.

Louvain.....	1
Verviers.....	3
Janbe.....	1
Hasselt.....	1
Brussels.....	1

TOTAL.....7.

GERMAN.

CENTER NUMBER.

Marche.....	4
Verviers.....	448
Hasselt.....	1

TOTAL.....453.

LETTONIAN.

CENTER NUMBER.

Louvain.....	10
Salisbury.....	13

TOTAL.....23.

LITHUANIAN

CENTER NUMBER.

Brussels.....	1
---------------	---

TOTAL.....1.

G R E E K .

CENTER NUMBER.

Lustin.....1

T O T A L.....1.B U L G A R I A N .

CENTER.. NUMBER.

Lembek..... 2
Neufchâteau.....17T O T A L.....19.E S T H O N I A N .

CENTER. NUMBER.

Verviers.....1

T O T A L.....1.S P A N I S H .

CENTER. NUMBER.

Jambe.....1

T O T A L.....1.L U X E M B O U R G E R .

CENTER. NUMBER.

Jambe.....1
Hasselt.....7
Brussels.....1T O T A L.....9.C E C H .

CENTER. NUMBER.

Hasselt.....1
Brussels.....3
Lembek.....1T O T A L.....5.I R A N I A N .

CENTER. NUMBER.

Brussels.....1

T O T A L.....1.D A N I S H .

CENTER NUMBER

Brussels.....1

T O T A L.....1.T U R K I S H .

CENTER. NUMBER.

Brussels.....1

T O T A L.....1.W I T H O U T N A T I O N A L I T Y .

CENTER. NUMBER.

Brussels.....1

T O T A L.....1.

T O T A L. G E N E R A L.

Polish.....	1644.
Russians.....	5935.
Lettonian.....	23.
Lithuanian.....	1.
Estonian.....	1.
Belgian.....	374.
French.....	7.
German.....	483.
Yugoslavian.....	57.
Bulgarian.....	19.
Italian.....	670.
Greek.....	1.
Spanish.....	1.
Dutch.....	483.
Luxemburger.....	0.
Czech.....	5.
Iranian.....	1.
Danish.....	1.
Turkish.....	1.
Without Nationality.....	1.

T O T A L..... 9717.

I M P O R T A N T R E M A R K S.

1. According to report at Februari 28th, there are also 12,333 Netherlanders in cities or villages.

2. There must be about 3,000 D.F. in centers from which we have not received reports.

COPY

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
MISSION (BELGIUM)

SMB/G-5/1030

Subject: Administrative co-ordination
of UNRRA activities in
Belgium and Luxembourg

Mr. T.T. Scott
Director, Division on Displaced Persons
European Regional Office
170A Great Portland Street,
London W.1.

Dear Mr. Scott,

1. Though our own Division on Displaced Persons is only incidentally involved in this particular situation, I should like to call to your attention a recent occurrence which argues strongly for an improvement in UNRRA administrative practices. The matter to which I refer is that of UNRRA's sending recently to Belgium and Luxembourg a shipment of approximately 300 tons of clothing collected in the U.S.
2. This clothing reached Belgium about a month ago, consigned to the Belgian Ministry of Public Health. This Mission was of course interested in the shipment and I was asked, as a member of the Mission section on Public Welfare, to prepare a full report on the sources of the clothing and the proposed mechanics and destination for distribution. The most accurate information I could gather was that the clothing had been purchased by the Belgian Government from the Procurement Division of the U.S. Treasury.
3. When Mr. Samson came recently on his Welfare assignment, we happened to be talking about this mysterious shipment of clothing and he informed us that it was UNRRA clothing sent from the U.S. for distribution in Belgium and Luxembourg.
4. It was most embarrassing for me to learn after ten days of receiving misinformation, that the shipment in question was from UNRRA.
5. I have read in the last UNRRA Progress Reports and have been informed by Mr. Samson as well, that a head of Mission for Belgium has been appointed and is due to come here soon. In the event that his coming is held up, I hope that some sort of clearing-house procedure can be set up, so that those of us who are already here may have the essential information about UNRRA activities in this area.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) D.R. TREVITHICK
UNRRA Liaison Officer.

4th April 1945

B.L.A.

DRT/mlv.

Report IIC

DP 437

Supreme Headquarters
Allied Expeditionary Force
Mission (Belgium)
21a, Boulevard du Regent,
Brussels.

15th March, 1945

808/G-5/1453

Subject: Report on Queens Messenger Column

Dear Sir,

At the request of Mr. Merck I am enclosing herewith a report on the situation regarding Queens Messenger Columns in Belgium.

May I add that these columns are doing a very fine job in their programme of relief work for victims of war in their area.

Yours

Ray H. Campbell
Lt Col

Dr. W. Langrod
UNHRA Displaced Persons Division,
170A Great Portland Street,
LONDON, W.1.

IHC/rew

Brussels, 12th, March, 1945.

Dr. W. Langrod,
F.N.R.R.A. Displaced Persons Division,
1, 0a, Great Portland Street,
London W.1.

Dear Dr. Langrod,

I am back from Antwerp today, and this is my report about the present situation.

Brussels I stayed there from Friday 2nd until Tuesday the 6th March. I found a way to Mrs. Blume (Belgian Socialist M.P. very interested in welfare) and with her help I was promised to obtain the necessary bread for the convoy. Mjr. Darbyshire pressed the same point on the central Belgian authorities and the definitive promise was given by them on Tuesday.

The man in general charge of the two convoys Opt. Henneberg (chief of the Secourists) promised me to do the necessary steps to repair the 3 damaged vehicles, but it remained only a promise. Thanks to Mr. Trevethik (UNRRA Displaced Persons representative with SHAEF) I obtained repair facilities from REGIE 21st A.G. Mr. T. was most helpful to me and he settled the matter in some hours. The repairs will however last about two weeks. This point shows clearly the unexpected difficulties one has to meet while working. Without the help I received from Mjr. Darbyshire and Mr. Trevethik I would be completely lost. I learned that half of the convoy shall be moved on Monday 12th to Liege and the other half shall remain for C.D. purposes in Brussels. The actual situation in Liege is quiet, therefore it may be a good arrangement, but I do not see what kind of work could be done here by the other half of the convoy. I do not like the place where the Bruss. vehicles are now stored. It is an open-air place supposed to be guarded by the police, but there was some food stolen from inside of the canteens and somebody took out the Ford car and smashed the radiator. Somebody also plays always with lights and the batteries are every time I arrive dead. I will have a talk with Opt. Henneberg on that matter tomorrow. I do not see any reason why the UNRRA property should be wasted in such a way.

Antwerp I stayed there from Tuesday 6th till Monday 12th. I have a great admiration for the convoy leader Mrs. Petiou. She is splendid as leader and organizer and therefore the work done by the convoy is very good indeed. This work is very much appreciated by the local authorities (Mr. Vaes) and the population. Statistics for the week ending on Saturday the 10th are a good example of the job done in Antwerp:

Daily milage done by all vehicles (average).....179 miles/day

Daily attended incidents (average)..... 7

Average milage per incident..... 16,5

Average number of meals distributed daily.....1780

In that particular week 4 days were very busy (plenty of incidents) and three rather calm. The above figures do not contain the distribution of meals in the rest centres (about 300 people twice a day).

The whole personnel is a very good one and Mrs. Petiou manages them very well.

The bread and the food question for distribution is now settled satisfactory.

The control over the movement of the vehicles is done by Mrs. Petiou by her own method which I find very simple and very effective. Each vehicle obtains for every trip a "journey sheet" (sample attached) On the end of the day the sheets are entered into a book so that statistical figures may be found immediately and a check may be made by comparing the actual milage on the speedo's with the milage on the sheets. By the same time the sheets may be always controlled by the traffic police in order to check that the vehicles are not going for an unauthorised trip.

The technical data (petrol, oil, greasing, repairs a.s.o.) are entered into normal army logbooks.

Technical questions. The servicing of the vehicles by the Renault garage is good and quick. All vehicles have by now the oil changed and they are sufficiently greased. The minor repairs I have found to be necessary during my last stay in Antwerp had been done in time.

The convoy got an additional Ford canteen which is used in emergency when one of our canteens is serviced by the garage.

In addition to the technical points I have send you previously I would like to mention the following:

1. Side pannels on the canteens - The locking devices are bad and the acces to the locks is very difficult. I suggest to change the locks for some kind of tightening screws (similar to those used on wind screens). The point is important because its neglect may lead to grave damage of the whole body.
2. Windscreen whipers on Bedfords do not work properly. If possible change them all for electric ones.
3. Welfare Van - Stairs to low, they bum on the road when driving over pitholes. The lower should be removed entirely.
4. Tool boxes on Bedfords - Some Bedfords have tool boxes attached below the stairs to the drivers cab (right hand side). The should be removed entirely for the same reason as at 3.

5. The compressors on Bedfrods for inflating tyres should be checked before sending the vehicles over. I have only two of them (on eight vehicles) in working order.

Spare parts needed

1. wind screen whipers - if possible electric - if not, genuine Bedford (right hand side). I need 8 whipers very urgently.
2. Minimum 2, better 6 compressors for inflating tyres for Bedfords, This is not very urgent
3. Spare tyres for Ford WOT2 (utility car), dimensions 9/13. Two of them will be needed in about 3 weeks time. In some two months I will need 4 more.
4. 100 soupbowles and 100 cups. If possible metal not china. They break during transport on bad roads.

I am satisfied with the way in which the Antwerp vehicles are cared for. But I am sorry to say that I am not satisfied at all with the arrangements for storage and guarding of the Brussels vehicles. I feel it my duty to point out that the arrangements in Antwerp are working well thanks to the energy of the convoy leader Mrs. Petiou and thanks to the help given by the regional High Commissioner for C.D. Mr. Vaes. The wrong working of Brussels arrangements is due the inefficiency of the central authorities. I shall try to put these things in order, the difficulty is that all I ask for is promised to me in a very polite and charming manner but it always remains only a promise.

I made an inventory of the tools of the Antwerp convoy. I enclose it herewith together with a list of necessary replenishments. I could not make the inventory of the spare parts as the case was somewhere lost. But I learned today from the central Belgian Office that it has been found.

I learned also today that the departure of the convoy for Liege has been delayed because of difficulties of finding there some place for the vehicles and billets for their personnel. I will try to quicken the procedure, and if necessary I will go to Liege and look for a place.

Myself I am very well, I work quite hard and for long hours but it gives me much satisfaction especially when I see the real help given to the people of Antwerp which they very much deserve. I would like to be more efficient, but unfortunately I cannot be on two different places at once. If I had here a real and good help I would have probably put by now the Liege convoy in operation. As things are I shall try to do it this week. If I succeed and if after watching the work in Liege I am so satisfied as with the work in Antwerp I am prepared to go back to U.K. for a short period in order to prepare the vehicles for our F. Sq. I am much afraid that without proper preparation in London UNRRA will have here a very difficult task and there will be much time lost before starting the actual work.

I thank you very much in anticipation, and I send you my best greetings and many kind regards for all friends in the office and outside the office.

Yours sincerely

(M. MAREK)

I hope you forgive my bad English and you correct it properly.

QUEEN'S MESSENGERS CONVOY

Time of call..... Date

Address of Incident

.....

Special Instructions

.....

Driver

Attendant

Speedometer reading Out In

Time Out In

Signature

Officer in Charge

Registered Number of vehicle

MEALS SERVED

Soup
Stew
Beverages
Sandwiches
Biscuits

Tools missing and urgently needed :

for Bedfords:

Complete outfits 2

Lamp portable 2

Distributor spanner (Lucas) 2

Pincers 2

Wheel nut wrenches 2

for Ford WOT2 (utility):

Jack complete 1

Wheel nut wrench 1

Tool outfit 1

Tool layouts for Bedfords:

Item	Metal box	Leather box
Screwdriver	1	1
Valve dismantling tool	1	-
Sparking plug spanner	1	1
Spanner 5/8 9/16	1	1
" 1/4 1/8	1	1
" 7/16 3/8	1	1
" 7/16 1/2	1	1
Wrench 3/8	1	1
Wrench 7/16	1	1
Adjustable spanner	1	1
Distributor spanner	1	-
Pincers	1	-
Tube valve screwdriver	1	-
Portable lamp	1	-
Hammer	1	1
Oiling can	1	1
Hand greasing press	-	1
" " " filler	-	1
Special wrench 1/2 9/16	-	1
" " 9/16	-	1
" " 3/4 (cyl.head)	-	1
Insulation	1	1
Rubber pipe	1	1
Oil filler	1	1
Wheel cap spanner	-	1
Brush	-	1

There are in all : 4 Metal boxes
2 Leather boxes

Two bedfords are without tools.

Tool layout for:

Item	Welfare V	Water tank
Screwdriver	1	1
Pincers	-	1
Sparking plug wrench	1	1
Wrenches	2	2
Spanners	4	4
Special wrench 1/2 9/16	-	1
" " 9/16	1	-
Cylinder head wrench 3/4	-	1
Greasing press (hand)	1	1
" " filler	1	1
Insulation band	-	1
Adjustable spanner	2	2
Oil can	1	1

Note: Spanner and wrenches very bad, useless.

Tools in vehicles

CCA 900 -	Jack complete Wheel nut wrench Engine crank
CCA 726	Jack complete Tyre inflating pipe Engine crank Towing rope
CCA 905	Jack complete Wheel nut wrench Engine crank Tyre inflating pipe
CCA 903	Jack complete Wheel nut wrench Engine crank
CCA 894	Jack complete Wheel nut wrench Engine crank
CCA 827	Jack complete Engine crank Tyre inflating pipe
CCA 802	Jack complete Wheel nut wrench Engine crank
CCA 957	Jack complete Wheel nut wrench Engine crank
CCA 712	Jack complete Engine crank Tyre pump (foot) Towing rope Box with water tank tools Tyre changing tools Wheel nut wrench
Wel. Van.	Jack complete Wheel nut wrench Engine crank
CUN 50	Set of hand tools (very bad)

March 12

J.P.

