

BALKAN MISSION WEEKLY REPORT

No. 9

(29th - 3rd. February, 1945)

The major question of UNRRA's operations in relation to ML were the subject of discussions with Generals Hughes and Sadler who spent most of the week in Cairo. They met the heads of Bureaus and Divisions of the Balkan Mission and also addressed members of the Greece Mission in Cairo.

News from the Yugoslav Mission during the week was of active preparation for entering Yugoslavia with ML and 2 UNRRA personnel - a doctor and a warehouseman - landed at Dubrovnik on 2nd February.

One of the main tasks of the Bureau of Finance and Administration during the week was furthering the plans for liquidating the Balkan Mission. Meeting of heads of Divisions were held to consider the organisational plan and staff requirements of the Middle East Mission which will cover the operation of repatriation of refugees and displaced persons in the Middle East and the purchase of supplies in this region. The recommendations of the bureaus and divisions about the transfer of their personnel to the country missions, the Middle East Mission and the E.R.O. were received, though the lack of information about vacancies existing in E.R.O. made consideration of certain individual cases somewhat difficult.

On the personnel side instructions were prepared on the budget for the second quarter of 1945 for country mission for the Middle East Mission and discussions on the preparation for the budget were held with the bureaus and divisions; improved procedures were instituted in the Personnel Division for control of budget vacancies and new appointments; and revisions were made in the system of leave and attendance records to ensure proper reporting and coordination with pay rolls. The "Personnel Regulations for Field Service" were printed and are being distributed to the staff and the "Employees Compensation Plan" is also being printed for distribution. The attitude of the staff to the proposed change in policy on separation allowances, which has been discussed with staff groups, has been reported to Washington. Negotiations were conducted with USAFIME about the Army order withdrawing American APO privileges. The initial attitude of USAFIME was that "condition of service" approved by C.C.A.C. had never been officially transmitted to this theatre and that in any event the text presented by UNRRA to USAFIME provided for APO only if no civil address were available and then only at the discretion of the theatre commander. Efforts were made to clarify this situation and to persuade USAFIME that APO should not be withdrawn.

The Deputy Director of the Public Relations Division reported from Rome that he had discussed the future of public relations with Mr. Shelby Thompson, from Washington. Mr. Fields of the Division will return from Rome upon the arrival there, about February 10, of Mr. Seward, the Public Relations Officer for Italy. Mr. Morrell, Chief of Albanian Public Relations, departed from Rome for Bari after making arrangements with the Director of A.E.H.Q. Public Relations for the prompt release of press material sent out from Bari.

Further press material was despatched to Washington during the week: a picture and feature story of the Commandant of the Maadi Training Camp, Mrs. Jennings-Bramly, with a full set of pictures of the Camp; and a story of Lt. Col. Catherine Dodge, received from the Greece Mission.

The Division photographer and a reporting officer went to Moses Wells Refugee Camp during the week and did a two-day coverage of the camp; the pictures are now being developed. Printing of the set of pictures of Alexandria Fishery Station taken last week was held up through lack of printing paper.

The satisfaction of the Division over the acquisition of the Reuter's ticker machine reported last week was short-lived, as permission to retain the machine was withdrawn before it could be installed.

Mr. Felix Dospil, Chief of the European Section of the Inland Transport Division of the Bureau of Areas, arrived from Washington on temporary detail to assist the Bureau of Distribution and Transport with transport problems in Greece, and will proceed to Athens shortly. The Bureau staff was increased by two new arrivals from the United States: Mr. Gilbert Marick, Assistant Chief Transport Officer, and Mr. Leonard Von Spach, Distribution Officer. Word was received that Mr. Ernest Mill arrived safely at Syros, to take up his duties as Distribution Officer in No. 5 District, Greece. The men awaiting transportation to Bari to join the Yugoslav Mission for immediate service in the field were unable to depart this week, but it is hoped that their departure may be arranged shortly. A request was received from the Deputy Chief of the Yugoslav Mission for seven additional men to be sent by sea on the next convoy, and for an additional four men to be held in readiness in Cairo.

Repairs to the Hospital Caique "Imorra" were completed at Cyprus, and she proceeded on her way to Syros, where her arrival is expected at any moment.

The work of the members of the Warehousing Section in the warehouses of Camps Division is progressing well and should be completed within the next few days.

Dr. H. van Zide Hyde, Senior Surgeon (R), U.S.P.H.S. took over as Director of the Health Division on February 1. Dr. Kirk left for Athens on February 4th to take up duty as Principal Medical Officer of the Greece Mission on January 30th. Dr. Newberry, U.S.P.H.S. took up duty as Principal Medical Officer of the Camps Division.

The Director held the first of a series of regular staff meetings on 1st. February. Together with members of the Division he held several conferences with the Field Director of the U.S.A., Typhus Commission and his staff developing a cooperative understanding under plan for specific cooperation in Jugoslavin.

Outlines of duties of district medical officers and of district sanitary engineers were prepared and the latter submitted to Col. Wright in Athens for comment. These will be sent to all missions for their general guidance and to Washington and London.

The Director of the Welfare Division left Cairo on January 30, to confer in Athens with the Chief of the Mission and the Director of Welfare for Greece on question relating to the use of personnel and the need for additional personnel -

including Voluntary Society units - if Welfare is to participate in the distribution program.

A week's orientation course was given at Maadi Camp for approximately 40 British Voluntary Society team members who had arrived in Cairo subsequent to December 28, 1944. The training program is under the supervision of Mr. Harry E. White, Field Welfare Officer with the Greek Mission on loan to the Welfare Division. The course was opened by the Acting Director of the Welfare Division, who gave the background of UNRRA, the development of welfare plans for country missions, and a summary of the present state of relationships of the Voluntary Societies to UNRRA to the military and to the country missions.

In connection with the reorganization of the Balkan Mission, the Welfare Division has submitted the proposal that a Director of Welfare be attached to the Office of the Chief of the Middle East Mission in an advisory capacity, and to serve as consultant on the welfare program - to Displaced Persons and Camps Operations Divisions, as well as to act as liaison with foreign Voluntary Societies operating in the Middle East area. The Welfare Division suggests that one person with one secretary could perform these functions, provided appropriate numbers of welfare personnel are on the Camps Operations budget and attached to the Displaced Persons Division for services to refugees at the time of repatriation. Excellent cooperation with the Welfare Division exists in the joint planning for camps operations and for repatriation of displaced persons, and the plans as outlined appear to cover the necessary welfare services.

The Working Party, composed of representatives of the displaced Persons, Camps Operations, Welfare and Health Divisions, which was established to develop plans for movement of refugees, presented its preliminary report to Functional Divisions on February 3. A copy of the report will be forwarded when completed in final form. The Committee approached its problem from the standpoint of the needs of persons to be repatriated while in transit and at the point of disembarkation. The immediate objective was to establish the type of organization and amount of personnel necessary in this particular geographical area, with all its problems of distance and complicated transportation arrangements. The voluminous technical and factual material compiled was carefully studied. Limiting comments to those which effect welfare, it was agreed that, generally speaking, one Chief Welfare Officer and one Assistant would be needed for each group. Movements involving only able-bodied persons would require only one Chief Welfare Officer, but on the other hand, for movements involving only women with small children or old people as many as four or five Assistant Welfare Officers might be needed, depending upon the type of transport and the distance. The report of the Working Party, which included standards also for Health and other personnel, was accepted, and appropriate action is being taken to incorporate the needs for this phase of the UNRRA program in the plans for the Middle East Mission organization and budget.

The Welfare Division is making an analysis of all personnel at present in the Middle East, whether assigned to country missions or not, with a view to determining exact total needs for welfare services, as it is believed that the program of the Camps Operations Division has never provided for adequate staff for this purpose. The analysis will be completed within a few days, and recommendations in the matter of personnel will then be made.

Because of the needs of the Army, it will be necessary to abandon Camp "H" at Maadi on February 6, and only Camp "B" will thereafter be available for reception and training of Voluntary Society teams. It has been planned to integrate the staff of "H" Camp with that of "B" Camp, and establish a new budget for "B" Camp, with resultant savings. The transfer of all personnel from "H" Camp to "B" Camp will be completed prior to February 13. The Army has agreed to do the necessary alterations at "B" Camp.

One of the two officers of the Displaced Persons Division who journeyed to Palestine and Iran last week to make a survey and select a location for the district office, was recalled to Cairo to take up his duties in the Yugoslav Mission from which he was on loan; but the other officer remained to complete the survey.

Another officer has gone to Iran to assist in the registration of Poles, and thence he will proceed to India to initiate the registration there.

Greek Refugees at Moses Wells Camp who did not at first desire to be repatriated to Greece have been interviewed, and the officer who carried on this investigation reported that the majority had now changed their minds and were anxious to return to their country. Several days have been spent by officers of the Division registering ex-military Greek personnel at Camp Cabrit and at Abassia.

Mr. Sominicki has joined the staff of the Division to assist in the registration of refugees in East Africa, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, and the Union of South Africa.

The Camps Operations Division reports that an instruction - approved by the Military Postal Censorship Authorities - has been prepared for issue to the camps. This instruction will obviate delays and other difficulties which have occurred in connection with refugee mail.

The supplies to in Weekly Report No. 7 are now being distributed to the camps in accordance with a carefully considered allocation list.

The transfer of UNRRA Cairo warehouse from Camps Operations Division to the Middle East Bureau of Requirements and Supplies took place on February 1.

Two members of the Yugoslav Mission recently returned from Bari have been assigned to make a special survey of child welfare services at El Shatt Refugee Camp. Their findings should assist the formulation of future requirements for all camps, and should also help to improve the child welfare training program.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Balkan Mission was held on Friday, February 2nd, 1945 at 4.30 P.M. at King's Hotel.

THE FOLLOWING Directors and staff members were present:

Mr. Miller	Mr. Patterson	Miss Cozens-Hardy
Lt. Col. Webb	Mr. Young	Miss Simeon
Mr. Beck	Mr. Roseman	Lt. Col. Livingstone
Mr. Pierce	Lord Norbury	Mr. Hoddinott
Lt. Col. Hyde	Col. Balfour	Mr. Barnes
Mr. Scranton	Mr. Irwin	Lt. Col. Wilkinson
Mr. Haskell	Miss Flexner	Mr. Vassiliou
Mr. Tonkinson	Miss Gifford	Miss Gilruth

Mr. MILLER called the meeting to order and acted as chairman thereof.

1. Mr. ROSEMAN reported that the Committee for Enforcement of Administrative Orders, Attendance of Staff, etc. had had only one meeting and would report further later, but recommended at this time:

- 1) That the existing memoranda be modified, indexed and reissued and sent to all Bureaus of the Balkan Mission and to the Country Missions.
- 2) That administrative memoranda be issued in sets:
 - a. Standing orders - uniform orders involving disciplinary action.
 - b. Memoranda not involving disciplinary action.
- 3) That special books be provided for administrative memoranda and each Division, Bureau and Mission maintain complete sets and periodic check be made to insure their being maintained.
- 4) When disciplinary action is necessary the following steps should be taken:
 - a. Deputy divisional director shall issue a warning.
 - b. A written warning shall be issued.
 - c. Divisional director shall make recommendation to the Chief of Mission as to what action might be taken.

ACTION

That this preliminary report shall be distributed and discussed at the next meeting.

2. THE SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT of the Committee on Office Hours, Transportation, etc. was presented by Lt. Col. Livingstone. He recommended that when Saturday morning is taken as leave it shall be considered as a full day of leave. Discussion disclosed that this was the regular in U.K. and U.S. Government offices.

ACTION

UPON MOTION of Lt. Col. Livingstone seconded by Mr. Pierce and carried, IT WAS ORDERED that leave taken on Saturday morning be considered as a full day's leave.

Lt. Col. Livingstone reported further that the matter of types of uniforms to be worn was recommended and stated that an Administrative Order would be drawn covering the uniforms to be worn, which would be presented to the next meeting of the Board of Directors for consideration;

That the matter of issuing supplies from the stockroom was being checked into;

That Conditions of Service for local employees had been issued and would be sent to each employee.

3. BUDGET AND BUDGET PROCEDURE was discussed by Lt. Col. Livingstone. He stated that country mission budget should be submitted by the country missions for approval to the Balkan Mission. He further stated that it was assumed that they had been cleared by the Departments and Divisions before being submitted. It was pointed out that this had not always been done and it was suggested that the Balkan Mission send them to the Division for clearance when submitted by the country missions. Miss Gifford, Mr. Pierce and Lt. Col. Livingstone were directed to bring in a recommendation as to how this should be accomplished.

Action

4. ADMINISTRATIVE ORDERS A-69, A-74 and A-76 were submitted, with a statement that they had been issued the previous week, and were approved.

Order A-77 was submitted and it was suggested it be amended to include a transportation schedule for the Camps Division, and a schedule for duty officers.

Action

Order F-8, Item 5, was discussed and referred to Lt. Col. Livingstone for further consideration.

Order A-70 was discussed and recommended it be considered further.

Action

Order A-78 was discussed and recommended it be considered further, with suggestions to be submitted to Lt. Col. Livingstone not later than Wednesday.

5. THE CHAIRMAN stated that a new telephone directory had been issued and any comments or suggested changes should be referred to Lt. Col. Wilkinson.

UPON MOTION of Col. Balfour, duly seconded and carried, the Board of Directors expressed its appreciation to Miss Devons for her work in making the issuance of the Telephone Directory possible.

Action

6. Lt. Col. WILKINSON stated that a schedule of duty officers would be posted. It was suggested that each duty officer should be provided with a card record.

7. Col. BALFOUR stated that a Memorandum of January 30th had been issued on the Reorganization of the Balkan Mission and he asked for comments. It was pointed out that a 25% reduction in the budget had been requested. Mr. Balfour pointed out that the question of records and files was important and that those Divisions concerned should concentrate on insuring that their representatives in country missions are adequately supplied with records and files.

8. Mr. ROSEMAN presented the report of the Committee on Salary Differential. He stated that a cable had been sent to Washington pointing out the differential in salary between recruits from London and those from Washington, and asking that the classification and salary scale be made uniform. He further stated that a reply had been received to the effect that the basic policy should continue, that the salary scale should be in line with the scale prevailing in their country and not the scale of the country with the highest scale. Messrs. Pierce, Young and Tonkinson were appointed as a Committee to consider this matter further and report.

Action

THE CHAIRMAN reported that General Hughes and General Sadler had been in Cairo and had met with the Greece Mission.

9. Mr. IRWIN reported that UNRRA associated with ML is now operating in Yugoslavia, that next week a large party would probably leave Bari.

Mr. HASKELL reported on the Albanian situation, stating that at the present time the situation was not too clear, that the Generals had not reached an agreement on Albania but that if Yugoslavia went forward Albania might be willing to.

Lt. Col. Hyde reported on the medical facilities available to UNRRA personnel in Cairo.

UPON MOTION duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned.

Central Registry

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

8, SHARIA DAF EL-SHIFA-GARDEN CITY- CAIRO

Balkan Mission - 271

CAMA:977

7th March, 1945.

To: Deputy Director General,
Bureau of Areas,
UNRRA
Washington, D.C.

FROM: Office of Chief of Balkan Mission,
Cairo.

Subject: Weekly Report 18 - 24 February, 1945.

Attached are two copies of the twelfth weekly progress report of the Balkan Mission for the week ended 24th February, 1945, together with copies of the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 23rd February, 1945 and Special Meeting of the Board of Directors held on 20th February, 1945. Also attached is a list of cables received from Washington since 20th February and action taken.

During that week the following additional reports etc. were sent to Washington.

Office of Chief of Mission: Intelligence Reports Nos.37-51
Provisional Accounts as att
30th December 1944.

Middle East Supply Bureau: Report on Turkish supply possibilities.

Health Division: Report on Nutrition in Greece
Memorandum on Sanitary Engineering Programme
Report on Camps Nursing Services
Report of Chief of Nursing Section for December and January.
Supplementary Report on Nutritional Status of Refugees at Mascirat Camp.

Report on Typhoid, Paratyphoid and health of refugees in desert camps.
report of Sanitary Engineering Section for January, 1945.

Welfare Division: Progress Report No.18

Division on Displaced Persons: Special Report No.5 (taken by hand).

For Chief of Balkan Mission.

Encs.

BALKAN MISSION WEEKLY REPORT.NO.12

(18th - 24th February 1945)

The Chief of the Balkan Mission was in Caserta during the week, attending the conference with Messrs Hendrickson and Xanthaky. They left for Athens at the end of the week. The Senior Deputy Chief of Mission returned to Cairo after discussing UNRRA's distribution arrangements in Greece.

A conference was held by the Bureau of Finance and Administration with the First Secretary of the British Embassy to Egypt, to decide the means of making a further approach to the Egyptian Government about the Egyptian contribution to UNRRA. However, with the assassination of the Prime Minister and the subsequent change in Government it is unlikely that any action can be taken on this question by the Egyptian Government at the moment.

Conferences were held with GHQ, Middle East, about the release of British Army personnel for UNRRA operations in the Middle East and for work in the Balkans. As a result of these conferences additional military personnel are being made available for specific vacancies in the Middle East Mission.

Discussions on the local currency budget for the Greece Mission were held with the Deputy Chief for Finance and Administration and other officials of the Greece Mission; and further attempts were made to expedite the submission of second quarter budgets by the country missions.

A full review of all UNRRA transport in the Middle East is being completed preparatory to assignment of additional vehicles to the Greece and Yugoslav Missions.

Personnel record cards for the Balkan, Albania and Greece Missions were completed during the week, and it is hoped that cards for the Yugoslav Mission will be completed shortly. These records will permit the reporting of the personnel statistics which Washington has requested.

Substantial progress was made during the week in moving the remaining members of the Greece Mission to Greece, but difficulties are still being encountered in obtaining clearances from HQ for personnel of the Yugoslav and Albanian Missions. As soon as these clearances are obtained - possibly within the next fifteen days - it is hoped to move the majority of the country missions personnel.

Administrative orders were issued during the week on censorship of travellers' documents (amendment), censorship of private mail, reporting to Health Division in accordance with International Quarantine Regulations, and claims for taxi fares.