INDEXED

Dear Mr. Scott,

I intended to send this letter by Miss Bielozersky, but I went on a field trip into Germany yesterday and didn't return in time.

If what I saw yesterday is representative of what Germany will look like when the end comes, the German people will not forget Hitler's leadership for many generations. There is only desolation, utter and complete. I had been impressed by pictures of wholesale wreckage shown in the press recently, but I wasn't prepared for seeing little other than rubble. Even the staunchest Nazis who have seen western Germany must wonder if the price for attempting to enthrone the "master race" isn't just too damned high.

In regard to my suggestion that some UARRA person be delegated authority and responsibility for looking after general matters of administration here, the point I am anxious to make is that there should be an individual with military attachment to serve as a clearing house in matters such as the following:

1. Clearance with this Mission on the movement into and out of this area of UARRA personnel who have business with the Mission

or in whom the Mission is otherwise concerned.

2. Introduction of UARRA personnel to their counterparts in this Mission, or to any other officer in the Mission with whom they have business.

3. Procurement of P.X., Quarter master Saler, and other privileges.

4. Arrangement of accommodations, transport and similar matters where a single point of contact is necessary.

If there were an UARRA mission here, such details could be looked after by the mission head or some appropriate member of his staff. But in the absence of an UARRA mission it is imperative that someone attached here to Shaf have sufficient authority to insure a good administrative relationship between UARRA and this Mission, at least while Belgium is in the Forward Zone and so under military control.

I am going ahead with arrangements to take on a secretary. And I have looked into the matter of buying a car here. I fear that I won't be able to find a satisfactory automobile at a price within reason and so may have to ask for one of the dozen that were let go in France for assignment to Shaf Main and the country.

Thirsons. People are much more
reluctant to sell their cars here
now than they were when I made
inquiries two months ago. The
best arrangement would be for us
to have military station wagons
if that were possible.

We were all pleased to have
you here on Friday. I hope you
can arrange your work so that
you can get out to see us
more frequently than in the past.

Sincerely
H. R. French

Mrs. T. T. Scott, Director
Division on Displaced Persons, E. R. O.
170 A Great Portland St.
London, W. 1.

RECEIVED
19 MAR 1945
U.N.R.R.A. (REGY.)

March 12.

Dear Mr Scott,

I intended to send this letter by Miss Bielogurskas, but I went on a Field trip into Germany yesterday and didnt return in time.

If what I saw yesterday is representative of what Germany will look like when the end comes, the German people will not forget Hitler's leadership for many generations. There is only desolation, utter and complete. I had been impressed by pictures of wholesale wreckage shown in the press recently but I wasn't prepared for seeing ~~nothing~~ little other than rubble. Even the staunchest Nazis who have been Western Germany must wonder if the price for attempting to enthrone the "master race" isn't just too damned high.

In regard to my suggestion that some UNRRA person be delegated authority and responsibility for looking after general matters of administration here, the point I am anxious to make is that there should be an individual with military attachment to serve as a clearing house in matters such as the following:

1. Clearance with this mission on the movement into and out of this area of U.N.R.R.A. Personnel who have business with the Mission or in whom the Mission is otherwise concerned.
2. Introduction of U.N.R.R.A. personnel to their counterparts in this Mission, or to any other officer in the Mission with whom they have business.
3. Procurement of P.X., Quartermaster Sales, and other privileges.
4. Arrangement of accommodation, transport and similar matters where a single point of contact is necessary.

If there were an U.N.R.R.A. Mission here, such details could be looked after by the Mission head or some appropriate member of his staff. But in the absence of an U.N.R.R.A. Mission it is imperative that someone attached here to SHAEF have sufficient authority to insure a good administrative relationship between U.N.R.R.A. and this Mission, at least while Belgium is in the Forward Zone and so under military control.

I am going ahead with arrangements to take on a secretary. And I have looked into the matter of buying a car here. I fear that I won't be able to find a satisfactory automobile at a price within reason and so may have to ask for one of the dozen that were to ... in France for assignment to SHAEF Main and the country Mission. People are much more reluctant to sell their cars here now than they were when I made inquiries two months ago. The best arrangement would be for us to have military station wagons if that were possible.

We were all pleased to have you here on Friday. I hope you can arrange your work so that you can get out to see us more frequently than in the past.

Sincerely,

D.R. Trevithick.

Mr. T.T. Scott, Director,
Division on Displaced Persons, E.R.O.
170a Great Portland Street,
London W.1.

Lochman Small

*Myer Cohen
Prospect of UNRRA Mission
going to Belgium*

Out file

DP 6717.

8th March 1945

Dear Mr. Trevithick,

In Mr. Scott's temporary absence in France I write to acknowledge on his behalf your letter of February 20th, and the press cutting which you enclosed. Any figures which you can send us about numbers of allied national D.P.s in Belgium or Belgian D.P.s in other countries will be very valuable to us.

We were not proposing to translate the material that you sent previously about the Commissariat au Repatriement's plans, but if you are requiring a translation, we could arrange to have one done for you.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed by M. Bond)

Operational Intelligence Section,
Displaced Persons Division.

Mr. David R. Trevithick, O-821997,
SHAEP Mission to Belgium,
B.L.A.

Belgium

DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

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Brigadier Lysaght-Griffin

Mr. Morin ✓ 24/iii

Mr. R. Carter J.C.

~~Dr. Longard~~

~~Mr. Dolicorneux~~

~~Mrs. Dalton~~

~~Dr. Coigny~~

~~Mrs. Marshall~~

capl. L. Small
28/3

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Please pass quickly and return to
Miss Bond, room ~~400~~ 433

U.N.c. 457

Confidential

Brussels 3rd March, 1945.

Dr. W. Langrod,
Displaced Persons Division,
U.N.R.R.A.
170A Great Portland Street,
LONDON. W.1.

Dear Boss,

This report will reach you sooner than you expected and it will be very long too, but, please translate it in decent English before you show it to Mr. Scott.

The general picture I have from the Belgian Civil Defence is that there are some semi-voluntary organizations on a charity basis but subsidised by the State which all deal in different ways with the bombed out people, in my opinion, in a very inadequate way. Not long ago there was created an office called High Commissioner for Civil Defence (Mr. Jansen) whose duty is to coordinate the work of the organisations mentioned.

This was probably why I found the two convoys still waiting for the work since they arrived in this country about 4 weeks ago. The SHAEF Authorities here were very upset with this state of affairs and they will hardly agree to give shipping priority for our F.Sq. until they see that the vehicles we have here work to their full capacity. Therefore, as well as looking after technical matters I took steps to set the convoys on the move. One of the convoys is still in Brussels waiting for orders to go to Liege, the other one is in Antwerp.

Mr. Jansen as the H.C. for C.D. has the general control over the convoys. The convoy in Antwerp comes under the control of the Regional H.C. of C.D. Mr. Vaes who is a very good and energetic man but who is bound by the decisions he gets from his central authorities in Brussels.

After I arranged all formalities and after I had a meeting with Mr. Jansen I went to Antwerp on Monday last where I found the following state of affairs:

1. The convoy is stationed in a school yard (67 Verbond Straat) and the personnel lives in the same school.
2. The convoy leader Mrs. Petiou is a very good leader indeed. She has much experience ^{it was} and only thanks to her initiative the convoy was actually working when I arrived.
3. The personnel consist of British and Belgian people, most of them recruited by the Belgian Red Cross in London. They are very good and willing to do the job. ~~The drivers are quite experienced and willing to do the job.~~ The drivers are quite experienced and there are two mechanics among them, who can look after the vehicles. Some minor repairs which were needed were done by the REME, to whom Mrs. Petiou found the way on her own initiative. Some minor repairs to be done were done by myself with the help of the mechanics.
4. The personnel was without adequate food provision (they had rations for 8 civilian people and they were 14).
5. The convoy had no official order to operate and was not provided with food by the Belgian Authorities. But Mrs. Petiou succeeded ~~in~~ operating the convoy with the food supplies she brought over from Britain and with help from the Army (petrol, bread, sugar). This was done with the unofficial approval and thankfulness of Mr. Vaes.

In such a situation I succeeded by Friday in:

- a) obtaining British Army rations for the personnel of the convoy
- b) obtaining an official order for the convoy to operate
- c) obtaining the necessary amount of food, coal, fuel for the operation of the convoy, with exception of bread, which question should be decided in the beginning of the next week in Brussels.

d) contracting a garage (Garage Renault, rue de La Sainte) working actually for the G.D. in Antwerp which will look after servicing all our vehicles. The financial side of the maintenance and servicing remains with Mr. Vaes who agreed willingly to this.

I would like to point out here that I succeeded in all this only because of the help I got from Major Derbyshire (SHAEP, Civil Affairs) who is a splendid man, very social minded, and who gave up much time to persuading the Belgian Central Authorities to give orders and necessary supplies for the convoy. In Antwerp I got very extensive help from Mrs. Petiou and Mr. Vaes who both understand the situation and know that the work done by the convoy is a great help to the bombed people.

The last arrangements made on Friday (before I left for Brussels) were that the convoy besides taking food out immediately after a place has been bombed, will take over the feeding of the Rest Centres (about 350 people) as a daily routine job. This was agreed on the request of the Committee National de Secour, who are very short of transport and therefore cannot distribute food adequately among the population living in rest centres.

As Antwerp is a much bombed place the convoy will have plenty to do 24 hours round. Mrs. Petiou has two shifts working 24 hours each, she is at the moment short of drivers, she should have 12 (6 per shift) but she has only 10. I was promised yesterday evening in Brussels that the two missing drivers will be sent to Antwerp on Monday.

Before leaving Antwerp yesterday afternoon I left instructions with Mrs. Petiou concerning:

1. drivers responsibility
2. routine servicing of the vehicles
3. list of some minor repairs to be done by the contract garage.

The convoy of Mrs. Petiou contains 11 vehicles only. One Water Tank was smashed in U.K. and is still there. It is important to send this vehicle as soon as possible to Belgium.

I worked with the convoy for some days on the places where the incidents occurred and I have seen that it is a very real help to the populations. The people accept the help very gladly and gratefully.

On return to Brussels I learned that 3 vehicles from the second convoy (stationed in B.) have major repairs to be done. I inspected them to-day and I found:

1. one Bedford canteen cylinder head cracked from outside
2. one Bedford kitchen Flywheel case supporting the starter broken
3. one Ford Utility car radiator smashed by an accident

I communicated with Major Derbyshire and perhaps with his help I will get the necessary spare parts from the Army Depot. I could not yet contact the Belgian man who is in direct charge of the Brussels convoy (Capt. Heneberg) as he was not in his office to day. I will press the point with him very strongly on Monday to arrange for the necessary repair facilities, especially as I was told that the convoy should leave for Liege in few days time. All 3 defects are in my opinion the faults of drivers.

After this short period and many hours spent on jobs which I did not anticipate, I have come to the opinion that our F.Sq. will be of the utmost help for the displaced persons arrangements, but in the present conditions on the continent we must build up a small but very efficient

organization, concerning supplies. I have ideas about some kind of mobile bases, and I start to work out such a plan whereby I will use all the experience which I hope I will get seeing the conditions under which the Q.M.s actually work. We must also make a number of unexpensive but very important adjustments in the equipment and fixtures, roads in towns and in the county are sometimes bad and to carry the equipment in such a way as it was carried in GB. would mean to smash the equipment and the bodies in a short time to pieces. I hope that I will be ready with my whole plan in 2 - 3 weeks time (as I need to collect daily experience. ☒ I would strongly advise you to call me then back to London for a short time in order to discuss the matter and to execute all necessary adjustments. It will be impossible to do it by letters, and there are here for the moment no facilities to get a place where such things could be done.

Finally 2 questions:

1. The Ford utility car from the second convoy has a mileage of about 8,000. The engine is very bad and it will need exchange in a very short time. Reconditioning here is impossible. I could perhaps borrow an engine from the Army Depot if UNRRA Sends it back to the Army. Who is to pay for it, because it is not a fault of the Belgian that we loaned them a car in such a shameful state. Anyhow, please send me a Ford V8 30 h.p. engine as quickly as possible.
2. The painting on the vehicles is most confusing. I could perhaps do it here, which means to paint out all Ministry of Food signs to leave only the donors, and to paint UNRRA lettering in an appropriate way. Who is to pay for it, and what shall I do in case when the Belgian authorities would not like to pay for it.

I hope you are quite well and you have no more troubles than usual. Please give my best greetings to all friends.

Yours sincerely,

(signed MAREK)

Confidential

6th March 1945.

Dr. W. Langford
URMA, D.P. Division
170A Great Portland Street
London W.1.

Dear Dr. Langford,

I just learned that there is a possibility that our F.Sq.'s will be sent over in a short time, and as I have seen the difficulties one has in obtaining spare parts and repair facilities, I would strongly advise that the following precautions should be taken before sending the vehicles over :

1. A Leader should be attached to each F.Sq. He should know the equipment and be able to administrate the F.Sq. as a whole. Such a leader should have some technical knowledge of the vehicles, so that he can give us notice in good time when repairs are needed. I think people like Miss Remy-Tailleur or Mrs Samuels would be the most suitable for this post.
2. A first rate mechanic should be attached to each Flying Squad (he may also act as driver) who could be able to maintain and to service the vehicles and who could also do the necessary repairs.
3. The following tool equipment should be provided for each Flying Squad :
 - a) One large combined set of wrenches, spanners, screwdrivers etc.
 - b) One outfit for vulcanizing tyre tubes
 - c) One strong grease-press (hand or foot operated) with endings suitable for greasing nipples of all vehicles. If there are different nipples on different vehicles they should be changed in London for one standard type if possible.

If the D.P. Division does not have a technical Officer who is able to get the equipment mentioned above, my friend (First C.P. Polish Army) could perhaps do it for us. My estimate of the cost of such equipment per F.Sq. is approximately £40.

4. All headlights should be changed from black-out-screens into normal two-way lights. This is important because driving in the dark with the prevailing lights is impossible.
5. The fog light and the tail lamp should be transferred to the left hand side and the red light should be enlarged (is not visible enough)
6. Each convoy should be provided with spares on the same principles as we applied to the Bedfords in the Queen's Messengers. In addition to the specification given by Bedfords, I think it is necessary to have the following a

1 clutch disc lining (with rivets) for every 12 vehicles
1 set of brake linings (with rivets) for every 12 vehicles
1 radiator for each 24 vehicles
a selection of different nuts, screws, spring washers etc.

The same thing should be done for the remaining makes of vehicles, namely Ford, Commerc and Guy.

It seems to me also necessary to have here 1 engine and 1 gear box for each make of vehicles.

Having the spares here I will distribute the necessary amount among the Pl. Sq. the remainder will be left at a central base until they are needed. Knowing the difficulties in obtaining spares I do not see any other way to keep the Flying Squads going. We must have our own stock of spares and our own tools and mechanics.

~~If you obtain a favorable decision on these matters I could take the responsibility of technical supervision of all 6 Pl. Squads plus the 2 Queen's Messengers (which as I hope will be transferred into 4 Pl. Squads) provided I get a good mechanic and a car (preferably a jeep) in order to be able to contact the Pl. Squads when necessary, and also to have the mechanic and needed spares with me.~~

On the equipment side the most urgent needed changes are:

1. All thermos urns should get a watertight closing. This is easily obtained by inserting a rubber ring under the present cover.
2. All bowls should be fixed in such a way that they do not touch each other.
3. All boilers and other heavy equipment should be fixed during transport, they must however be easily accessible when they are to be used. This is most important because on the bad roads here heavy equipment loosely transported is often broken and also damages the bodies of the lorries.
4. The petrol stoves from the Welfare Van should be removed. They do not work properly I recommend to put additional food storage conveniences instead.
5. One canteen is not enough for a kitchen with 11 boilers. We should have in each convoy a sufficient number of additional thermos urns. I think the food store van or the 3 ton lorry should get special fittings for that purpose.

The above are the most important items which should be attended to before the Pl. Squads are put into operation. I do not know whether you have your Technical Officer appointed but in any case I would strongly advise that I be called back to London for a fortnight or less in order to get things properly arranged.

As soon as I have put the Queen's Messenger in Liege in operation and as soon as I have the assurance that the arrangements I made for repair and maintenance work properly, I could go easily back for a short period. Then I could also discuss the whole plan for the working organization of the Fl. Squads.

In my opinion it is most important to get the proper equipment for the job. If this is not done we will have much trouble and we will not function efficiently. All changes which can be done quite easily and rapidly in United Kingdom are very difficult to execute here because of lack of workshops, materials and manpower.

I hope to obtain your quick decision and I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(S) Murek

OUT FILE

DE6/5/44 671X

23rd February 1945

Dear Trevithick,

Many thanks for your two letters of the 14th February on the D.P. situation in Belgium and on accommodation for D.P. Centres, and the equipment and supplies required. These facts are of great interest to the Division and I would be very glad if you would send us any similar information as it becomes available.

Yours sincerely,

T.E.Scott,
Director,
Displaced Persons Division.

Mr. David R. Trevithick,
SHAPE Mission to Belgium,
B.L.A.

M. VAN ZEELAND VA RAPATRIER LES EXILES

M. VAN ZEELAND, Haut Commissaire au Rapatriement, a donné des précisions sur la préparation du retour des 250.000 Belges qui se trouvent en Allemagne et qui se répartissent comme suit, les chiffres étant cités sous toute réserve : 66.000 prisonniers de guerre, 20.000 détenus politiques, 26.000 Israélites et 135.000 déportés.

POUR connaître le total de nos compatriotes à rapatrier, il suffit d'ajouter aux exilés d'Allemagne, les Belges séjournant dans les pays neutres et libérés, soit 30.000 environ. En ce qui concerne ces derniers, des accords sont conclus avec la France, l'Angleterre, la Hollande et les Etats-Unis. Seules restent à régler les questions relatives à l'Amérique latine et à la Colonie, en attendant d'entrer dans la période de réalisation du retour de la grande masse de nos malheureux compatriotes retenus en Allemagne. Au début, la S. H. A. E. F. assumera toute la responsabilité tant pour les travailleurs que pour les prisonniers militaires et les détenus civils. Toutefois des officiers de liaison délégués par les différentes nations intéressées collaboreront avec les autorités militaires.

Toutes les dispositions sont prises en étroit contact avec le Ministère de la Défense Nationale. Concernant la situation actuelle des camps, le commissariat possède des renseignements fragmentaires. Certains camps civils et militaires ont été évacués, des

transferts ont été effectués mais on ne connaît pas les conditions précises de ces déplacements réalisés dans des circonstances chaotiques.

D'autre part, le commissariat est en contact depuis plusieurs mois avec les autorités militaires russes en vue d'aboutir à un accord bilatéral en matière de rapatriement de prisonniers.

Une requête tendant à obtenir la liste des prisonniers de guerre et civils libérés par les armées cueillies. Le commissariat espère pouvoir envoyer une délégation auprès des autorités russes, chargée de se préoccuper des rapatriés au même titre que la mission qui collabore avec la S. H. A. E. F.

Au sujet du sort des prisonniers politiques, le commissariat a obtenu quelques renseignements, il semble qu'il ait subi de légères améliorations en ces derniers temps. Les Allemands ont soumis ces détenus au régime du travail, ce qui leur a procuré certains avantages sans aucun doute.

Jeanne WANNYN

66,000 Prisonniers
20 Politiques
26- Juifs
135- Déportés

à couvrir sculptée. Superbe tapisserie à couvrir bretonne. Couvre lit et rideaux en taffetas. Merveilleuse salle à dîner moderne « Les Ambassadeurs » primée à Paris. Superbe garniture d'argenteries de table de style Louis XIV. 2 bouts de table assortis. Grand tapis Kirman, Hériz, Chiraz. Superbe carquette Tébrik de soie. Tapis Sparta, Mecca Kazak et autres. Très important lustre de salon garni de cristaux. Trois grands groupes en bronze. Joli panneau mural en Aubusson de soie. Grand salon Louis XV en tapisserie d'Aubusson. Montre ancienne émaillée sur or. Tableaux par Levis, Quinaux. Ed. De Schampeler, Kuwasseg, De Jans, Musin, Kirschner, Léon Brunin, Toussaint, etc. Quatre fauteuils de bridge.

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Lundi 19 février, à 2 h. précises.
Exposition : samedi 17 février, de 14 à 17 heures. Dimanche 18 février, de 10 à 12 et de 14 à 17 h. en la Galerie THEMIS, 13, boulevard de Waterloo.
Expert : Verhaert.

ANNONCES

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VENDEZ RADIOS

Somme acheteurs au plus haut prix tous postes récents de gr. marque, de même que châssis et pièces détachées, 34, rue du Midi. Tél. : 12.08.81.

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TOUT ce que vous cherchez vous le trouverez à la « Générale des Occasions », 1a, rue des Fabriques (Bourse). Vente-Achat-Echange, 24, mois de crédit.

ELEVAGE

ANIMAUX. — 500 animaux ttes espèces : CHIENS POLICE, luxe, chasse, POULETTES pondeuses et PIGEONS ttes races, POUSSINS, CANARIS chant, OISEAUX EXOTIQUES, SINGES, GRAINES, SEMENCES, etc. Zoo. Centre, 21, rue des Sables, Bruxelles. Téléphone : 17.03.58.

Vos petites annonces remises en nos bureaux avant midi, paraîtront dans notre prochain numéro.

LE DEBAT sur la déclaration gouvernementale à la Chambre a été extrêmement terne. Les orateurs libéraux et socialistes, qui approuvaient à cent pour cent la composition du cabinet et la déclaration de celui-ci, ne se trouvaient guère en situation de briller particulièrement. Les discours conformistes sont évidemment les plus difficiles à réussir. La matière est vite épuisée. Conséquence : les porte-parole des gauches se rattrapèrent sur des questions particulières, sinon sur d'infimes détails.

Quant aux catholiques, ils ne savaient trop comment expliquer comment, ayant brandi les foudres que l'on sait, ils s'apprêtaient à ne point se servir.

M. MAISTRIAUX, président du groupe libéral, devait pourtant hausser un moment le ton du débat en posant la question de savoir quelles mesures seraient prises pour mettre Rexistes et V.N.V. dans l'impossibilité de nuire :

— Leur ôter leurs droits politiques, c'est une mesure minimum, dit-il. On ferait bien de songer à leur retirer de surcroît la nationalité belge.

Et M. Maistriaux d'indiquer justement les conséquences qu'aurait la faiblesse :

— Vous verriez bientôt après la signature de la paix se reconstituer les associations de traitres et d'inciviques.

On ne pouvait mieux dire.

EN INSISTANT pour que le Ministère ne demande pas seulement aux impôts, taxations et prélèvements divers les ressources indispensables au redressement de la situation financière du pays, mais également à l'emprunt, M. Maistriaux provoqua M. Eyskens, le nouveau grand argentier, à déclarer officiellement qu'il déposerait prochainement sur le bureau de la Chambre un plan fiscal général selon les vues des libéraux.

En revanche, le Ministre des Finances se refuse à tout déblo-

Feb. 20

Dear Mr. Scott:

INDEXED

I'm wondering if you have seen this article relative to the number of Belgians displaced. Though exact figures have not yet been issued it is apparent that the total will be more nearly 300,000 than the approximately 720,000 we have been planning on. It seems that there was some deliberate padding to mislead the Germans.

Bob Schlee and I have had some conversations. We are awaiting Delierneux's return to get on with recruitment. I have a couple of paper projects under way which I think will be of value and interest. Incidentally, do you plan to translate the Commissariat au Regroupement plan material that I sent last week? If so you might send me a copy or two and so save our doing it. It is difficult for me to get translations of long items made and more

difficult to have them typed up.
But I have found two good stenographers
who are also good linguists and
was told by Mr Kearn that I might
employ one if I could get the
necessary military clearance. This
clearance is now in process.

Sincerely,
J. R. / *rev* Thirk

Mr. T. T. Scott, Director
Division on Displaced Persons
UNRRA
120 a Great Portland St.
London, W. 1.

DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

Circulation List

Date 27.2.45

Brigadier Lysaght-Griffin

Mr. E. Carter *1/3*

Dr. Langrod

~~Mr. Bond~~ Mr. Fink *KF 3/3*

Mrs. Dalton *R.D. 5/3*

TO: Dr. Coigny *RL*

Mr. Morin

Capt. Lothian-Small

Capt. van Dieren *W.D.*

~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Please pass quickly and return to
Miss Bond, room ~~100~~

439

*This paper has taken 3 months to
U.N.c. 457
make the rounds!*

DP6/5/4.

Supreme Headquarters.
Allied Expeditionary Force
Mission (Belgium),
B.L.A.

14 Feb. 45.

SMB/G-5/1030

Subject: (a) Accommodations: for Displaced Persons Centers
(b) Equipment and Supply Requirements for D.P.
Centers in Belgium.

Dear Mr. Scott,

1. Transmitted herewith are two papers relating to the above subject marked respectively Appendix 'A' and Appendix 'B'.
2. As is pointed out in the letter of coverage by Lt. RICKLEFS, Appendix 'A' lists the accommodations which the SHAEF Mission to Belgium and the Commissariat Belge au Repatriement believe necessary to handle the D.P. problem in Belgium.
3. Appendix 'B' shows by item the essential equipment and supply requirements for D.P. Centers in Belgium, based on a daily average population of 50,000. You will note that the chief import needs are clothing, housekeeping cloths, and soap.
4. Nether of these documents is firmed up yet. But they should be of interest to UNRRA in that they show the sort of thinking about the displaced persons problems which is being done here.

Yours

(Sgd) D.R. Trevithick. UNRRA.

Mr. T.T. Scott.
Director Division Displaced Persons,
European Regional Office, UNRRA,
170a Great Portland Street,
London W.1.

DRT/mr.

S.M.B. 14.5/1010

APPENDIX "A"

Subject: Request for requisitioning of accommodation for Displaced Persons Centers.

G-4. (Attn: Col. Watney).

1. Attached herewith is a plan prepared by the Commissariat au Repatriement in conjunction with the Displaced Persons section, SHAEF Belgium, indicating facilities required for DP operations. It is submitted to you for suitable action necessary to the procurement of these facilities.

2. Part 1 lists the accommodations which are essential to the plan for handling the flow of DP's from Germany, and represents the minimum additional requirements. In the event that the sites listed cannot be made available it will be necessary to obtain other locations in the immediate area.

Part II lists the accommodations already mentioned in Part 1 which should be made available to the Commissariat au Repatriement at the earliest possible moment, and therefore should have first priority in action taken.

Part III lists the accommodations which are already under the control of the Commissariat au Repatriement and which should have military verification in order to ensure that they will not be taken over by the military.

3. You will appreciate the fact that the preparations for handling adequately the anticipated flow of DP's are urgent in nature because of the rapid military developments, and the requisitioning of the facilities should be expedited.

R.U. Ricklefs. Lt. DP

14 Feb 45.
RUR/mrl.

ACCOMMODATIONS NEEDED FOR DISPLACED PERSONS CENTERS IN BELGIUM

PART 1.

Province of LIEGE.

<u>Locations.</u>	<u>Accommodation.</u>	<u>Number.</u>
✓ EUPEN	Caserne	1,500
✓ VERVIERS	Caserne	4,000
	Ecole de la rue des Wallons	2,000
	Ecole rue Secheval	1,000
VISE	Caserne	1,000
		<u>9,500</u>

Province of LIMBOURG.

✓ HASSELT	Nouvelle Caserne	1,200
	Athense	500
	Ecole rue des Martyrs.	550
✓ TONGRES	Caserne	3,500
✓ MASEYCK	Couvent Ursulines	500
		<u>6,300</u>

Province of Luxembourg.