Mr. Morrell of the Public Relations Division returned to Cairo on a short visit and gave details of the stories he had placed with various representatives of the world press and radio on the subject of UNRRA's entry into Yugoslavia. He reported that the channelling of press material from Bari via Rome was now proceeding smoothly.

A story was cabled to Washington and London on the commendation of UNRRA personnel at Bari by the Commanding Officer of the 15th Air Force for their gallantry in the rescue of some survivors of an air crash. The task of captioning the set of 130 photographs of El Shatt Refugee Camp was completed and the photographs despatched to Washington. The story on Moses Wells Refugee Camp mentioned in last week's report was sent to Washington and Greece.

Some good pictures of the departure of the first 1200 Yugoslav Partisans from the Middle East were taken by an unofficial photographer, and five of

2.
these were selected for printing and distribution. Refugee pictures were also provided to Reuter's Cairo Office for distribution in the Middle East with an UNRRA story. The Division photographer returned with a good picture coverage of Museirat Camp, and a start was made on covering the activities of the Displaced Persons Division for a news story and picture feature.

A lecture on UNRRA was delivered by a Public Relations Officer to senior military personnel at B.T.E., and two further talks have been requested. Another officer of the Division gave a talk on the background of UNRRA to the editors of the British Inter-Services Publication Board (publishers of magazines in English, Arabic, French, Greek, Polish and Serbo-Croat), as a result of which the R.A.F. Press Officer has prepared a short pamphlet on the functions, aims and progress of UNRRA for distribution among R.A.F. personnel in the Middle East. Great interest was also shown in the pictorial possibilities of UNRRA's work in Greece and Yugoslavia, and the Director of the Board requested to send a photographer to cover stories as soon as there was a change of getting into Yugoslavia or the Greek islands.

The 8th issue of the Staff Sheet (back of its mimeographed form) was distributed during the week.

Mr. Felix Despil, Chief of the European Section of the Island Transport of the Bureau of Areas, who arrived in Cairo a couple of weeks ago to assist the Bureau of Distribution and Transport with transport problems in Greece, has been assisted by the Reports Section, preparatory to his departure for Greece, in gaining background and current information on his subject.

The following personnel from the Industrial Rehabilitation Division who had been offered to the Yugoslav Mission have been called forward to Bari: Mr. Lelieux, civil engineer; Mr. Jeffers, lining engineer; and Mr. William Tallor, architect and assistant engineer. The last named is a welfare society worker who has had experience in emergency housing in the United States; he is on loan to UNRRA and will receive no salary from UNRRA but only allowance of facilities in kind. All are awaiting AFHQ approval. The question of the Directorship of Industrial Rehabilitation for Greece is still in abeyance. A reply is awaited from Athens on the suggested assignments to the Greece Mission of Mr. Kornhaber, textile plant specialist, and of Mr. Paul Saar, electric and mechanical engineer.

The Director of the Agricultural Rehabilitation Division has left Athens and is now in Bari conferring with the Directors of the Agricultural Divisions of the Yugoslavia and Albania Missions. Most of the Division's personnel in the Cairo Office are awaiting transportation to proceed to their missions.

Further work has clarified the present Health Division personnel picture in the Middle East and the Balkans.

Discussions have been held between Mr. Musson, Acting Deputy Director of the Division, and General Fox and his staff on the present operations of the U.S.A. Typhus Commission in Yugoslavia and plans for UNRRA's participation in its program. Arrangements have been made for Dr. Musson to study clinical findings in the typhus fever wards and laboratory of the Fever Hospital at Abbassia, which is also making available to him its files and case records. He also spent some time with the staff of the Typhus Commission making a field study in two villages outside Cairo where outbreaks of the fever have occurred. The Commission has made arrangements for a typhus course to be given in Cairo, and a request has been made to Washington for five additional medical officers to be sent here to attend the course.

Conferences have been held in an attempt to satisfy the Egyptian Government's request that Mosos Wells Camp be released or alternative quarantine facilities be made available, and the Director of Health visited the Camp with quarantine officials.

The Sanitary Engineering Section is investigating the possibility of securing a suitable solvent for DDT in the Middle East. Two more nurse officers in the Public Health Service have been commissioned and routine work on USPHS administration carried out.

The Medical Requirements Specialist reported on the medical supply situation in the Middle East and made a survey of the Dental Unit supplies provided for the Yugoslav Mission. Requisitions have been made for a supply of uniforms for nurses in the field. The Tuberculosis Specialist has prepared, for submission to Washington, a "General Guide to the Assessment of the Tuberculosis Program in Countries Throughout Europe".

The files of the Nursing Section have been reorganized during the week, and a bulletin board showing the location of each member of the nursing staff has been completed. Miss Bucknell, Regional Nursing Consultant, has been assigned to the Greece Mission to assist at Headquarters in Athens. Mrs. Pollak, Assistant Bacteriologist, is leaving for Bari this week, to join the Yugoslav Mission and will leave Cairo shortly. Another nutritionist, Dr. A. McQueeney, is also in Athens on loan, while the Director of Nutrition is expected to return to Cairo in the near future.

The Welfare Division has worked on a draft agreement between the Voluntary Societies and UNRRA, based on material originally sent from Washington and revised on a few points to cover the special problems in the Balkan area. A preliminary conference between the Welfare Division and the Balkan Regional Committee of C.O.B.S.R.A. was held on February 24. The revised draft agreement will be sent within the next week to the appropriate divisions of the Balkan Mission for approval and the agreement in final form will later be forwarded to the country missions.

Miss Bownlee, who had been loaned by the Yugoslav Mission - subject to recall when needed - to direct child welfare study in the camps in the Middle East, left for Bari on February 22. She was unable to complete her study, but work on it will continue. Miss Virginia Trumble arrived from United States on February 23 and has been assigned to the Camps Operations Division. Her training and experience are in the field of child welfare and she has also had administrative experience in the welfare field. She is the first of the approved budget line positions for camps to have actually arrived in the Middle East. Miss Briganti, American Committee for Christian Refugees, has been assigned to the Displaced Persons Division where she will work on immigration problems. Miss Briganti's agency is one of these cooperating with UNRRA and, especially, interested in the problems of refugees.

Conferences have been held with GHQ on the repatriation of refugees, on the basis of a memorandum prepared by members of the Displaced Persons Division in conjunction with AFHQ, as well as on plans agreed upon here with GHQ. GHQ is now communicating with AFHQ in an endeavour to establish a firm schedule.

As reported last week, two officers of the Division visited El Shatt and Loses Wells Refugee Camps, spending a couple of days there on repatriation problems. Two members of the Greece Mission left for Haifa to work on registration of refugees to be admitted to Muscirat Camp.

Miss Laerson has been appointed Chief of the Refugee Services Section, with Miss Briganti - just transferred from the Welfare Division - as her assistant - Miss Evelyn Rauch has joined the Division and been assigned to the Repatriation Operations Section as Chief Welfare Officer. Mr. Leslie Dow and Mr. David Myers left this week to take up their duties with the Yugoslav Mission.

The Camps Operations Division has received information that it may not be necessary to transfer more refugees out of the Dodecanese Islands. For some months past, numbers of Dodecanese have been forced to leave certain of the enemy-occupied islands, particularly Rhodes, on account of growing shortage of food in the beleaguered islands. The military authorities decided that rather than transfer these refugees to the Middle East they should be accommodated in other islands which are free of the enemy. Thus the CASOS project was embarked upon. Unfortunately, the numbers involved are now fairly considerable - as last reported approximately 4,600 - and the

local military authorities are having great difficulty in maintaining this group of persons. However, great efforts are being made to provide accommodation, and it may still not be necessary to bring these refugees to the Middle East.

Arrangements have been made with the British Military Authorities for three refugees from the island of CASTELORIZO to visit the island very shortly, in order to view for themselves the conditions prevailing, prior to general repatriation. This island was badly damaged after the vacation.

Major Charles Newberr, USPHS, has not taken up his appointment as Senior Medical Officer of Camps Operations Division in place of Dr. Wilson S. Lodd, who was ordered to return to the United States for reasons of health.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
DIRECTORS

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Balkan Mission was held at King's Hotel at 4.30 p.m. on Friday, 23 February 1945, under the chairmanship of Mr. Roseman.

Those present were:

Mr. Roseman	Col. Hyde
Mr. Pierce	Miss Flexner
Mr. Beck	Mr. Thrupp
Mr. Downie	Mr. Aaronson
Major Oakley-Hill	Mr. Patterson
Mr. Barnes	Miss Correns-Hardy
Mr. Irwin	Mr. Hoddinott
Col. Balfour	Lord Forbury
Mr. Tonkinson	Col. Wilkinson
Mr. Floud	Major Francis
Miss Gifford	Col. Livingstone.

1. THE CHAIRMAN called the meeting to order, and Col. Livingstone reviewed briefly the decisions taken by the Administrative Sub-Committee on the draft administrative orders discussed at the last meeting. In the matter of uniforms it had been decided that flashes would be worn on the outer garment, but only on one shoulder; the brassard had been discarded; and as regards the badge, it had been recommended that it should be in the form of the UNRRA stamp; made in bronze with the spaces cut out, uniform from Washington, it was suggested that khaki drill jacket and trousers or skirt be worn, but not shorts; and that the wearing of insignia on civilian clothes be forbidden.