✓ ARLON	Caserne Leopold	2,000
	Ecole Normale Etat	1,500
✓ VIRTON	College St. Joseph	1,000
✓ ATTERT	Institut Redemptoristes	500
		<u>5,000</u>

Province of BRABANT.

✓ DIEST	Citadelle	2,500
	"Ons Huis"	
	36 Koning Albertstraat	400
✓ DOUVAIN	Ecole Comm. rue de Tirlemont No.1.	400
	Ecole Libre Enfant Jesus	
	22 Rue Joyeuse Entree	400
	College des Josephites	400
	College st Pierre	
	rue des Recollete	400
	Athense rue de Namur	400
		<u>4,900</u>

Province of NAMUR.

✓ DINANT	Usine "La Dinantaise"	500
✓ MARCHE-les-DAMES	Chateau	600
✓ CINEY	Ecole Moyenne	500
		<u>1,600</u>
✓ NAMUR	Caserne Leopold	2,000
✓ ANDENNE	Ecole Normale	1,000
		<u>4,600.</u>

<u>Location.</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>	<u>Number.</u>
<u>Province of ANTWERP.</u>		
✓ MALINES.	Salle des Fetes rue Frederic de Merode	350
✓ MOLL	Weldadigheidsschool Observatieschool	500 500
✓ LIERRE	Caserne Sion	1,500
✓ HERXPLAS	Colonie	1,000
✓ SCHOOTEN	Chateau Horst	500
✓ HOOGSTRATEN	Colonie	1,000
✓ HEMIKEM	Caserne et depots	3,000
		<hr/> 8,550 <hr/>
<u>Province of EAST-FLANDERS.</u>		
✓ GAND.	Caserne Leopold Landbouwhoogeschool	800 1,000
✓ RENAIK	Ecole - Piepusstraat	1,000
✓ EECLOO	Couvents	1,500
✓ PETERGHEM	Depot Genie	2,000
		<hr/> 6,300 <hr/>
<u>Province of WEST-FLANDERS.</u>		
✓ BRUGES	Caserne Major Weiler Ecole Freres Capucines	1,000 500
✓ COMINES	Usines Standaert	500
✓ WEST-ROOSEBEKE	Caserne	500
✓ ZEDELGEM	Caserne	500
		<hr/> 3,000 <hr/>
<u>Province of HAINANT.</u>		
✓ TOURNAY	Eccle Prof. Dom Besce	500
✓ MONS	Cour du Bailly Proprietaires Reunis Grande Fabriques Maison Paternotte Chateau Demarez	1,000
✓ CHARLEROI	Maisons des Huit Heures	500
✓ SOIGNIES	Athence Royal College St. Vincent	500 300
✓ LA LOUVIERE	Institut St. Joseph	600
✓ AUDREGNIES	Couvent	300
		<hr/> 3,700 <hr/>

Location.AccommodationNumber.

PART II. (Accommodations listed below are classified as URGENT and should have first priority in the requisitioning process).

PROVINCE of LIEGE

VISE	Caserne	1,000
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Province of LIMBOURG.

HASSELT	Nouvelle Caserne	1,200
	Athense	550
	Woole, rue des Martyrs	550

TONGRES	Caserne	3,500
		<u>5,800</u>

Province of BRABANT.

DIEST	Citadelle	2,500
	"On huis/ 32, Koning Albertstraat	400
		<u>2,900</u>

Province of NAMUR

MARCHE- les- DAMES	Chateau	600
GINEY	Ecole Moyenne	500
ANDENNE	Ecole Normale	1,000
		<u>2,100</u>

Province of ANTWERP

LIERRE	Caserne Sieu	1,500
--------	--------------	-------

Province of EAST-FLANDERS

GAND	Landbouwhoogeschool	1,000
------	---------------------	-------

Province of WEST-FLANDERS.

BRUGES	Caserne Major Weiler	1,000
--------	----------------------	-------

Province of HAINAUT

CHAR:EROI	Maison des Huit Heures	500
SOIGNIES	Athense Royal	500
LA LOUVIERE	Institut St Joseph	600
		<u>1,600</u>

PART III. (Accommodations listed below are already under the control of the Commissariat au Repatriement).

Province of LIEGE.

VERVIERS	Ste. Claire	600
----------	-------------	-----

HOMBOURG	Caserne	1,000
		<u>1,600</u>

<u>Location.</u>	<u>Accommodation</u>	<u>Number.</u>
<u>Province of BRABANT.</u>		
BRUXELLES	Comite de Coordination rue de Stalle, 97	3,000 2,000
TOURNEPPE		1,000
LEMEERK	Couvent des Freres	1,200
		<u>7,200</u>
<u>Province of NAMUR.</u>		
JAMBES	Ecole Communale	450
ANDENNE	Ecole du Centre	600
LUSTIN	Chateau de Frsane	320
PHILIPPEVILLE	rue de l'Abreuvoir	300
MARIEMBOURG	Centre Croix-Rouge	100
		<u>1,770</u>
<u>Province of EAST-FLANDERS</u>		
GAND	College, Patyntjestraat	300
<u>Province of WEST-FLANDERS.</u>		
Ostende	Muziekschool, Heemstraat	500
YPRES	Centre Croix-Rouge	200
		<u>700</u>
<u>Province of HAINAUT.</u>		
TOURNAI	Ecole du Textile	500
GIVRY	St. Joseph	400
CASTREAU-MEZIERES	Camp	2,000
CASTREAU	St. Alfred	300
		<u>3,200</u>

Equipment and Supply Requirements for D.P. Centers in BELGIUM.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>REQUIRED</u>	<u>ON HAND</u>	<u>ON ORDER</u>	<u>Possibility of buying in the country.</u>	<u>LACKING</u>
<u>A. FURNITURE.</u>					
1 - double beds	25,000	5,000	17,000	3,000	-
single beds	2,000	300	-	1,700	-
2 - tables for rooms	9,000	-	-	9,000	-
3 - " for offices	900	-	-	900	-
4 - boards (stop)	9,000	-	-	9,000	-
27,000		-	-	27,000	-
5 - Chairs	1,800	150	-	1,650	-
6 - Stools	50,000	-	6,000	44,000	-
7 - Stoves & acces.	1,600	350	150	1,100	-
8 - Incendiary buckets	1,600	-	-	1,600	-
9 - Portable boilers	1600	-	-	1,600	-
<u>B - KITCHEN UTENSILS.</u>					
1 - boilers 100 L.	400	20	49	300	-
2 - soup-ladle (skimmer)	800	-	-	800	-
3 - galvanised pails	1200	-	-	1,200	-
4 - Plates	60,000	2,500	-	7,500	50,000
5 - Bowls	60,000	2,500	-	7,500	50,000
6 - forks, spoons knives	60,000	40,000	-	20,000	-
<u>C - CLEANING MATERIAL.</u>					
1 - brushes	2,000	-	-	very little	2,000
2 - scrapers	2,000	-	-	" "	2,000
3 - mops	50,000	7,000	3,000	40,000	-
4 - dishcloths	25,000	-	-	-	25,000
5 - kit, towels	15,000	-	-	-	15,000
6 - cleaning soap	50,000 kg	-	-	-	50,000 kg.
7 - toilet soap	150,000	10,000	-	-	140,000
<u>D - BEDDING.</u>					
1 - blankets	200,000	40,000	100,000	60,000	-
2 - Sheets	50,000	6,000	21,000	23,000	-
<u>E. CLOTHING.</u>					
<u>MEN.</u>					
1 - shirts	100,000	1,800	2,000	-	96,000
2 - suits	50,000	2,500	10,000	-	37,000
3 - pants	100,000	2,500	-	-	97,000
4 - flannel waist- coats	50,000	3,000	-	-	48,000
5 - handkerchiefs	100,000	1,500	-	-	98,000
6 - gloves	50,000	3,000	-	-	47,000
7 - Socks	100,000	5,000	10,000	-	85,000
8 - Overcoats	50,000	600	3,000	-	46,500
9 - shoes	50,000	-	10,000	-	40,000
<u>WOMEN.</u>					
1 - Chemises	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
2 - drawers	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
3 - stockings	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
4 - handkerchiefs	8,000	-	-	-	8,000
5 - dresses	4,000	500	2,500	1,000	-
6 - coats	4,000	500	2,500	1,000	-
7 - shoes	4,000	-	1,000	-	-
8 - sanit-pads	150,000	800	12,000	30,000	100,000

F. FOOD. The Ministry of Food has assured the Commissariat Belge au Repatriement that the normal Belgian ration will be available for F. Because of the extreme privation and near starvation endured by most of the DP for the past many months, it is desirable that a supplementary ration be provided for them. These additional food stocks must of necessity be procured through the assistance of the armies or welfare organizations.

INDEXED

SECRET

Supreme Headquarters
Allied Expeditionary Force
Mission (Belgium)
B.L.A.

14 Feb 45

SMB/G-5/1030

Subject: Report on D.P. Situation in Belgium

Dear *Mr. Scott*:

1. It is assumed that UNRRA is being kept informed statiscally in regard-to displaced persons and refugees through access to the SHAEF Weekly Report prepared by the Operational Analysis Section of the Displaced Persons, Refugees and Welfare Branch, G-5 Division. This document contains the fullest and most accurate figures available.
2. Decision by SHAEF that there is at present no Zone of the Interior in Belgium has fixed responsibility for D.P. Assembly Centers on military commanders according to AG/383/7-1/GE-AGM, dated 18 Dec 44. Military Commanders may, however, "delegate partial responsibility to Allied local authorities as soon as the latter are in a position to assume normal civil governmental activities in any given area. Military commanders, will, in such cases, insure that essential transport, accommodation and supplies are available to Allied authorities with regard both to present needs and to future requirements."
3. As a matter of actual practice Displaced Persons and Refugee problems are handled sometimes purely by the military, sometimes purely by the Belgian Government, and sometimes through joint action of both. Most of the more forward and temporary accommodations are military, while most of the rear area and more long-term accommodations are under civil authority. Military assistance to the civil authority is usually in terms of transport and supplies.
4. The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement has been slow in getting under way, but now gives promise of functioning most effectively. A large organization has been set up and some excellent people recruited. Considerable paper work has been done with care and in keeping with a plan which indicates that the Belgians intend to take care of their own nationals when Germany is defeated.
5. SHAEF Mission to Belgium and the 21 Army Group have agreed on the following basic working principles as a guide to planning for the anticipated flow of displaced persons from Germany:
 - (a) DPs uncovered short of the Rhine will probably be evacuated to the rear, if BELGIUM is still in the forward zone. Though final responsibility rests with the military commander, he may delegate a part to the local Allied authorities and he is always obligated to ensure that essential transportation, accommodation and supplies are made available against present and estimated future requirements.
 - (b) After the Rhine barrier has been established, a movement control will be maintained and an estimated figure of 2,000 DPs may be expected in Belgium daily by rail.
 - (c) Flow should consist primarily of Belgian and French, since Dutch nationals will be held at the barrier pending direct repatriation.
 - (d) It is planned that the French will move directly across Belgium into France, so that it follows that the Belgians must make preparations primarily for the repatriation of their own nationals.

6. The Commissariat Belge au Rapatriement is having the Central Bureau of Statistics do study of the displacement of Belgians. Unofficial reports are that the total number will be nearer 300,000 than 700,000. When the tabulations are complete, a full set of figures will be sent for UNRRA use.

Yours

D.R. Trevithick

D.R. Trevithick
UNRRA

Mr. T.T. Scott,
Director Division Displaced Persons
European Regional Office, UNRRA
170a, Great Portland street
LONDON, W.I.

DRT/mrl

Belgium

DP6/6

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
G-5 DIVISION.
Displaced Persons, Refugees
and Welfare Branch.

SHAEF/G65/DP/2823.

11 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Request from Belgian Red Cross to operate in Western Germany for Displaced Persons.

To: Mr. Tom Scott, Director, Division of Displaced Persons, ERO,
UNRRA, 170A Great Portland Street, London W.1.

1. Please find attached a series of memoranda relating to the participation of the Belgian Red Cross in displaced persons operations in Germany.
 - a. Brigadier Bygott's covering letter.
 - b. General Bronsart's letter to SHAEF Mission (Belgium)
 - c. Mr memorandum to the Executive, Displaced Persons, Refugees and Welfare Branch, SHAEF.
 - d. General Micklesen's memorandum to ACOS, G-5.
 - e. General Grasett's memorandum to SHAEF Mission (Belgium)
2. You will remember the conversation we had in Col. Schottland's office during your last visit to the continent and the agreement we reached at that time. Previously I had discussed the matter with Director-General Lehman and he concurred in the proposal which at that time was in the preliminary discussion stage
3. I am assuming that your office will take the matter up from this point and will develop appropriate plans for the coordination of this and other groups which that may wish to operate in Germany. This arrangement with the Belgian Red Cross is merely a temporary expedient to permit this organization to give service until such a time as UNRRA is prepared to operate and to coordinate. I wish to urge immediate plans and decisions on this whole question of the use of welfare groups within the framework of UNRRA's operation. Any plans that are developed must have the approval of SHAEF so this Headquarters should be notified at once.
4. Please get in touch with Mr. David Trevithick of SHAEF Mission (Belgium) giving him appropriate instructions and kindly send copies of such instructions to the Displaced Persons Branch of SHAEF.
5. I am firmly convinced that unless UNRRA develops a plan at once and is prepared to implement such a plan, SHAEF will be obligated to make its own individual arrangements with private welfare agencies on a piece-meal basis. Such action, however unwillingly taken, will be necessary to protect SHAEF interests and obligations.

(Sgd) BENJAMIN E. YOUNGDAHL (UNRRA)
Processing Center Section.

5. Incls.

As above.

COPY.

Encl. 1.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
MISSION (BELGIUM)

SMB/C-5/1031.

Subject: Request from Belgian Red Cross to
operate in Western Germany regard DP.

SHAEF Main C-5.

(Attn: Mr. B.E. Youngdahl, UNRRA Liaison Office.).

1. Transmitted here is a copy of a request from the Belgian Red Cross ~~for~~ permission to operate in Western Germany with regard to displaced persons.
2. This request is drafted in accord with an understanding reached in conference on 2 Jan 1945 attended by representatives of the Belgian Red Cross and Mr. Benjamin E. Youngdahl of UNRRA and SHAEF Main.
3. This Mission is submitting this request for such action as SHAEF Main and UNRRA may wish to take.

(Sgd) for J.F. Bygott.
Brigadier.
C-5.

23 Jan. 45.

24a, Boulevard du Regent,
BRUSSELS.

DRT/mrl.

COPY.
CROIX ROUGE DE BELGIQUE.

Encl. 2.
Bruxelles, le 8 January 45.

H/TM/MP/25.939.

S.H.A.E.F. Mission to Belgium.
24, Boulevard du Regent,
BRUSSELS.

Dear Sirs,

Attn: DIVISION ON DISPLACED PERSONS AND WELFARE.

In accord with the understanding reached in conference on 2 January 1945, the Belgian Red Cross herewith asks permission to assist in Germany with the problem of displaced persons coming into Belgium from Germany. It is agreed that the following principles shall apply in this matter:

1. That the Belgian Red Cross shall be permitted to operate as far east in Germany as circumstances may require, but in no event further east than the Rhine River.
2. That the Belgian Red Cross agrees to submit to coordination by UNRRA when UNRRA becomes operational in Germany.
3. That until UNRRA becomes operational in Germany, the Belgian Red Cross will recognise this coordination by submitting monthly to UNRRA a report on its activities in Germany, the channel of this reporting to be to the SHAEF Mission to Belgium, attention of the UNRRA liaison officer for displaced persons. The SHAEF Mission to Belgium will send the reports on through regular channels to SHAEF Main.

The Belgian Red Cross is anxious only to serve in the most effective way possible and welcomes any coordination which will help it to make fullest contribution to the large and important task of repatriating Allied nationals.

Very truly yours,
The Director General
(s) E. Dronsart.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS.
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
G-5 DIVISION.
Displaced Persons, Refugees
and Welfare Branch.

SHAEE/C-5/DP/

1 February 1945.

SUBJECT: Request from Belgian Red Cross to operate in Western Germany to Assist with Displaced Persons.

To: Executive, Displaced Persons, Refugees and Welfare Branch (through Chief, Processing Center Section).

1. In accordance with recent conversations with Mr. Tom Scott, Director of the Displaced Persons Division of the E.R.O. of UNRRA, authorization is given for UNRRA to accept the proposal of the Belgian Red Cross, dated 8 January 1945, and sent through Supreme Hq. AEF Mission (Belgium). As far as UNRRA is concerned, the proposal is hereby accepted.
2. It is suggested that a letter be sent to the Belgian Red Cross through Supreme Hq. AEF Mission (Belgium), notifying them of UNRRA's acceptance when Supreme Hq. AEF concurs.
3. UNRRA appreciates the manifest spirit of cooperation on the part of the officers of the Belgian Red Cross and their willingness to serve Allied displaced persons uncovered in Germany. Will you please convey this message through the Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium).

(s) Benjamin E. Youngdahl.
/t/ BENJAMIN E. YOUNGDAHL UNRRA,
Processing Center Section.

SHAEE/C-5/DP/2823

Request from Belgian Red Cross to operate in Western Germany regard D.P.

5 February 1945.

1. Displaced
Persons,
Refugees
& Welfare
Branch G-5.

5 Feb.
45.

ACOS
G-5
(Through
Executive G-5)

1. Attached hereto is a memorandum from the Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium), under date of 23 January, forwarding copy of communication from the Belgian Red Cross to the Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium) requesting permission to operate in Germany on behalf of displaced persons and under the general coordination of UNRRA (Tab 'A').

2. Also attached is memorandum from Mr. B. Youngdahl, representing UNRRA, to the Executive of this Branch accepting the proposal on behalf of UNRRA subject to concurrence of Supreme Hq., AEF (Tab 'B').

3. There is no conflict between this proposal and the cable dispatched to the CCAG under date of 6 January 1945 relating to UNRRA - private agencies relations. This is a voluntary suggestion by the Belgian Red Cross and in concurred in by all concerned.

4. The understanding arrived at between UNRRA and the Belgian Red Cross has the approval of Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium). Attached hereto is suggested letter for the approval, signature, and transmission by ACOS, G-5, to Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium) concurring in the proposal of the Belgian Red Cross which is in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of SCAEF-UNRRA agreement. Inasmuch as the Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium) and the military commander in the particular area concerned are desirous of having the Belgian Red Cross participate in displaced persons activities immediately, it is recommended that the attached letter (Tab 'C') be despatched as soon as possible.

S.R. MICKLESEN.
Brigadier General, USA.
Chief, Displaced Persons, Refugees
& Welfare Branch.

COPY.

Encl 5.

SUPREME HEADQUARTERS
ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

SHAEF/G-5/DP/

February 1945.

SUBJECT: Request from Belgian Red Cross to Operate in Western Germany to Assist with Displaced Persons.

To: Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium), Attention of G-5 Division.

1. Reference your memorandum, SMB/G-5/1031, of 23 January 1945, to which was attached a copy of a letter from the Belgian Red Cross requesting permission to perform services in a certain portion of Germany on behalf of Allied displaced persons.
2. UNRRA has informed this Division of its acceptance of the proposal of the Belgian Red Cross subject to this approval of this headquarters.
3. This headquarters approves the suggested arrangements between the Belgian Red Cross and UNRRA in accordance with paragraph 3 of the SHAEF-UNRRA agreement which is set forth in Annex B, Administrative Memorandum No. 39 issued by this headquarters under date of 3 January 1945.
4. Approval is given to the proposed arrangement subject to the conditions outlined in the proposal of the Belgian Red Cross relative to the area in Germany in which it will operate and subject to the approval of the appropriate military commanders.
5. Plans developed by the Belgian Red Cross and UNRRA will be approved by Supreme Hq., AEF Mission (Belgium) and the military commander involved.

A.E. Grasset,
Lieutenant General
Assistant Chief of Staff G-5.

Copy to:
12th Army Group G-5,
21st Army Group CA.

TO:

Miss Bond for N. Scott
for ACTION

Please circulate to
copies distributed
to on.....

Mr. Rye Cohen
Dr. Lopping.

Sir G. Reid.

Mr. Herbert

M. O'Halloran

Dr. John Deane

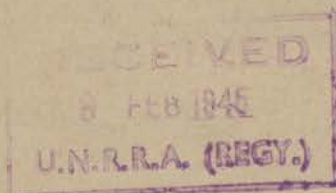
Leaves 19-2

..... Branch Registry

Date.....

au
RAPATRIEMENT
A.D./L.P.

Bruxelles, le 30 janvier 1945
4, Place du Petit Sablon
34, rue aux Laines



Cher Patron,

Je viens de recevoir votre lettre du 22 courant, ainsi que ses annexes. Je vois avec tristesse, que vous avez été malade et que vous avez dû garder la chambre pendant toute une période. Pour que vous restiez éloigné de votre travail, cela a dû être grave.

J'espère que vous êtes entièrement rétabli. Nous vous avons besoin. Soignez-vous bien et ne vous remettez pas à la tâche avant d'être entièrement "fit". Les événements militaires semblent, en effet, être tels, que d'ici quelques mois, il est probable que nous aurons à travailler en Allemagne et alors nous nécessitons un patron bien portant, énergique, apte à donner cent pour cent. C'est pourquoi, soyez prudent maintenant.

Voici, au point de vue recrutement, où on en est ici. Dès mon arrivée, j'ai procédé selon les lignes que vous indiquez dans votre lettre. J'ai demandé à Monsieur Van Zeeland de centraliser toutes les candidatures pour U.N.R.R.A. à l'exception des médecins et des nurses. Pour ces derniers, d'accord avec le Doctor Vines et le Docteur Coignie, nous avons été trouver le Ministre de la Santé Publique et avons obtenu de lui que la centralisation des candidatures "médicales" soit faite par lui.

Ainsi deux services officiels belges interviennent : le Commissaire au Rapatriement, d'une part, le Ministre de la Santé Publique, d'autre part. Ils ont fait une première sélection parmi les candidatures introduites et nous ont soumis celles qu'ils jugent les meilleures tant au point de vue valeur intrinsèque des candidats, que de leur valeur morale et civique.

Le Commissaire au Rapatriement et le Ministre de la Santé Publique nous ont transmis ensuite les candidatures qu'ils proposent au Selection Board organisé par U.N.R.R.A. Un de leurs délégués y assisterait. Je suis, en ce moment, en possession des candidatures soumises par Monsieur Van Zeeland. Le Doctor Vines a reçu celles soumises par le Ministre de la Santé Publique.

A Monsieur Scott
Director of U.N.R.R.A.
European Regional Office
11, Portland Place
London W1

Tout est donc prêt pour quand Kearn arrivera ici. On pourra aller très rapidement de l'avant. La base sur laquelle on a tablé est celle indiquée dans votre lettre : dix teams. En ce qui concerne les médecins, le docteur Coignie avait toutefois donné le chiffre de 50. Votre lettre, je vois, mentionne celui de 20.

J'avais signalé tant à Monsieur Van Zeeland qu'au Ministre de la Santé Publique, que les candidats devraient posséder de notions sérieuses d'Anglais.

Nous trouverons facilement en Belgique le personnel que vous désirez recruté. Il sera de bonne qualité, vu le nombre considérable de candidats, on pourra procéder à une sérieuse sélection.

Kearn m'a envoyé un mot qu'il serait arrivé hier lundi (29 janvier). Il avait exprimé le désir que je vienne le prendre au champ d'aviation. Je m'y suis rendu mais Kearn n'est pas arrivé. Il est vrai, qu'en ce moment, le transport aérien est très irrégulier.

Il fait ici un temps de chien. Depuis plus d'un mois, il n'a cessé de geler et de neiger. La nuit, la température est régulièrement de dix à quinze degrés en-dessous de zéro. Parfois c'est encore pis. Je me suis rendu la semaine passée à la frontière hollandaise. J'étais presque gelé.

La situation générale en Belgique est vraiment misérable. Ici, à Bruxelles l'électricité et le gaz sont coupés depuis 7 heures du matin, jusque 6 heures du soir. Avec cela, les gens sont sans charbon. J'ai un petit flat, il y fait froid à greloter. Dans les restaurants, la nourriture est refroidie sur l'assiette, avant qu'on ait eu la manger. Enfin, un excellent training pour le Staff D.P.

Si mes pieds sont froids et que les engelures les rongent, le moral est néanmoins bon. J'ai l'impression de faire un job utile et c'est beaucoup de sentir qu'on sert U.N.R.R.A.

J'apprends avec plaisir que lors de votre prochain voyage à Paris, vous passerez par ici. C'est avec joie que je vous reverrai. Quand Small arrivera à Bruxelles, je le recevrai avec réelle fraternité. Mais il est probable que je passerai par Londres avant qu'il ne soit ici. Je dois en effet, y venir pour quelques jours pour ensuite me dépêcher d'être de retour à Bruxelles, où j'ai mon job à continuer pendant de nombreuses semaines encore.

Vous me demandez pourquoi, dès lors, il faut absolument que je revienne à Londres pour quelques jours. Voici, cher Patron :

1) parce que j'ai différentes histoires personnelles à y régler : le loyer de ma maison, house-keeper, un tas d'affaires à mettre en ordre. J'avais pris mes dispositions pensant n'être absent que pendant six semaines. Ce sera bien plus long. Dès lors, il faut que je m'arrange.

2) Je ne puis ici aller à aucune cantine militaire. Je suis sans savon. J'avais assez de linge pour six semaines. Les semelles de mes bottines vont être bientôt trouées. Il faut que je rentre pour me ravitailler et m'équiper davantage.

3°) Je suis quasi sans argent. La vie est horriblement chère ici. On m'avait remis de quoi vivre six semaines en étant sage. Je suis ici depuis plus de sept semaines et mes munitions sont épuisées.

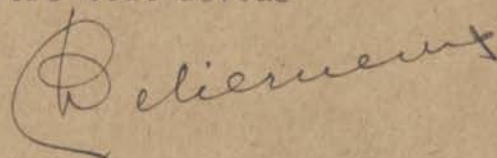
Enfin, il faut absolument que cette question de flying squads et de Queen Messenger Convoys, etc... soit tirée au clair.

Le télégramme que vous m'avez envoyé le 2 janvier 1945 (from U.N.R.R.A. London to U.N.R.R.A. Brussels) m'arrive aujourd'hui 30 janvier. En attendant, j'avais reçu une lettre de Langrod m'envoyant la copie de ce télégramme que je n'avais jamais reçu. Je lui ai répondu le même jour.

Monsieur Van Zeeland n'est toujours pas de retour de New-York. Il m'avait promis d'être ici le 15 janvier. Il a envoyé un câble. Il espère être rentré à la fin de cette semaine. Je m'arrangerai alors pour venir quelques jours à Londres au début de la semaine prochaine. Je demanderai au Gouvernement belge d'arranger mon transport et j'essayerai d'être au préalable d'accord ici avec S.H.A.F.F.

Je dicté cette lettre en hâte et m'excuse si elle est à bâtons rompus.

Croyez-moi, cher Patron, votre tout dévoué



A. Delierneux.

P.S. Mes respects à Monsieur Hoehler
Bien le bonjour à votre charmante secrétaire Madame
Every Clark.

J'espère vivement que vous réussirez en ce qui concerne les training centres, parce que le schème de recrutement en dépend en effet, et je vois que nous avons très peu de temps à perdre si nous voulons réussir.

OUT FILE

DP 4/1

22 January 1945.

My dear Delierneux,

Forgive me for not having written to you before. I have had a dose of flu or something worse for the last few weeks, and have only recently begun to come back to life. I hope to be back in the office tomorrow, and shall be delighted to be at work again.