ACTION COL. LIVINGSTONE said a suggestion had been made that Washington be asked to forward suit and dress lengths of material instead of ready-made uniforms. The matter was discussed, and the proposal to act on this suggestion was put to a vote and unanimously carried by a show of hands.

2. MR. ROSEMAN stated that he had had no information on the matters at Caserta except a telegram addressed to USAFILE asking for permission for Messrs. Hendrickson and Zanthaky to come here via Athens; that he assumed the meetings were over by now, and that the visitors from Washington, accompanied by Sir William Matthews and Commander Jackson, were probably in Athens at present and would be arriving in Cairo next week. This, however, he said, was merely conjecture on his part.

3. a) With regard to the weekly Mission report to Washington, MR. ROSEMAN stated that Mr. Hoddinott found there was great delay - as much as ten days - on the part of the various divisions in handing in their divisional reports. MR. HODDINOTT urged the advisability of all divisions having their reports in promptly by Wednesday, and covering the period Monday to Saturday of the previous week, instead of Wednesday to Wednesday as some were now doing. MR. ROSEMAN commented that the reports were not as informative as they could be; that they should contain a record of all developments which occurred during the week, as that would be helpful in giving Washington a clear picture of the situation here.

b) MR. ROSEMAN stated that among the items required in the new form of monthly reports are comprehensive reports on camps, displaced persons, hospital work, personnel, and statistical data on expenditures. He felt it was incumbent upon us to furnish as much information as possible, or, where

we could not, to indicate the difficulties in the matter of lack of trained staff; he thought, however, it was mostly a matter of records and monthly tabulations. A discussion followed on the subject. The chief objection - put forward by Mr. Beck and Mr. Pierce - was in the matter of reporting on age groups it meant establishing percentages which would have to be changed. Mr. Roseman said he had telegraphed to Washington that we were trying to get the information called for in the new reports. In reply to a question by Col. Wilkinson, he said that we would discontinue monthly reports except when specifically requested by Washington.

MR. ROSEMAN then mentioned Washington's suggestion that the Intelligence Division be known in future as "Reports Section".

4. Draft Administrative Orders.

ACTION a) Petty Cash Claims. It was agreed to add the words "where possible" where the order called for claims to be supported by receipts. The purpose of the order was to place the onus of the claims on the heads of organizational units, who would be required to certify that the expenditure were justifiable.

b) Travel rates. This order was the result of an agreement reached with Mr. Dayton when he was here, for the purpose of clearing up the confusion that exists on this point. Mr. ROSEMAN suggested adding the words "where possible" in connection with the supporting receipts for reimbursable items.

The question of amplifying the definition of the term "Middle East" to include other countries in this area was discussed and left in abeyance for further consideration.

ACTION MR. PIERCE expressed the desire to discuss the matter of travel rates with the members of his division; consequently it was agreed that issuance of the order would be postponed until evening of the following day.

c) Taxi Fares. The purpose of this order was explained by Mr. ROSEMAN, viz., that the head of the organizational unit to which the claimant is attached should be required that the journey undertaken was official and that no other means of transport were available.

d) Amendment to A-73 - Censorship of Travellers' documents - passed without comment.

5. Report on Mission Plans.

i) Balkan Mission. Col. BAIFOUR stated that he hoped very shortly to be able to send out notifications of transfers, so as to enable the heads of divisions to pass the information on and prevent despondence among their staffs. Upon Mr. Roseman's suggestion, he outlined briefly the procedure to be followed after obtaining from the transferee mission its assent in principle to the proposed transfer.

Mr. Roseman stated that on the basis of the review he and others had made of the Middle East budget recently, he felt he could give the locally-engaged employees whose services were satisfactory a fairly clear assurance that they would be absorbed in the Middle East Mission.

ii) Greece. Mr. DUNNIE stated that the majority of the Greece Mission staff were now in Greece, and only about 75 remained here; but the despatch of 45 of this number had been requested and he assumed that within ten or fifteen days there would

be but a handful left. Most voluntary society teams were already in Greece. Practically all of the members of the Bureau of Distribution and Transport had been called, and were gearing up to take over from IL on April 1. The Greece Mission already had been personnel in every one of the six districts, and some had recently gone into Crete. Very few reports had come in from Athens on the nature of the work that the staff there is doing, which appeared to be mainly relief at this point, but undoubtedly within the next few weeks it would shape up into a more typical UNRRA program or even better.

iii) Yugoslavia. Mr. Irwin stated that he had received very little information this past week but that, out of a total personnel of perhaps 150 - including IL - in Yugoslavia, only about 18 or 19 were UNRRA people, many were still awaiting transportation in Cairo, but he hoped to get them off soon. Word received from those who had gone into Yugoslavia indicated that they had been accorded a very good reception. He stated that, judging from the quantity of IL motor trucks landed there (over 100), IL operations must be more extensive than he had imagined. Mr. Morrell had got together copies of a number of individual letters and written up a very good story. Asked if he had any information about supplies, Mr. Irwin replied that he had heard nothing about the flow of supplies and knew only the original tonnage sent.

iv) Albania. Major CANNON-HILL stated that he had nothing to report except that the Chief of the Mission was having trouble regarding the matter of travel clearance. Mr. ROSEMAN explained that he had taken steps to get the military procedure simplified, through telegrams to Greece to the Military and to Sir William Matthews, and he hoped to be able to clear the matter up.

6. MR. ROSEMAN then inquired whether there were any other matters to be discussed. COMPTON HARRIS stated that US ARMY were now accepting all American UNRRA personnel for medical treatment. That left a group of only about 70 British not provided for, and another group of about 25 of other nationalities. He said he was working on the problem of the 70 British and hoped to succeed in making medical provision for them. As for the 25 of other nationalities, he thought the only thing to do would be to select some local doctor and make an arrangement with him for the care of this group.

THE MEETING was then adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS OF THE BALKAN MISSION
ON 20 FEBRUARY 1945.

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Balkan Mission was held at King's Hotel at 4:30 P.M. on 20 February 1945.

The meeting, under the chairmanship of Mr. Roseman, was called to discuss the proposed revision of the living and quarters allowance and the discontinuance of the separation allowance.

Those present were:

Col. Balfour	Mr. Mackintosh
Col. Booker	Major. Noble
Miss Cozens-Hardy	Lord Norbury
Mr. Downie	Col. Oakley-Hill
Mr. Floud	Mr. Patterson
Maj. Francis	Mr. Roseman
Miss Gifford	Mr. Siegel
Mr. Hoddinott	Miss Simeon
Col. Hyde	Maj. Tonkinson
Mr. Irwin	Mr. Thrupp
Col. Livingstone	Col. Wilkinson

The meeting was called to order by the chairman, who stated that the memorandum of 20 February 1945, on Proposed Living and Quarters Provisions, embodied the substance of Washington's ideas on the subject.

The Balkan Mission, however, had suggested \$ 2.00 instead of the Washington figure of \$ 1.50 per diem for employees with dependents, when meals and billets are provided by the Administration. The Balkan Mission also insisted that, since the Administration is changing the rules in the middle of the game, employees who are dissatisfied with the new rates should be repatriated at the Administration's expense.

Mr. Siegel stated that the proposed living and quarters provisions were to be supplied in UNRRA missions throughout the world, and that, when the military period is over, they would be an improvement on the present system. When the Administration failed to provide meals and billets, employees would be given an allowance in non-convertible local currency. The size of the allowance would be determined by the Chief of Mission, and would fluctuate with the local currency.

Mr. Downie and Mr. Patterson pointed out that the cost of living includes numerous items, such as clothes, laundry and cigarettes, the prices of which may be far higher in the field than in the U.S. or the U.K. After considerable discussion two proposals were put forward:

- A. That the living and quarters allowance, where meals and billets are not provided, should cover the average reasonable cost of food and lodging in the area, as determined by the Chief of Mission, plus a flat \$ 2.00 per diem to cover the cost of incidentals.

- B. That the allowance for food and lodging should be determined as in A above, and that a certain percentage of this figure should be given in addition to cover the differential between the cost of incidentals in the Mission area and their cost in the U.S. or the U.K.

The general feeling of the meeting seemed to favor the second proposal, although no vote was taken.

ACTION:

It was agreed that Mr. Roseman should draft a cable to Washington, stating that the Balkan Mission considers the Washington proposals fair in general, but wishes them to include the three alterations suggested:

\$ 2.00 per diem for employees with dependents, where meals and billets are not provided;

additional allowance for incidentals, as in proposals A and B;

and repatriation at the Administration's expense for employees dissatisfied with the new rates.

The Meeting was then adjourned.

LIST OF CABLES RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON FOR WEEK
COMMENCING FEBRUARY 20th AND ACTION TAKEN BY CAIRO

213	Disregarded Washington 235 refers.
214	No Action.
215	Noted. Sent MUGAID 112
216	Noted
217	No Action
218	Sent MUGAID 104
219	Not Received
220	No Action
221	Noted
222	Repl. 230 24th February
223	Waiting reply from Greece
224	Action taken
225	Repl. 224 23rd February
226	Noted
227	Repl. 250 3rd March
228	No Action
229	Sent MUGAID 107
230	Not received
231	Noted
232	Noted
233	Noted. Action being taken
234	Repl. 246 2nd March.
237	Noted
238	Sent MUGAID 109
239	Noted (Repl. from London 98 to Washington 410)
240	Repl. 240 London 114 1st March
241	Not received
242	Personal cable
243	Action being taken
244	Noted.