...
... The main purpose of my writing to you at present is in connection with the recruitment of Belgian personnel for the 200 UNRRA teams for SHAEF. In case you didn't take one with you, I enclose a copy of SHAEF's letter of 2 December, plus a copy of the official reply I sent the other day. The budget for this operation, plus area headquarters for UNRRA in Germany and UNRRA Berlin HQ. has been approved by the Budget Control Committee here, and will run into several million dollars.

... SHAEF thoroughly agrees that we should recruit as many continental Allied nationals for these teams as possible. I discussed this with Frenay when I was in Paris, and expect great help from him. I have also discussed matters with Ferwerda, Kunosi and others here. And I have written official letters to all these representatives indicating the quota of posts we are prepared to reserve for their nationals provided, of course, that they can find suitably qualified candidates. I have also of course written to Van Zeeland, and enclose the letter herewith. It confirms the original idea of 10 Assembly Centre Directors, 10 Deputy Directors and 10 of everything else, except 20 doctors and 20 nurses and 20 M.T. drivers (for the teams). The figures for the doctors and nurses were suggested by Dr. Topping on the basis of conversations he has already had.

You will see from Appendix A to the letters that I have suggested that Van Zeeland's Repatriation Commissariat should be the sole agency with which UNRRA should deal in all matters relating to the recruitment of personnel for the UNRRA teams or otherwise. I don't know whether this is a practicable proposition as regards doctors and nurses, but you might try to clear this. It seems clear to me that we should not attempt to recruit Belgian personnel in Belgium ourselves direct, but should use the good offices of some central Belgian Government agency - which in this case should obviously be Van Zeeland's Commissariat.

Kearn is going out to Brussels in a week's time to start the ball rolling and set up the Selection Board machinery etc. I am looking to you to lend a big hand in these matters and see that we get really good people. I think it would be well if you stayed in Brussels until the recruitment is well under way - if not until it is completed. Do your best to get people with some fair knowledge of English (except for the cooks and M.T. drivers). You will see that I haven't insisted on this in Appendix B to the letter for doctors, nurses and welfare officers, but even for these officials I am sure that some knowledge of English would be a great advantage because they will all have some relations with the military - and although we talk gaily about finding interpreters among the displaced persons I feel sure we shan't find any, or only a very few at most. You know I am not imperial-minded in these matters - I am only trying to obviate practical difficulties which may otherwise occur.

I hope to be over in France again before very long, and this time will make a determined effort to get to Brussels to see you and hear about all that is going on. Meanwhile I will try to send Lothian Small over in about a fortnight. I think he should overlap with you in Brussels for some few weeks. It will be necessary for his education and in order to make him as useful as possible to Van Zeeland. I shall tell him that he is to be guided by you in all he does until he is left alone to stand on his own feet.

A. Delierneux, Esq.

I am afraid we have not yet got our Mobilisation and Training Centre in France. This worries me a good deal, as the success of the whole plan for the UNRRA teams depends on this. How terribly complicated everything is! And yet, of course, the real fun is beating these complications to blazes.

I hope you are keeping well. I am sure you are enjoying what you are doing and doing a most useful job. It will be good to see you back again in the Headquarters team one of these days, particularly when we set up our advanced German operation office in Paris.

All the very best to you.

Yours ever,

au ..

RAPATRIEMENT

A.D./L.P.

Bruxelles, le 4 janvier 1945

4, Place du Petit Sablon

34, rue aux Laines.

INDEXED



Cher Monsieur Scott,

1- Je vous transmets ci-joint, copie de la lettre que j'ai transmise à Monsieur Van Zeeland, ainsi que la réponse que je viens de recevoir de Monsieur Van Zeeland. Celui-ci marque son accord pour qu'un technicien de l'U.N.R.R.A. accompagne ces Queen Messenger Canteens.

2- Je suis toujours sans nouvelle de l'arrivée de Monsieur Kearn, ainsi que de ce qu'il y a lieu de faire en matière de recrutement. Une liste de 300 candidats pour les postes administratifs dans les Assembly Centres en Allemagne se trouvent réunis (Directeurs, Directeurs adjoints, Assistants administratifs). Il y a aussi une liste de candidats pour le poste de Welfare Officer.

Il est absolument nécessaire qu'on sache à quoi s'en tenir. On voudrait savoir ici quand le Comité de sélection d'U.N.R.R.A. siègera ici, en d'autres mots quand le recrutement prendra cours.

Avant mon départ, il avait été convenu que Monsieur Kearn arriverait ici au cours des dix derniers jours de décembre. Je vous saurais gré de me fixer à ce sujet.

3- Je joins la nomenclature des différentes tâches dont j'ai à m'occuper pour le moment. Comme vous pouvez vous en rendre compte, c'est un travail réellement utile, mais qui pour être bien fait, demande du temps. J'ai remis à Monsieur Van Zeeland la revision du Règlement Organique et de tous les règlements particuliers se rapportant aux différents services du Commissariat.

4- J'annexe le compte rendu d'un entretien que j'ai eu avec des représentants, Branche D.P., de la Mission Militaire, près du gouvernement belge.

5- Veuillez trouver un mémo ayant trait à l'organisation actuelle du Commissariat belge.

A. Monsieur Scott
Directeur "Displaced Persons"
UNRRA - European Regional Office
170A Great Portland street
LONDON

Je recevrais avec plaisir un mot de votre part

Votre dévoué,

A. Delierneux.

Monsieur Van Zeeland a adressé à U.N.R.R.A. une demande formelle pour les flying squads. Il voudrait savoir quand celles-ci, ainsi que les deux Queen Messenger Canteens arriveront. Pourrais-je être fixé à ce sujet?

Annexes

RECEIVED
20 JAN 1945
U.N.R.R.A. (REGY.)

- 1- Relevé numérique des sujets alliés déplacés en Belgique.
- 2- Relevé statistique des Belges déplacés hors du pays.
(en Allemagne, en France, en Hollande, etc....)
- 3- Relevé des Belges déplacés à l'intérieur du pays.
 - a) à la suite de bombardement
 - b) à la suite de l'avance allemande.
- 4- Copie de la lettre adressée à Monsieur Van Zeeland concernant les Queen Messenger Canteens (22/12/44)
- 5- Réponse de Monsieur Van Zeeland (3/1/45)
- 6- Compte rendu d'un entretien avec des représentants, Branche D.P., de la Mission Militaire près du gouvernement belge.
- 7- Nomenclature des différentes tâches dont j'ai à m'occuper pour le moment.
- 8- Rapport concernant l'organisation du Commissariat belge au Rapatriement.
- 9 - Détermination des relations entre le Commissaire au Rapatriement et le Commissaire à la protection de la Population Civile en matière de P.D.
- 10 - Renseignements généraux



Par lettre, dont copie ci-jointe, j'ai demandé pouvoir obtenir les relevés statistiques en vue d'établir ces annexes.

Pour ne pas arrêter l'envoi des autres renseignements, je suis obligé de transmettre ce dossier sans pouvoir inclure les annexes précitées, le service du Commissariat n'ayant pas été à même jusqu'à présent de me faire parvenir les données requises.

29 décembre 1944

Copie

Cher Monsieur Leemans

Pourriez-vous avoir l'obligeance de me procurer les renseignements ci-après, le relevé statistique :

a) des sujets alliés déplacés se trouvant actuellement en Belgique (par nationalité) et localisation approximative.

b) le nombre de Belges déplacés à l'étranger à la suite des événements de guerre (par pays où ils se trouvent)

c) nombre de Belges (internal displaced) à la suite

1- des bombardements aériens (Anvers, Liège, etc...)

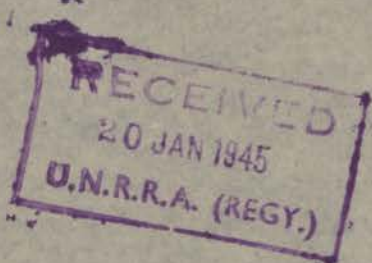
2- à la suite des opérations militaires en cours à la frontière de l'Est.

Bien vôtre,

A. Delierneux.

A Monsieur Leemans
4, Place du Petit Sablon
Bruxelles

22 décembre 1944

Copie de la lettre adressée à Monsieur Van Zeeland

Monsieur le Ministre,

Le Département de la Santé Publique via un de ses agents en fonction à Londres a demandé à UNRRA de fournir des ambulances et des Queen Messenger Convoys.

UNRRA a décidé de donner suite favorable à cette requête et de céder aux Autorités belges un certain nombre d'ambulances et deux Queen Messenger Canteens.

En ce qui concerne ces dernières, comme elles avaient été demandées pour servir aux personnes déplacées, UNRRA a mis comme condition qu'elles soient mises à la disposition du Commissariat belge au Rapatriement.

D'autre part, UNRRA demande que les autorités belges marquent leur accord pour qu'un technicien d'UNRRA soit autorisé à accompagner ces Queen Messenger Canteens pour veiller à leur entretien et à leur maintien en bon état de marche.

Monsieur le Haut Commissaire voudrait-il bien faire connaître s'il marque son accord.

Il est entendu que cet agent serait payé par UNRRA.

Pour le reste, le personnel de ces canteens serait composé de secouristes belges, en plus les frais d'entretien et de ravitaillement des Queen Messenger Canteens, seraient, aussi longtemps qu'elles opéreront en Belgique, à charge du Commissariat au Rapatriement.

Respectueusement dévoué,

A Monsieur Van Zeeland
Haut Commissaire au Rapatriement
4, Place du Petit Sablon
Bruxelles

A. Delierneux.

Bruxelles, le 3 - 1 - 1945

Réponse de Monsieur Van Zeeland

Monsieur,

Nous avons l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre du 22 courant, relative à la fourniture par l'UNRRA d'ambulances et de deux Queen Messengers Canteens.

Nous vous remercions vivement d'avoir mis, à la disposition du Commissariat belge au Rapatriement, ces deux Queen Messenger Canteens et nous ne doutons pas qu'elles ne nous rendent les plus grands services dans l'accomplissement de notre tâche.

Nous ne voyons pas d'inconvénient à ce qu'un technicien de l'UNRRA soit autorisé à accompagner ces Queens Messenger Canteens, aux frais de l'UNRRA, ainsi que vous le proposez. Nous vous marquons également notre accord au sujet du personnel de ces canteens qui sera donc composé de secouristes belges.

Sous réserve de ce qui précède, les frais d'entretien et de ravitaillement des Queens Messenger Canteens seront, aussi longtemps qu'elles opèrent en Belgique, à charge du Commissariat belge au Rapatriement.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'assurance de mes sentiments très distingués.

Le Commissaire au Rapatriement,
Par Délégation,
Le Directeur :

P. Wigny

Monsieur DELIERNEUX
Délégué d'UNRRA
Près du Commissariat belge
au Rapatriement
34, rue aux Laines
BRUXELLES

M E M O



Samedi 23 décembre 1944 - II $\frac{1}{2}$ heures.

Entretien avec le capitaine Walburg, branche D.P.
de la Mission Militaire près du Gouvernement Belge

Le Capitaine Walburg m'avait invité à le rencontrer.
Au cours de l'entretien que nous avons eu il me
parla de deux questions à savoir :

a) Il désirait connaître la nature de ma mission
près du Gouvernement belge et mes rapports vis-à-vis
de SHAEF. Il me posa les questions suivantes :

1- Question : En temps que agent de U.N.R.R.A.
en mission ici dépendez-vous de SHAEF ou du Gouver-
nement belge ou de U.N.R.R.A. Headquarters.

Réponse : de U.N.R.R.A. Headquarters.

European Regional Office, LONDON

2- Question : Comment considérez-vous vos rapports
avec SHAEF ?

Réponse : Je voudrais que ces rapports soient
aussi confiants et aussi cordiaux que possible et ce
tout spécialement avec la branche D.P., qui poursuit
en fait la même mission.

3- Question : Quelle est la nature de votre mission
actuelle ?

Réponse : Je suis ici comme conseiller des Auto-
rités belges en matière de D.P. Ce n'est donc pas
une mission d'opération, mais bien de conseil.
Je tiens à attirer l'attention sur le fait
qu'U.N.R.R.A. a été invité par le Haut Commandement
Militaire de mettre entre le 1er janvier et le
1er avril 1945, 200 équipes à sa disposition pour

gérer sous son égide des Assembly centers, ce qui prouve le désir réciproque de la collaboration et de cordiale entente. Il va de soi d'autre part qu'U.N.R.R.A. qui dans un stade ultérieur sera appelé à assumer une très large responsabilité dans l'action de rapatriement, doit pouvoir se préparer à faire face à cette tâche, en prenant dès à présent, aussi étroitement que possible contact avec la réalité des faits et l'action déjà en cours en ce domaine.

4- Question : Les rapports que vous envoyez à U.N.R.R.A. comment les transmettez-vous ?

Réponse : Ma mission actuelle est de telle nature, qu'elle n'entraîne guère la transmission de rapports.

5- Question : Si vous aviez à en transmettre, il serait de règle que cela se fasse par notre Canal et par SHAEF à Paris. SHAEF est, en effet, responsable de tout ce qui se passe ici et tout rapport envoyé d'ici devrait l'être après son consentement et sous son contrôle.

Réponse : C'est là une question qui relève des autorités supérieures, auxquelles il faudrait référer. Puis-je attirer l'attention sur le fait qu'U.N.R.R.A. est une vaste organisation internationale et que la résolution 34 relative à la correspondance officielle de l'administration a résolu

I- de recommander

1. que les gouvernements membres accordent à la correspondance officielle de l'administration : les mêmes facilités qu'ils accordent au courrier officiel des Gouvernements membres.

J'ai insisté à nouveau sur le point que pendant mon séjour ici je ferai tout en mon pouvoir pour que les rapports les plus confiants existent entre la mission militaire et moi-même.

Le second point dont le capitaine Walburg m'a entretenu est la nécessité de chercher à convaincre le Commissariat Belge de soumettre à la mission un plan d'ensemble de ses besoins. Actuellement ceci n'a pas été fait. On soumet trop souvent le problème d'une façon éparpillée. Je lui ai promis de signaler cette question à Monsieur Van Zeeland (ce que j'ai fait)

Le capitaine Walburg m'a signalé que le Brigadier General, qui a la branche D.P. dans sa responsabilité aimerait me voir. Une date a été fixée en vue de cet entretien : jeudi prochain II $\frac{1}{2}$ heures. -





Entretien de m. [nom] le 20 Jan 1945, avec le Brigadier General Bygod, Chef de la Branche D.P., Mission Militaire belge.

J'ai été très gentille^{ment} reçu par lui. La meilleure atmosphère a existé pendant tout l'entretien. A la question : quelle est la nature de votre mission j'ai répondu, que je me trouvais ici délégué par mon administration. Ce à la suite de la demande lui adressée par les Autorités belges; que ma mission était celle d'un conseiller U.N.R.R.A., près du Commissaire au Rapatriement belge; qu'il s'agissait donc nullement d'une mission d'opération, mais uniquement d'advice. Je ferai tout ce qui dépendrait de moi pour que la meilleure entente existe entre le délégué d'U.N.R.R.A. que je suis et la Branche D.P. de la Mission Militaire

Monsieur le Brigadier General de son côté a déclaré, qu'il était très heureux de cet état d'esprit et il m'a assuré qu'il avait toute sympathie pour l'action d'U.N.R.R.A. et qu'il comprenait très bien qu'U.N.R.R.A. ayant à reprendre tôt ou tard des mains de l'autorité militaire la responsabilité de rapatriement, il était indispensable que, dès à présent, une collaboration s'établisse entre U.N.R.R.A. et l'autorité militaire.

En conclusion, un très bon état d'esprit existe qui ne peut être que favorable à notre action, mais un désir très vif également, de la part de l'autorité militaire, que le délégué U.N.R.R.A. près du gouver-



nement ne fasse pas cavalier seul, mais travaille en étroite collaboration avec la Mission Militaire et la tient en confiance au courant de son activité.

Je crois que rien ne doit s'opposer à ce que ceci se passe, mais qu'au contraire, nous avons tout à y gagner.

Le Brigadier General m'a nettement laissé une impression qui n'avait aucune intention de chercher à nous mettre sous tutelle.

Bruxelles, le 29 décembre 1944

RECEIVED
20 JAN 1945
U.N.R.R.A. (REGT.)NOMENCLATURE DES DIFFERENTES TACHES DONT J'AI A M'OCCUPER
POUR LE MOMENT

1° - Rechercher et mettre au point la façon dont nous pourrions, dès à présent, préparer notre collaboration avec U.N.R.R.A. durant les deux ou trois périodes de l'organisation du rapatriement après l'avance des Alliés en Allemagne, à savoir :

- a) la période S.H.A.E.F. proprement dite,
- b) la période S.H.A.E.F. - U.N.R.R.A., c'est-à-dire celle durant laquelle U.N.R.R.A. sera chargé de certaines tâches par S.H.A.E.F.,
- c) la période U.N.R.R.A. proprement dite.

2° - Suivre les premières applications faites dans les services locaux des instructions qui viennent d'être provisoirement arrêtées. Eventuellement, suggérer les modifications de texte et de fond à ces instructions.

3° - Examiner avec les services compétents, la rédaction d'une sorte de vade-mecum dans lequel se trouveraient réunies les différentes instructions données aux communes, tant en ce qui concerne les diverses catégories de centres qu'en ce qui concerne le logement des évacués chez l'habitant

4° - Procéder graduellement à l'inspection des diverses catégories de centres que nous organisons et, en particulier, surveiller l'exécution des multiples opérations dans un camp de rassemblement.

5° - Rechercher, d'accord avec les services compétents, quelle est la fraction, nécessaire à une première tranche

de 100.000 hommes, des équipements et des vivres que nous pouvons obtenir en Belgique (coordination avec le Secours National et le Secours aux Sinistrés) et quelle est celle qui, ne pouvant être trouvée à l'intérieur du Pays, doit et peut être demandée avant tout, aux armées et, en ordre second, à U.N.R.R.A.

Je crois savoir que les armées alliées sont disposées à nous donner des vivres en boîtes et toute une série de petits objets d'équipement/ (par exemple, des couverts et des assiettes). Les deux objets nous seraient extrêmement précieux.

Mais l'armée ne désire agir que sur des demandes précises et justifiées.

Prière de collaborer à l'établissement de ces requêtes.

6° - Examiner l'épineuse question des évacués volontaires, de leurs rapports avec, soit le Commissariat à la Défense de la Population civile, soit le Commissariat au Rapatriement et rechercher si la répartition des attributions que nous avons proposée subit, avec succès, l'épreuve des faits.

LE COMMISSAIRE AU RAPATRIEMENT.

Paul Van Zeeland.



II - CE QUI EST REALISE A L'HEURE ACTUELLE

L'ensemble des services centraux fonctionne.

Le service d'inspection est en voie de création et les conseillers techniques ne sont que partiellement désignés.

Services extérieurs

Ils sont en voie de réalisation. Un certain nombre de conseils consultatifs provinciaux et de délégués en province restent à désigner. Peu de centres sont à l'heure actuelle organisés. La politique suivie par le Commissariat en cette matière est une de décentralisation.

Les centres d'accueil, d'hébergement et de rassemblement sont à organiser par l'autorité communale, locale et se trouvent sous le contrôle et la responsabilité du Bourgmestre de la commune.

Les centres à séjour prolongé, en principe, relèveront directement du Commissariat. Dans les uns comme dans les autres, il est fait un très large appel à la collaboration des oeuvres privées.

Certains centres existant actuellement et surtout des centres des deux premières catégories (a, b) sont complètement organisés par des oeuvres privées, telle par exemple la Croix Rouge à laquelle le Commissariat paie une somme forfaitaire par journée d'entretien pour chaque personne déplacée y envoyée par le Commissariat.

Le Commissariat rencontre de très grosses difficultés dans l'organisation de ses centres, du fait que les locaux dont elle pense pouvoir disposer à cet effet lui sont quasi toujours enlevés, aussitôt qu'on commence à les organiser par d'autres autorités. La priorité du droit de requisi-

tion est en effet entre les mains des autorités militaires. Très fréquemment, il arrive que celles-ci réquisitionnent les installations où le Commissariat avait commencé à placer des P.D.

D'autre part, Le Ministère de la Défense Nationale et le Ministère de Justice sont eux aussi à la recherche de locaux. La Défense Nationale pour y héberger des recrues belges. On reconstitue actuellement ici l'armée. On ne dispose pas de casernes, celles-ci étant toutes occupées par les troupes anglaises et américaines.

Le Ministère de la Justice a à interner des dizaines de milliers d'inciviques. Il n'y a pas de places dans les prisons, celles-ci étant archi-combles.

Certes, le Commissariat avait établi des plans détaillés des locaux à réquisitionner pour les P.D. mais entre le plan sur papier et la réalisation de fait, la pratique a montré qu'il y a du chemin : il y a loin de la coupe à la lèvres.

On peut voir ici sur le vif toute différence entre le planning et sa réalisation.

Si pour les opérations de rapatriement en Allemagne il n'y a pas un accord préalable en matière de droit de réquisition pour les besoins du rapatriement et si on en arrive à une situation semblable à celle qui existe ici, on risque d'aboutir à une situation calamiteuse.

C'est là une question qui ne peut trop retenir l'attention des autorités responsables.

Depuis ma première mission en Belgique, il y a de cela 2 mois, le problème des P.D. a pris ici une acuité plus grande du fait qu'il y a maintenant de nombreux "internal displaced" à la suite des bombardements^{aériens} violents.

de Liège et d'Anvers où journallement V1 et V2 tombent drus. Une partie considérable de la population de ces villes s'est évacuée, volontairement

D'autre part à la suite des événements militaires de ces derniers temps (réoccupation par les armées allemandes d'une partie des provinces de l'Est) il y a afflux vers l'intérieur des populations civiles, (les hommes de 15 à 50 ans qui cherchent à tous prix à échapper aux Allemands et sont du reste incités à ce faire, pour qu'ils puissent rejoindre les rangs de l'armée belge qui se réorganise.)

Tout ceci montre que la question des D.P. est réelle ici et qu'elle pose journallement de difficiles problèmes.

L'armée, branche D.P. et G5 cherchent à aider.

Trois groupes d'armée opèrent en Belgique. Elles suivent vis-à-vis de la question D.P. des politiques différentes.

L'une considère que cette question relève complètement des autorités belges.

Ils évacuent des D.P. de la zone de combat et d'opération et les passent dès lors au Commissariat.

L'autre groupe d'armée considère au contraire que cette question relève de sa propre et seule autorité et que c'est lui et rien qu'à lui qu'il a à prendre soin des P.D.

Le troisième groupe prend une position mitoyenne. Il considère que c'est de sa responsabilité de prendre soin dans le premier stade des D.P., d'organiser des Assembly Centres à l'arrière et de passer ces centres ensuite au Commissariat.

C'est cette dernière solution qui me semble être la plus effective et la plus logique.

Il serait naturellement désirable que les différents groupes d'armée adoptent une même procédure.

Je vais au cours de la semaine prochaine visiter ces différentes organisations existantes. Je pense pouvoir dès lors envoyer un rapport à ce sujet.

Pour organiser des centres et y faire fonctionner les différents services, le Commissaire belge se propose de recourir en principe à la collaboration d'oeuvres, d'organismes, ou d'entreprises particulièrement qualifiés.

C'est ainsi que les opérations sanitaires y seront accomplies par la Croix Rouge de Belgique, le Commissariat prenant à charge les dépenses (forfait par tête). L'alimentation sera en principe fournie à l'entreprise par des oeuvres privées s'en chargeant moyennant une somme forfaitaire par jour et par tête.

Le Service Social se fera dans la mesure du possible par des oeuvres sociales, etc...

Si les oeuvres privées ne sont pas en mesure de prêter pareil concours on aura recours aux Autorités publiques locales (services communaux, assistance publique, etc...) Le Commissariat n'interviendra directement que là où il y a carence ou déficience des oeuvres privées et des autorités locales.

Pour faire face aux responsabilités qui ainsi lui incomberont le Commissariat s'outillera en vue de disposer

a) du personnel

b) des stocks requis pour intervenir si besoin d'urgence

En vue de constituer ces réserves, le Commissariat dispose d'un budget autonome largement pourvu des fonds requis.

Il recrute du personnel. Il a d'autre part, *constitué* dans toute la mesure du possible des stocks en puisant dans les ressources locales, dans les stocks gouvernementaux et en ayant recours aux stocks des armées alliées. Les réserves qu'il a pu ainsi réaliser ne sont toutefois pas suffisantes pour faire face aux nécessités qui surgiront quand ^{le} rapatriement des P.D. en Allemagne s'effectuera.

20 JAN 1945

U.N.R.R.A. (REGY)

R A P P O R T

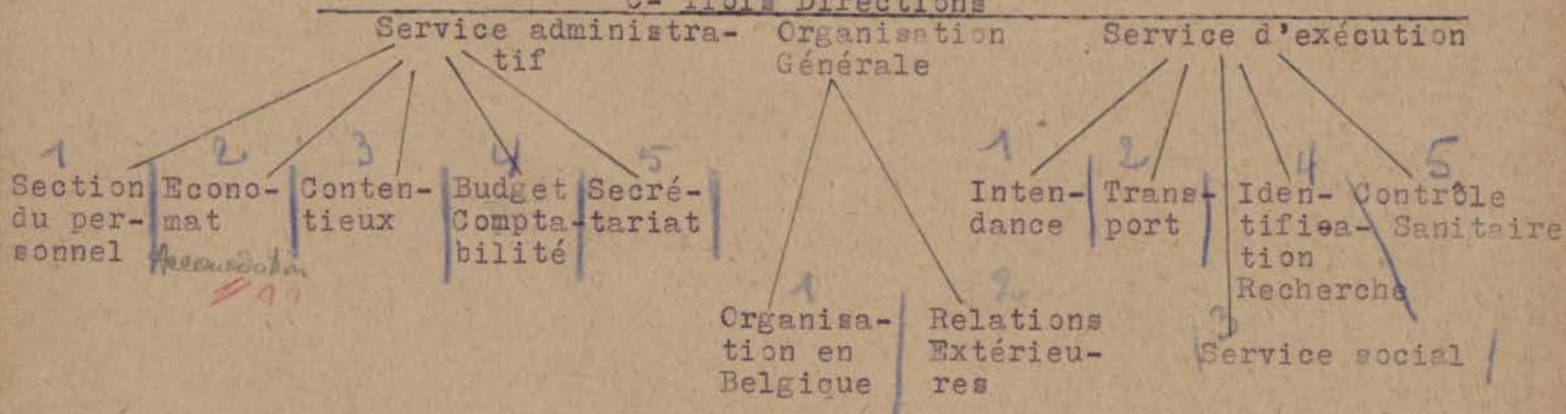
ORGANISATION DU COMMISSARIAT BELGE AU RAPATRIEMENT

I- ARMATURE *Chart*A. Commissaire au Rapatriement

(Monsieur van Zeeland)

Cabinet du Commissaire

- 1- Chef de Cabinet
(Monsieur Leemans)
- 2- Attaché de Cabinet
- 3- Secrétaires

B. Commissaires adjoints
(pas encore désignés)C- Trois DirectionsD- SERVICE d'INSPECTIONE- CONSEILLERS TECHNIQUESII - SERVICES EXTERIEURS

- A- Missions a) en Belgique
b) à l'étranger

- B- Services locaux: a) Comités provinciaux
b) Délégués en province

- c) Centres: a) accueil
b) hébergement (ou de passage)
c) rassemblement (séjour de quelques jours)
d) Séjour prolongé pour P.D. devant y séjourner tout un temps avant de pouvoir être rapatriés.



VILLES BOMBARDEES - EVACUATION POPULATION CIVILE

Le Commissariat à la protection des populations civiles aura la haute direction des évacuations. Il décidera le moment où elles devraient avoir lieu et les conditions auxquelles elles seront acquises. Il assurera les mesures d'exécution au lieu de départ et notamment les transports vers les lieux de destination.