1st March, 1945.

To: Deputy Director General.
Bureau of Areas,
UNRRA
WASHINGTON, D. C.

From: Office of Chief of Balkan Mission,
Cairo.

Subject: Weekly Report 11th-17th February, 1945

Attached are two copies of the eleventh weekly progress report of the Balkan Mission for the week ended 11th February, 1945, together with copies of the Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Directors held on 16th February, 1945 and Meeting of the Directors of the Health, Welfare, Camps and Displaced Division held on 20th February, 1945. Also attached is a list of cables received from Washington since 12th February and action taken.

During that week the following additional reports etc. were sent to Washington.

Office of Chief of Mission: Intelligence Reports Nos.
30 - 36.

Bureau of Distribution Monthly report for January.
and Transport

Health Division: General Report.

(Signed) M.C. Cozens-Hardy

Encs.

For Chief of Balkan Mission

BALKAN MISSION WEEKLY REPORTNo. 11

(11th - 17th February 1945)

The Chief of Mission and Commander Jackson, newly-appointed Senior Deputy Director General of UNRRA, left for Caserta to meet and confer with Messrs. Hendrickson and Xanthaky, who were to arrive there from Washington on February 17.

Since the Senior Deputy Chief of Mission was in Athens with the Deputy Chief for Distribution and Transport the Deputy Chief for Finance and Administration was nominated Acting Chief of Mission.

Substantial progress was made by the Bureau of Finance and Administration in the selection of Balkan personnel who are to be transferred to country missions or to the Middle East Mission. Agreement was reached with the transferee missions in a number of individual cases, and arrangements made for taking over certain local employees en bloc. Inquiries were made of local British and U.S. agencies about the possibility of securing additional shorthand typists for the Greece Mission. Efforts were made to expedite the submission of second quarter budgets by the country missions and discussions were held on the organization of the Middle East Mission.

Attendance cards were issued for all Balkan Mission personnel, in line with the new system of leave and attendance records which is to go into effect on February 21. A number of administrative orders were issued during the week in connection with the payment of salaries to local and temporary employees and menial staff, budget control, recruitment for and transfer from organizational units within the Balkan Mission, and attendance records.

Mr. Milton Siegel, Deputy Treasurer of UNRRA arrived during the week and held a number of conferences on accounting problems.

Instructions on the future organization of Public Relations Division were received from Washington during the week. According to these instructions the Director, who is still in Washington, is to set up his office in Rome with an assistant; the Deputy Director who is now in Rome, will head the Yugoslav Public Relations, though it is not clear whether this is a temporary arrangement as the Cairo Office had been led to believe; and Mr. Morrell, who is head of Albania Public Relations, will become traveling representative for the Director. Mr. Morrell has been covering UNRRA's entry into Yugoslavia, and judging from his reports and releases received this week from Bari, he has been doing an excellent one-man job.

A telegram was released by the British Minister Resident's office on February 12 containing the announcement of Commander Jackson's acceptance of the post of Senior Deputy Director General of UNRRA and his departure from MESC, and on February 13 a press conference was held between MESC and UNRRA Public Relations. Photographs of Commander Jackson taken in his Cairo office at the press conference that day were despatched to Washington and London on the following day. There were several inaccuracies in the details of Commander Jackson's career cabled Washington, as can be seen from our telegram on the same subject which crossed with Washington's.

The Alexandria Fishery Section story with a set of fourteen photographs was despatched to Washington and London on February 13, and it was also placed with the Middle East Greek magazine AERA for publication towards the end of March. One set of the photographs of El Shatt Refugee Camp, numbering 130, was received, and the big task of captioning them was started. The reporter who covered Moses Wells Refugee Camp turned in an excellent story, which will be despatched to Washington and Athens.

The Division photographer, accompanied by a reporter from the Greece Mission, left for Nuseirat Camp on February 16 to do a week's coverage of the camp activities. This trip will complete the Division's coverage of the Middle East Camps.

The staff sheet is expected to be ready about February 23, collection of material having started this week.

The Director of the Bureau of Distribution and Transport, together with the Senior Deputy Chief of Mission, left Cairo for Athens on February 14 to discuss with officials of the Greek Government, ML and the Greece Mission problems on distribution, with particular emphasis on the resumption of such activities in those areas of Greece from which ML-UNRRA parties were evacuated during the civil disturbances.

The staff of the Bureau was increased by three distribution officers newly arrived from London: Colonel Raymond, who has been assigned to the Yugoslav Mission, and Messrs. Cullen-Snelling and Duffield-Harding, both assigned to the Greece Mission.

Mr. Mather, Distribution Officer, left for Greece to assist the District Distribution Officer in No. 4 District, the Aegean Islands. There was an unfortunate delay in the departure of several members of the Bureau to join the Yugoslav Mission in Bari. In the meantime efforts were made to meet the demands for additional personnel submitted by the Deputy of that Mission.

The Director of the Industrial Rehabilitation Division returned to Cairo on February 12, after visiting the Greece Mission in Athens where he discussed industrial rehabilitation problems with the Chief of Mission and the Industrial rehabilitation staff. Since the post of Director of Industrial Rehabilitation for Greece had become vacant, the Chief of Mission had appointed one of the staff Mr. Marshall an Industrial Engineer to be Acting Chief pending the appointment of a Director.

The Director of the Division reported that it had not yet been possible to make a systematic survey of the requirements of industry in the whole of Greece, as many districts are still inaccessible and even the Government lacks information as to conditions there. A preliminary program of industrial rehabilitation requirements was, however, in course of preparation. The situation in industries around Athens was difficult owing to extremely high cost of living as a consequence of food distribution problems. It appears to be impossible to secure labor at reasonable wages, and as a result some industrialists are unwilling to resume manufacturing unless they obtain for their products prices which are in keeping with the high wages they would have to agree to pay. Such prices would be well above world prices. The situation, in his opinion, calls for strong governing action, in making important decisions and enforcing them, but it would seem that the reorganization of Government departments has not yet advanced sufficiently for such problems to be taken in hand.

The officer who headed the Industrial Rehabilitation Division of the Greece Mission before the evacuation has proposed that the reactivation of industries which are essential for relief, such as the cement industry, might be hastened if food products were sold by UNRRA direct to the industries, for sale by them to their staffs and laborers and their families at reasonable prices, as this would eliminate the cause for the demand for excessive wages. He also advocated that for the sale of industries rehabilitation supplies UNRRA should deal with especially constituted committees composed of representatives of the Government, of the manufacturers and of UNRRA, rather than with the Government alone, until such time as the Government departments concerned with industry are more thoroughly organized. A similar scheme was being considered by the Chief of Mission for repairs to dwellings.

The Director of Industrial Rehabilitation is of the opinion that these suggestions are worthy of serious consideration and that, if they could

be adopted in suitable form, industrial and housing rehabilitation would be hastened considerably. He most definitely feels, however that UNRRA should not be represented on such representative organizations-whether for rehabilitation of industry or for repairs to dwellings - if such bodies were to enter into contracts with manufacturing firms or building contractors, if they were to fix prices for locally-made products, or if they were to do any financing of industries. But if appropriate bodies could be held responsible for the sale of UNRRA supplies, he feels UNRRA might deal them in the way it was originally intended that UNRRA should deal with the Government: that is, by giving advice in technical matters, and coming to understanding with them as to what supplies should be imported by UNRRA and sold to them.

On his return to Cairo, the Director found that the original nineteen budget lines for his Division in the Balkan and country missions had been reduced to fourteen for the current quarter. This corresponds to the existing staff, as two members of the Division are terminating their employment with UNRRA, but he believes that it is insufficient for future requirements and for this reason he is requesting the allocation of sufficient positions in the second quarter of 1945.

The Director of the Agricultural Rehabilitation Division is still in Athens. Mr. Steiger, Agricultural Rehabilitation Officer, arrived from Washington and was assigned to the Greece Mission. Miss Grace Neely, Food Processing Specialist, left to join the Yugoslav Mission in Italy; and Mr. George Polychroniadis, Agricultural Rehabilitation Officer, was transferred to Camp Operations Division.

Dr. Lussen of the Health Division returned from Italy and has been appointed Acting Deputy Director of the Division until such time as he can revert to his position as Epidemiologist. He has been made Balkan Mission Liaison Officer with the U.S.A. Typhus Commission's Field Headquarters, and an agreement covering the participation of UNRRA Health Division personnel in the Commission's work has been drawn up following the agreement made with Marshal Tito.

Ten more Medical Officers have been requested in view of the rapid opening of Yugoslavia and the Division's commitments to the U.S.A. Typhus Commission.

The whole question of medical care for UNRRA employees and a system of reporting illness among personnel is being worked out by the Division, and it is hoped to obtain Army service for all employees for whom UNRRA has assumed medical care responsibility.