Le Commissariat au Rapatriement aura la charge des déplacés par fait de guerre à compter de leur arrivée dans les lieux d'hébergement. Il prendra les mesures nécessaires pour en assurer l'hébergement, l'entretien et assurera leur retour dans leurs foyers dès que la chose sera possible.

La coordination sera maintenue entre les deux organisations.

RENSEIGNEMENTS GENERAUX

P.D. belges en France

Une mission belge est attachée au Ministère français du Rapatriement. Il y a six délégués régionaux belges en France.

Accord est intervenu entre les Autorités françaises avec l'approbation de SHATEF de rapatrier les Belges à la cadence de 100 par jour.

Angleterre

Monsieur Van Zeeland a vu les autorités anglaises en vue du rapatriement des Belges. Il a reçu promesse de coordination des autorités britanniques.

Monsieur Van Zeeland désirait obtenir qu'un bateau belge soit mis à sa disposition en vue d'effectuer le rapatriement de tous les Belges qui désireraient rentrer de divers côtés. On lui a fait valoir qu'il serait préférable de ne pas hâter le rapatriement des Belges occupés en Angleterre dans l'industrie de guerre, si pour des raisons particulières, il n'y avait pas urgence de leur retour au pays. En effet, ces travailleurs sont utiles en Grande Bretagne. Ils gagnent décemment leur vie, alors qu'en revenant ici ils seront réduits au chômage et se trouveront dans une situation certes moins favorable que celle dont ils jouissent en Angleterre, actuellement.

Belges en Suisse

Le Commissaire a désigné un délégué et lui a donné comme mission d'élaborer un plan de rapatriement.

Cuba et Brésil

Plan de rapatriement des Belges réfugiés dans ces pays a été demandé par le Commissaire au représentant diplomatique belge .

Russes déplacés en Belgique

A la demande des autorités russes, ces personnes déplacées seront à peu d'exceptions près réunies dans des camps. Pareil centre a été d'abord organisé près de Hal. On procède maintenant à l'aménagement du camp de Casteau qui leur sera spécialement affecté.

Accord bi-latéraux

Des accords^{et} bi-latéraux ont été signés ou sont en voie de signature avec la Hollande, la France et la Tschéco-slovaquie.

Rôle en Belgique de la mission CIVIL AFFAIRS.

Elle n'a pas d'autorité directe sur les centres.

Celle-ci est entre les mains du Commissaire au Rapatriement, ~~et~~^{et} à la frontière de l'Est(ce à la suite des derniers événements militaires) entre les mains du Commandant des troupes de cette zone.

Telle est la situation de principe. En fait d'accord avec le Commissaire, la mission Civil Affairs fonctionne temporairement comme délégué du Commissaire, en attendant que ce dernier reprenne progressivement en mains les Assembly centres. *- Ce qui est en voie de réalisation -*

Ceci bien entendu en dehors de la zone d'opération.

En plus, la mission assume son rôle normal en Belgique, c'est-à-dire celui de liaison entre le Commissariat et les autorités militaires.

Belges en Amérique du Nord et Amérique du Sud

Monsieur Van Zeeland négocie avec les autorités de ces pays pour hâter le rapatriement des Belges réfugiés dans ces pays et pour assurer un retour rapide de certains d'entre eux, notamment des professeurs belges d'Université, qui ont émigré en 1940.

(Copy.) MK

RECEIVED

8 JAN 1945

UNRRA (S-7)
Supreme Headquarters,
Allied Expeditionary Force,
Mission (Belgium),
24a, Boulevard du Régent,
BRUSSELS.

13 Dec. 1944.

CONFIDENTIAL.

SMB/G-5/1031

Subject: Belgian Missing Persons Information
Service.

Dear Ben,

1. This letter is in preliminary answer to your inquiry dated December 8, 1944 regarding Belgian services for finding and furnishing information relative to persons missing or displaced. A full report will be prepared when present tentative plans of the Office of the Commissioner for Repatriation are firmed up.
2. The only organization functioning in Belgium at present in this field is a branch of the Red Cross called Bureau de Recherches de Civils, 9, rue d'Egmont, BRUSSELS, Mr. Jean MASURE, Administrator. The Office of the Belgian Commissioner for Repatriation has tentative plans for establishing a service, but these plans are not yet firmed up.
3. The Bureau de Recherches de Civils was established in 1940 to meet a wartime need. It deals only with civilians whose lives have been affected by the war. It has information on every civilian killed or injured through war causes and has now the names of 60,000 such persons in its files. Contacts with persons in German territory are through the International Red Cross; contacts with persons in Allied territory are through the Red Cross organization in those countries.
4. At present, all missing persons' matters, except conventional Ministry of Justice concerns, are referred to and handled by the Bureau de Recherches de Civils. It is the plan of the Belgian Government, however, to set up a missing persons' bureau as part of the Office of the Commissioner for Repatriation.

Yours

(signed)

D.R. Trevithick.

To: Mr. Benjamin E. Youngdahl,
UNRRA Liaison Officer,
SHAEF Main,
G-5 Division.

G-5 Division
SHAEF Main,
Central Registry,
Date: 14 Dec. 1944
N° 40374/2122/1

DRT/mrl

Telephone :

LANGHAM 3090

Ely: 12-67

Reference.....FCK/YD.....

Your Ref.....

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION,

EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE,

11, PORTLAND PLACE,

LONDON, W.1

INDEXED

65 Avenue des Champs-Élysées,
Paris

December 27th 1944

From: Mr. F.C.Kettle.
To : Mr. F.K.Hoehler.

Subject : Belgian Missing Persons
Information Service.

RECEIVED

3 JAN 1945

R.R.A. (REG)

In accordance with your recent request, I am sending three copies of the attached memorandum sent to Mr. B.E.Youngdahl by Mr. D.R. Trevithick of the SHAEF Mission to Belgium.

Copies have been made and retained for Mr.Youngdahl and for the Paris Office.

Fletcher C. Kettle

Fletcher C.Kettle
Acting Head.

3 copies enclosed.

COMMISSARIAT BELGE

au

RAPATRIEMENT

D./L.P.

Bruxelles, le 22 décembre 1944
4, Place du Petit Sablon



Cher Monsieur Scott,

Je suis installé à mon travail près de Monsieur Van Zeeland et ai un bureau, 34, rue aux Laines près de la Place du Petit Sablon.

Monsieur Van Zeeland m'a chargé, pour commencer, des tâches que voici :

- I) Donner mon avis sur questions ci-après
 - A) Projet de règlement organique du Commissariat belge au Rapatriement;
 - B) Instructions particulières :
 - a) Assembly centers;
 - b) Centres de triage et d'hébergement;
 - c) Centres de séjour prolongé;
 - d) Service d'Intendance;
 - e) Service Social;
 - f) Service d'Identification, etc...

C) Monsieur Van Zeeland m'a demandé de donner mon avis et de m'occuper personnellement, d'un vaste assembly center à créer à Casteau, près de Mons, en vue d'y héberger environ 10.000 D.P.

D) Il m'a demandé d'inspecter tous les centres déjà existants, spécialement ceux le long de la frontière et de lui faire rapport, quant à leur organisation et leur fonctionnement.

Je m'entends très bien avec Monsieur Van Zeeland, qui est très heureux d'avoir un conseiller UNRRA près de lui et qui m'emploie à fond. Monsieur Van Zeeland est des plus gentils à mon égard.

Il y a ici une vaste tâche à accomplir et un conseiller d'UNRRA peut se rendre des plus utiles, à condition de posséder toutes les compétences techniques requises.

Monsieur Van Zeeland est un travailleur, homme très capable et expéditif et demande des solutions nettes et pratiques.

Monsieur Van Zeeland m'a marqué son accord pour que un 'technical adviser' accompagne les deux Queen Messenger Convoys. C'est donc là ~~une~~ chose réglée. Il va adresser une demande formelle à UNRRA pour obtenir d'autre part d'urgence, 6 flying squads.

A Monsieur Scott
Directeur "Displaced Persons"
UNRRA - European Regional Office
170, Great Portland street
London (Angleterre)

Le problème des D.P. (population déplacée à l'intérieur du pays) devient grave.

Anvers et Liège sont violemment bombardées. L'une par des V2, l'autre par des VI. La situation est assez tendue actuellement, comme certes vous le savez.

Il y a du travail tout plein ici, travail à accomplir dans des conditions loin d'être faciles.

Quand la mission belge viendra ici, elle trouvera certes une besogne utile. Je conseille que cette mission soit mise en uniforme. Elle aura ainsi plus facile à accomplir sa fonction et du point de vue matériel, (logement et ravitaillement) elle pourra mieux s'en tirer. La question logement et ravitaillement est en effet loin d'être aisée à résoudre.

En uniforme, les autorités militaires lui ~~porteraient~~ un certain concours, ce qui ne serait pas vrai si elle était en civil et avait à rester ici pour une longue durée.

J'espère, cher Monsieur Scott, que vous vous portez bien, que votre voyage à Paris a été fructueux.

Veuillez de ma part, présenter de bonnes choses à tous les collègues, à Monsieur Hoehler et croyez-moi votre bien dévoué.

Je vous souhaite un heureux Christmas. Le mien consistera en travail et c'est tout.

Bien vôtre,



Delierneux

Post-scriptum : les documents remis à Monsieur Crabe (Travel Section, Portland Place, II) pour m'être envoyés ici via courrier diplomatique, ambassade britannique à Bruxelles, ne sont toujours pas arrivés. J'en ai un besoin urgent. Vous ~~devriez vous~~ faire informer auprès de Monsieur Crabe au sujet des raisons de ce retard. (

ne pourriez

COPY

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

*Original held by
Mr. Hoehler.
(Sent direct).*

MOST SECRET

DP-4/4

FROM: D.R. Trevithick
Supreme Headquarters,
Allied Expeditionary Force Mission (Belgium)
24A Boulevard du Regent,
BRUSSELS.

16th November, 1944.

SMB/G-5/1030

Subject: Report on D.P. Situation in Belgium

RECEIVED

28 NOV 1944

U.N.R.A. (REGY.)

Dear Mr. Hoehler,

1. The displaced persons problem continues to be very small in terms of numbers of persons. It is, however, complex, primarily because of the reasons set forth later in this report.
2. The proposed evacuation of people from the Netherlands into Belgium has been cancelled. However 4,000 insane persons have been evacuated from Dutch institutions into Belgian institutions.
3. The German nationals evacuated by the 1 US Army in Liege Province from the combat zone are being returned as the front lines move forward.
4. According to the most accurate statistics available just now, there are in Belgium at present the following displaced persons:
 - (a) Dutch: 15,000 billeted in Antwerp Province.
 - (b) Russians: 6,000 from Limbourg and Liege area, for whom centres are being set up at Halle.
 - (c) German: 7,000 awaiting repatriation from the Liege area.
 - (d) Others: about 100 in a transit camp at Verviers.
5. As of 6 Nov 44, there were 721 persons of mixed nationality, chiefly Russians, being cared for in 8 centres under direction of the Belgian Red Cross. These are included in the total figure of 6,000 shown in (b) above.
6. The small displaced persons problem which has existed, has been complicated by the following factors:
 - (a) Belgium is divided into a number of military jurisdictions, which makes the movement of displaced persons across jurisdictional lines very difficult.
 - (b) There have been different basic philosophies of the function of the military in handling displaced persons as between the British Zone and the U.S. Zone.
 - (c) The responsibilities of the various groups concerned with displaced persons, both military and civilian, have not been clear.
 - (d) There has not been a clearly defined and reliable system for compiling and reporting essential information about displaced persons.
 - (e) Facilities and equipment planned for use in handling displaced persons have been preempted by the military.
 - (f) The question of displaced Russians, who make up most of the displaced persons groups, has been very unclear.
 - (g) The shortage of supplies and of transportation has made it impossible to give proper care to displaced persons.
 - (h) Most of the advanced planning for handling displaced persons was based on a collapse formula.

7. At a general conference held in Brussels on 8 Nov. 1944, most of the above listed problems were discussed and some decisions were reached which may have considerably good effect.

8. So far as Belgium is concerned, the displaced persons problem is, and will probably continue to be, a matter of handling people in four groups:

- (a) Displaced persons uncovered within Belgium itself. Since the country is now totally liberated, most of the persons in this category have already been found. Some have been returned or will soon be returned to their countries of residence. Others, especially East Europeans, will need long term care in camps.
- (b) Returning Belgians. These groups will need only short term processing attention and will be dispersed quickly into their own communities, except those who will arrive at the border in disorganised masses.
- (c) Persons intruded into Belgium from Germany, Holland, or Luxembourg because of military necessity. Despite the fact that the plan is to discourage the movement of displaced persons across national boundaries except into their countries of residence, it is evident on basis of experience thus far, that an opposed advance will result in large numbers of persons coming back, or being thrust back, into Belgium. Many in this group will need billeting or camp care for some time.
- (d) French and Dutch displaced persons in transit. Persons in this category can probably be organised where found, and sent by truck or train directly to their own countries.

9. If the opposed advance is continued for some distance into Germany, and if the present plan for handling displaced persons in Germany is applied, the displaced persons problem in Belgium will be essentially one of:

- (a) Providing a few centres for a small number of persons, chiefly East Europeans, who will need long term care. This group should not exceed 20,000 at any one time.
- (b) Setting up some stations at the German-Belgian frontier to process and organise those who come to the border as unorganised trekkers.
- (c) Providing canteen service and rest facilities for those Dutch and French who will cross Belgium in organised transit.

10. The Belgian authorities are now compiling information about facilities which are available for handling displaced persons and are drawing up a plan to be submitted to the military for approval. On basis of this plan, certain facilities will be earmarked for displaced persons use in both forward and rear areas.

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd.) D.R. TREVITHICK.

Mr. F.K. Hoehler,
American Embassy - UNRRA,
APO 413,
c/o Postmaster, N.Y.