A representative of the Division visited El Quantara Hospital, where 400 of the 1000 beds are for T.S. patients. Of these, about 200 were British African soldiers, the remainder of the patients being of Greek, Italian, Yugoslav and Russian nationality. The main clinical observations arising out of this visit were:

- a) the virulent form of acute exudative type of lesion found in the African troops;
- b) the absence of occupational therapy in Middle East sanatoria and hospitals;
- c) the failure of the authorities to use the opportunity of mass-radiology for general epidemiological investigation into the incidence of the disease, as a basis comparison with clinical observations in Middle East hospitals and sanatoria; and
- d) the possible assistance which this hospital could give to UNRRA Camps Division for refugees requiring continued hospitalization when repatriation starts.

The Sanitary Engineering Section of the Division made an inspection of UNRRA Maadi "B" Camp at the request of the Welfare Division and it was agreed that the staff of the camp should include an officer who will be responsible for all sanitation matters. A report outlining a sanitation program for the camps is in preparation. A number of reports were prepared during the week, including; equipment and supplies needed by sanitary engineers; suggestion for cooperation between the Health Division and the Agriculture and Fisheries Division in connection with the community food preservation program (joint report); and a memo on sanitation and disinfection in connection with active T.B. cases. The Sanitary Engineering Section is undertaking all administrative work for USPHS personnel, and has prepared memoranda to all PHS Officers on leave questions and correspondence formalities. Fifteen Sanitary Engineers were called forward for work in the camps.

Mr. Marks, USPHS Sanitary Engineer, and Mr. Mendeloff, USPHS Nutritionist, left for Greece during the week, while Mr. Norelli returned from Greece to resume his work as Medical Requirements Specialist in the Balkan Mission. He has prepared reports on the camps' medical supply position, and on supplies in Greece.

The head of the Nursing section visited members of the staff hospitalized in the 13th General British Army hospital at Suez and all were found to be improving. Two members of the nursing staff, Dorothy Dowling and Joyce March, arrived from the U.K. and were assigned to El Shatt.

There are many phases in the plan for the proposed Middle East organization and budget which affect the Welfare Division. As indicated in Report No. 9, it is proposed to have the Director of Welfare for the Middle East Mission serve as consultant to both the Camps Operations and Displaced Persons Divisions. This service is already being rendered by the Director of Welfare, who, at the request of both these divisions, has been participating in planning their staff for welfare services and in coordinating relationship between the two divisions. The functions must be as clearly defined as possible in order to have rapid action when repatriation begins. The Welfare Division believes that it is in a better position than either Camps Operations or Displaced Persons Divisions to evaluate the wise use of personnel for these two functions, and the original concept for this arrangement would therefore appear to be a good one, it now seems, however, that the work will be heavier than originally thought, and that it may be necessary for the Director of Welfare to have an assistant.

In order to facilitate and hasten the registration of refugees on SHAEF cards at El Shatt Refugee Camp the Division on Displaced Persons asked the assistance of the Welfare Division; and five members of the Yugoslav Mission still in Cairo were assigned to this temporary job. They left Cairo on February 12 to work under the direct supervision of an officer from Displaced Persons Division.

A decision was finally secured on the use of Australian Red Cross units, as urged by Captain Fleming, Australian Red Cross representative in Cairo, and cables were sent calling these units forward.

The Director of the Welfare Division is still in Greece. Four members of the Division left for Athens during the week: Miss Norma Dierking and Miss Belle Mazur on February 12; Mr. Leonard Huish and Mrs. Melvin Blum on February 17.

An Officer of the Displaced Persons Division returned from Cyprus during the week with information about operations of the District Office there; and he proceeded, in company with a Displaced Persons Specialist of the Division, to El Shatt Refugee Camp, to survey the possibility of utilizing El Shatt and Moses Wells Camps as points of embarkation.

Conferences are being held between Camps Operations Division, Displaced Persons Division, and the various authorities at GHQ concerned with the

repatriation of refugees in the Middle East. A preliminary schedule has been drawn up, and shipping bids are being submitted to A.F.H.Q. A committee composed of representatives of Camps, Welfare, Health and Displaced Persons Divisions is working on detailed plans for repatriation moves, and has now submitted its initial recommendations.

Displaced Persons Division is discussing the question of UNRRA responsibility for the camp on the island of CASOS, but no decision has yet been reached.

The request by the Greek authorities for the admission into UNRRA camps of some thousand refugees at present in Jerusalem has been withdrawn for the present, although before being repatriated by UNRRS these refugees would of course be required to pass through one of the UNRRA camps.

It is hoped that arrangements may be made in the very near future for the transfer to Italy of 74 T.B. cases and 43 dependents from El Shatt Camp.

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
HELD ON 6 FEBRUARY 1945

1. Introduction of Mr. Siegel.
2. Projects of the Greece Mission - Sir Michael Creagh
3. Staff Sheet.
4. Report on Administrative Orders previously discussed:
 - a. A-70, Local Purchase Procedure.
 - b. P-8, Centralized Personnel Budget Control, etc.
 - c. A-78, Centralized Personnel Budget Control.
 - d. A-79, Recruitment for and Transfer from Organizational Units' within the Balkan Mission.
5. Drafts of Administrative Orders to be issued:
 - a. Censorship of Private Mail.
 - b. Uniforms
6. Procurements of Uniforms.
7. Administrative Order 81, Attendance Record.
8. Administrative order 82 - February Payroll.
9. Status of APO Privileges - Mr. Roseman.
10. Visit of Mr. Hendrickson and Mr. Xanthaky.
11. Report on Mission Plans:
 - a. Greece - Lt. Col. Booker
 - b. Yugoslavia - Mr. Irwin
 - c. Albania - Col. Oakley-Hill
12. Work of the Intelligence Section - Mr. Hoddinett
13. Historical Records - Miss Simeon.
14. Statement on Travel Rates - Mr. Roseman.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

A REGULAR MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Balkan Mission was held at King's Hotel at 4:30 P.M. on Friday, 16 February 1945, under the chairmanship of Mr. Roseman.

1. THE CHAIRMAN called the meeting to order, and introduced Mr. Siegel, UNRRA's Deputy Treasurer, who has come here from Washington to work for a few weeks on accounting procedure.

2. SIR MICHAEL CREAGH, Senior Deputy Chief of the Greece Mission, spoke on the prospects of his mission. There has, he said, been a marked improvement in the Greek situation during the past few weeks, and the Government has adopted a very far-sighted policy. He thought that there would still be some banditry in the hills, but that UNRRA could get on with its job after the guerrillas turn in their arms. UNRRA will take over responsibility from the military on 1 April 1945, and has already distributed supplies in ELAS territory, at a time when ML could not go beyond the armistice line. The Mission is short of office space, hotel accommodation, and transport, particularly the latter, but it is hoped that the necessary facilities can soon be obtained. The Greek telephone and telegraph systems are not in operation. UNRRA will have to borrow communications facilities from the military when they leave, until we can get our own. The Mission is trying to get a plane for communication with the districts.

In response to a question from Maj. Noble, Sir Michael stated that one-sheet newspaper, not all of which are ELAS - controlled, are again appearing in Greece.

Answering a question from Mr. Roseman, he said that prices are rising. The Government has agreed to fix the prices of certain basic commodities, but wages must be stabilized in relation to prices.

3. COLONEL LIVINGSTONE, Chairman of the Committee on Office Hours, Transportation, etc., stated that his committee had recommended that the Staff Sheet be discontinued, since it did not meet the needs of the staff.

Col. Livingstone felt that each country Mission should have its own staff sheet, along the lines of that produced by the Displaced Persons Division. None of the three country missions have one at present, Maj. Noble stated that Miss Samy and Mr. Rodman are preparing a new type of staff sheet, which he will mimeograph and circulate if he considers it suitable.

4. Col. Livingstone stated that Administrative Order A-70, Local Purchase Procedure, is still pending, as there are certain points in it which are not satisfactory to Col. Webb.

Administrative Orders P-8, A-78 and A-79, dealing with centralized personnel budget control and recruitment for and transfer from organizational units within the Balkan Mission, have already been issued.

8. There was a general discussion of the drafts of two proposed administrative orders, one on censorship of private mail and the other on uniforms.

ACTION The order on censorship regulations was referred back to Committee for further discussion of the ban on criticism of Allied governments and officials.

Certain changes were made in the wording of Paragraphs 7 and 8 of the draft order on uniforms. Issuance of the order was withheld until Col. Livingstone's committee should decide whether the official insignia should be one or two shoulder flashes or a brassard. This Committee was also requested to design and arrange for the production of a new UNRRA cap badge.

6. MR. ROSEMAN said that a cable had recently arrived from Washington correcting an earlier cable which stated that uniforms had been shipped to Cairo on 7 January. The uniforms have not been sent as yet. The general feeling of the meeting was that Washington should still be asked to send winter uniforms, in order that they will be here when needed next winter, but that summer uniforms should be obtained in Cairo.

7. There was a discussion of Administrative Order 21, Attendance Record, which, because of its urgency, had been issued without prior presentation to the Board. Mr. Aaronson stated that the new system of attendance cards had been instituted in an attempt to reconcile the accounting and personnel records with the number of people actually here. It applies only to the Balkan Mission, including the camps, and places on the chief of each organizational unit the responsibility of seeing that his staff is duly recorded and paid.

ACTION It was agreed that a supplementary order should be issued, covering certain points such as that of attendance records for voluntary society personnel. A supplementary payroll will be made up for this month only, to allow for errors made under the new system.

8. MR. YOUNG was asked to arrange a meeting of attendance supervisors at King's Hotel at 11:00 A.M. on 17 February to explain the new attendance card system, which become effective with the February payroll. One attendance supervisor from each division of the Balkan Mission was to attend the meeting.

9. MR. ROSEMAN reported that he had asked Mr. McLaron to investigate the possibility of establishing an APO at Bari for the despatch of mail in bulk to the UNRRA offices in Cairo, Athens, etc. General Ritter is anxious to have UNRRA cease using APO 787.

10. MR. ROSEMAN said that Messrs. Hendrickson and Xanthaky should be in Caserta on 17 February. Sir William Matthews and Commander Jackson plan to hold policy discussions with them in Caserta and then to bring them to Cairo.

11. The three Country Missions had little to report:

- a. Greece - Lt. Col. Becker stated that his Mission is trying to transfer personnel to Greece as fast as possible.
- b. Yugoslavia - Mr. Irwin reported that Public Relations had issued a very good story on the Yugoslavia Mission on 12 February. His Mission is still having difficulty in obtaining staff transportation from Cairo to Bari.
- c. Albania - Col. Oakley-Hill stated that, according to the latest reports, the Albanian Government says that it was misquoted, and that it does desire ML - UNRRA help as soon as possible. The Albania Mission in consequence can no longer lend voluntary society personnel to other missions. There will soon be no more Albania Mission personnel in Cairo, and the Mission hopes to enter Albania shortly.

Mr. Roseman reminded the division chiefs that they must apply several days in advance for AFHQ clearance for staff members who are being transferred to the Continent.

MR. HODDINOTT spoke on the work of the Intelligence Section. UNRRA's Intelligence Section developed from the small MERRA intelligence unit, which worked on health and social conditions in the Balkans, devastation, functions of indigenous voluntary societies, and similar topics which were of interest to MERRA and were not covered by the Ministry of Economic Warfare. Its major project was the preparation of a report on the work of the Joint Relief Commission in Greece. It worked very closely with ML,

and, since MERRA was a British Government Agency, it had little difficulty in obtaining material from British and most American Intelligence Agencies.

For reasons of security, these agencies are far less willing to give their material to UNRRA.

Mr. Hoddinott emphasized the fact that lack of security - consciousness on the part of UNRRA personnel has been one of the major difficulties of the UNRRA Intelligence Section. Other problems have been the lack of clerical help - the Section had no stenographer until December 1944 - the lack of records of meetings and copies of UNRRA plans, and uncertainty as to what sort of information the various divisions wanted.

The Sections prepared intelligence reports on the Balkan countries in June and July but was forced to discontinue them because of lack of clerical staff. It mapped the burned villages, communications, market towns and destroyed bridges of Greece and wrote reports on social conditions in various areas. It interviewed personnel of different agencies who returned from Greece, and drew up lists of Greeks with whom UNRRA may have to deal. The Section has very good liaison with the ML - Yugoslav Mission intelligence unit, and has concentrated largely on Greek and Albanian intelligence.

Mr. Hoddinott stated that the main duties of a Country Mission Reports Officer are to keep his mission chief informed of developments in his area, to report to the Balkan Mission HQ. or to the E.R.O., to keep the historical records of his mission and to maintain close liaison with the Public Relations unit on his mission. The Headquarters Intelligence Section needs information on the current plans of the other divisions and the type of material they want, and also desires a list of their best sources of information, in order that material of general interest may be passed on to the other unit.

13. MISS SIMEON spoke briefly on the aims of the Historical Records Section, and its need for material relating to policy - in particular, minutes of meetings, reports of negotiations and agreements with ML or the Balkan Governments, and accounts of actual experience in the field.

14. MR. ROSEMAN said that a statement on travel rates would be issued this week and discussed at the next meeting if any questions are raised.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS OF THE HEALTH,
WELFARE, CAMPS AND DISPLACED PERSONS DIVISION

A regular Meeting of the Directors of the Health, Welfare, Camps and Displaced Persons Divisions was held at King's Hotel at 8:30 A.M. on Tuesday, 20 February 1945.

The following Directors and Staff members were present:

Miss Bishop	Miss Gifford
Miss Devons	Mr. Pierce
Miss Flexner	Miss Simeon
Col. Hyde	

1. The meeting was called to order by the chairman, Mr. Pierce. He stated that the proposed budget of the Middle East Mission falls into two parts, Headquarters and Field Operations, each of which in turn has two sections, as follows;

- I. Headquarters Unit
 1. Personal Services
 2. Operating Expenses for Headquarters

- II. Field Operations
 1. Displaced Persons - Repatriation Operations
 2. Camps

There was a general discussion of the proposed budget. The budget for the Headquarters Unit for the second quarter of 1945 totalled approximately \$366,000, of which about \$188,000 was for personal services and the remainder for headquarters operating expenses. Mr. Pierce pointed out that the Headquarters Unit of the Middle Eastern Mission appears to have a larger staff and budget than the headquarters of the Balkan Mission. In actual practice, the Middle Eastern Mission will cost less, because the Balkan Mission headquarters figure did not include the headquarters of Camp Operations and approximately 100 other employees who should properly have been carried in its budget.

Col. Hyde made three criticisms of the budget for the Headquarters Unit:

1. The Medical and Sanitation unit, under Requirements and supply, should be abolished.
2. The Medical Requirements Specialists should be under the Office of the Chief of Mission.
3. Col. Hyde wished to check the grades of the Chief of Nursing and Chief Hygiene Officer in Camps Division, Health Section.

Col. Hyde agreed to draft a memorandum embodying his views on these three points.

Mr. Pierce stated that the Camps Operations budget was not yet finished, but that it would be so shortly, when further information had been received on the prices of commodities. The budget for Repatriation Operations was given in round figures because it was impossible to give the exact cost of this new type of operations. The budget for this section during the second quarter of 1945 totalled \$1,552,000. Mr. Pierce stated, however, that \$1,125,000 of this figure covered the cost of three months' supply of food for the repatriated refugees, which was properly a country mission rather than a repatriation expense.

It was pointed out that the figure for Living and Quarters Allowances, Repatriation Operations, should be corrected to include Voluntary Society personnel.

ACTION It was agreed that the budget should be accepted as read and submitted officially, with the corrections and additions mentioned above:

1. Memorandum from Col. Hyde on the three changes in the establishment of the Health Division, Headquarters Unit.
2. Addition of the Camps Operations budget.
3. Correction of the figure for living and Quarters allowance, Repatriation Operations.

2. Mr. Pierce stated that it had taken six or eight people nearly a month to prepare a budget for three months, which defeated the purpose of the quarterly budget system. In his opinion the budget should cover a six months' period, as much time would be saved and the estimates would be equally accurate.

ACTION It was agreed that Miss Flexner should present this suggestion to Washington orally, and that Mr. Pierce should transmit it in writing.

The Meeting was then adjourned.

LIST OF CABLES RECEIVED FROM WASHINGTON COMMENCING FEB. 12th 1945
AND ACTION TAKEN BY CAIRO.

179	:	Noted
180	:	Reply 199 20th Feb.
181 and 234	:	Repeated GREENGLID No. 63
182	:	Repeated YUGAID
183	:	YUGAID informed
184	:	Noted
185	:	Reply 195 17th Feb.
186	:	Repeated YUGAID No. 80
187	:	No Action
188	:	Reply 182 15th Feb.
189	:	Noted Awaiting Mr. Birk's return
190	:	Action taken.
191	:	Disregarded (as instructed 208)
192	:	Reply 220 23rd Feb.
193	:	Reply 196 17th Feb.
194	:	No Action
195	:	No Action
196	:	No Action
197	:	No Action
198	:	Repeated YUGAID No. 85
199	:	Noted. Awaiting Mr. Birk's return.
200	:	Action taken.
201	:	Reply 202 to Washington 97 to London 20 Feb.
202	:	Noted
203	:	Action Taken
204	:	Noted
205	:	Repeated YUGAID No. 94
206	:	Awaiting reply to Cairo to London 104, YUGAID 102
207	:	Reply 210 21st Feb. and Airgram 5.
208	:	Noted
209	:	Action being taken
210	:	Reply 216 23rd Feb.
211	:	Sent to YUGAID by bag. No action Cairo.
212	:	Reply 218 23rd Feb.
212	:	Duplicate sent YUGAID No. 108.

C O P Y

File

Cairo Reports Sen

21st December 1944.

TO: Deputy Director-General,
Bureau of Areas,
UNRRA, Washington.

FROM: Office of Chief of Balkan
Mission, Cairo.

SUBJECT: Progress Report.

With reference to your cable asking for a progress report on the Balkan Mission from 15th September to 31st December. The attached is an additional copy which is being sent to you by hand in order to minimise delay. Another copy has already been sent by airbag.

It should be emphasised that this is a first draft and that a final copy will be sent on to you in about a week. We shall keep you informed by cable and by weekly reports of other developments in the Balkan Mission, and we shall also bring the enclosed report up to date at the end of the year.

M. C. _____-Hardy

For Chief of Balkan Mission.

C O P Y

BALKAN MISSION 15th SEPTEMBER-31st DECEMBER
1944

PROGRESS REPORT

(Note: This report is based on information available up to 16th December 1944. On that date communications with Athens had been practically cut off for about one week. In addition the Chief of Balkan Mission was conferring with the Director General in London on UNRRA policy in the Balkan theatre and the results of those discussions may alter the emphasis placed on some of the events recorded here.)

The Balkan Mission - UNRRA's first field mission - was set up to provide relief and rehabilitation services to the Balkan countries in accordance with the UNRRA Agreement and the Resolutions of the UNRRA Council. It was to build up and plan for country missions to Greece, Albania and Yugoslavia and in addition to take over from MERRA the administration of the refugee camps in the Middle East.

When the UNRRA Council opened its second session at Montreal in September 1944 the Balkan Mission was still in its early stages of development and expansion. It had only a skeleton staff, supplemented by the British army personnel who were running the camps, and the voluntary society teams which were assisting them before being mobilised for work in the country missions. Ahead of it was the work of building up an organisation, planning relief services and eventually putting those plans into operation.

It has always been envisaged that in the phase immediately following the liberation of an area UNRRA's relief activities might be subject to some form of military control, and that a second phase would follow in which UNRRA would at the invitation of and in cooperation with the government concerned take over the responsibility for

providing relief. The Balkan Mission has drawn up its plans on this basis. Under the Agreement signed in Cairo on 3rd April 1944 between UNRRA and the military authorities it was established that UNRRA should act as the agent of the military for relief work during the military period, distributing such relief supplies as were provided by the military and performing other health and welfare tasks assigned by them. As soon as that period was over UNRRA should take over the responsibility both of supplying and distributing relief commodities acting on its own account in close cooperation with the recognised government of the country.

The initial task was to build up three separate self-contained missions to carry out relief operations in Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania, first as agent of the military and, as soon as conditions allowed, as an independent international relief organisation. Each mission had to recruit a variety of personnel - men capable of leadership and able to interpret and carry out UNRRA's policy as agreed upon by the 44 Nations which had signed the Agreement; specialists in a variety of subjects such as supply coordination, distribution, agricultural and industrial rehabilitation services, medicine, hygiene, nursing and welfare; advisers to make recommendations on the numerous economic and legal questions which would inevitably arise; and an administrative staff to provide the services which such a mission would require.

The Balkan Mission has recruited its staff through Headquarters in Washington and through the European Regional Office, as well as locally in Egypt and in neighboring countries such as Palestine. The task has been a slow one because many of the personnel of the calibre which UNRRA requires have been fully engaged on urgent war work, if not in actual fighting, and their release has not been easy to

obtain. Even when recruited their transport to the Balkan theatre has often taken a considerable time. In addition to the UNRRA personnel a large body of voluntary society workers has been assembled to work in the field on UNRRA's behalf and these are being assigned to the country missions. They will be engaged on various kinds of health and welfare work and they form an important part of UNRRA's field forces. On 15th September the total staff of the Balkan Mission on duty in the Middle East, including the non-military personnel working in the camps, numbered 348, and there were in addition approximately 300 voluntary society personnel. By 15th December an additional 160 voluntary workers had arrived and the total Balkan Mission staff, including the three country missions, numbered approximately 1,090. This figure covers all the temporarily employed staff such as messengers, drivers, etc., as well as a number of voluntary society workers who have been seconded to UNRRA. The Greece Mission staff now numbers 199, together with 27 voluntary workers; the Yugoslav Mission has 123 persons and 69 voluntary workers; and the Albanian Mission has 46 members and an addition of 33 voluntary society personnel. 314 military and 150 non-military personnel are working in the refugee camps, and the remainder are either attached to the headquarters of the Balkan Mission in Cairo or they are awaiting assignment to one of the missions.

Over 260 people have arrived in the Middle East during the last three months of 1944 and they have given the Balkan Mission a major problem of reception. Accommodation has been found for them; they have been given a short course of lectures about the Balkan countries and their relief problems at the Maadi training camp outside Cairo and they have attended language classes ~~xx~~ there; and they have been assigned to the mission and functional field to which they are most suited and where their services are needed. They have had an opportunity of further training through working

and planning with the staff of the Balkan Mission in Cairo and have come across the problems they might expect to meet in the future.

The Welfare Division has been responsible for the reception, equipment and movement of the large body of voluntary society personnel who have come forward from the voluntary societies and private agencies of a variety of countries all over the world. These voluntary workers, many of whom were working in the refugee camps until September, have been given a course of training in driving, mechanics, tent pitching, etc., to fit them for work in the field. This work of recruiting, mobilising and assigning voluntary society workers has been done in cooperation with the Cairo Council of Voluntary Societies with which the Welfare Division has established a close working relationship.

While recruitment and assignment has been continuing the actual running of the Balkan Mission office has ~~xxx~~ raised a variety of questions during the last few months. On the personnel side problems have arisen because certain categories of persons of different nationalities who are doing the same work are paid on different salary scales. This has occurred in a more acute form in the case of nationals employed by UNRRA in their own country, as for instance Greece. It is the policy of the Balkan Mission to employ indigenous personnel wherever possible, but the UNRRA salary scales which are high compared to those of the Balkans may raise difficulties with the governments concerned. For this reason all Greek nationals employed by the Greece Mission in Greece are paid at rates of salary applicable to employees of the Greek Government. The ^owhile question of financial policy in relation to salary scales and payment in local currency is under discussion and particularly the more immediate problem of arranging for the financing of the missions during the military period.

The movement of the three missions, to Athens in the case of the Greece Mission and to Bari in the case of the Yugoslav and Albanian Missions, has been going on since

September when an advance party of the Yugoslav Mission moved forward. The main body of that Mission followed during October and the staffing of the Mission has been going on continuously. The Albanian Mission took up its headquarters in November and has been expanding its staff rapidly since then. The first UNRRA representative set foot in Greece at the end of September and during October other members of the Mission moved to Athens. Political events in Greece have put a temporary standstill to the expansion of the Mission in the field.

The separation of the Missions from the headquarters of the Balkan Mission has necessitated a good deal of movement between Cairo and the headquarters of the country missions, and several heads of divisions as well as the Chief of Balkan Mission have been to Italy and Greece and members of the missions have returned temporarily to Cairo to discuss major policy and organisational questions. This has assisted the Balkan Mission in coordinating policy between the different country missions and also in interpreting in the Balkan theatre of operations policy decisions which have been taken in Washington.

The Balkan Mission has also developed its relationships with other organisations and authorities. The most important of these has been the military authorities for whom UNRRA will act as agent in the first phase of relief operations, in particular ML (Military Liaison) the part of the Allied forces responsible for relief, which moved to Caserta in August 1944 and was followed in October by the movement to Naples of the Balkan Mission's Bureau of Requirements and Supply in order that UNRRA's supply plans could be fully coordinated with those of the army. Close relations with the army authorities in Bari and in Athens have of course been established by the three missions.

The Balkan Mission has also had dealings with local governments. Discussions have been held with the Egyptian Government on the immunities and facilities to be granted to

UNRRA personnel who are stationed in Cairo and other parts of Egypt, on which no final settlement has yet been reached. The Egyptian Government has also been approached on the subject of Egypt's contribution to UNRRA and, together with the Palestine Government, has been concerned in some of the problems of the refugee camps.

Relationship with the general public is another part of the Balkan Mission which has been developed recently in order not only that the aims and purposes of UNRRA generally should become known in the Balkans and Middle East but also so that the Balkan Mission's activities and achievements should be fully reported and at the same time be viewed in their true perspective. A Public Relations Division has been built up and articles on UNRRA's activities in the refugee camps and in Greece have already appeared, including personal sketches of some of the UNRRA staff. An average of eight Middle East and world press releases are now being made each week, two national circulation magazine stories have been published, and five press conferences have been held in Cairo. Members of the Division have given frequent lectures in and around Cairo to military and other organisations on the work and aims of UNRRA. A fortnightly "Staffsheet" on the activities of the Balkan and country missions is issued to all members of the staff and a detailed programme of operations for the next six months has been drawn up. In addition a historical records section has been started where the early history of the Balkan Mission is at present being written up and which it is hoped will eventually provide not only a story of the past but also in some respects a guide to the future.

Turning from the organisation itself to its work, the main functions of the various bureaus and divisions during September and October has been a planning one. The planning which was done on an overall basis during the summer of 1944 was further developed on a country basis and is now being finally completed on or near the scene of action. The

Bureau of Distribution and Transport after holding consultations with representatives of the governments of the Balkan countries completed its main task of planning distribution on a Balkan level. In October it issued its basic plan and appreciation for operations in Greece which, with appropriate adaptations, can be used as a basis for the other two countries. The Bureau of Requirements and Supply has been engaged in reviewing the estimates of requirements during the UNRRA period and keeping in close touch with the supply bureaus of each mission, who in turn have been examining the estimates of requirements of the governments concerned and the state of indigenous production in consultation with those governments' representatives. It has also worked in close touch with the military who will be responsible for relief supplies before the UNRRA phase ^{begins}.

Both the Industrial and Agricultural Rehabilitation Divisions have been collecting information on which to base an estimate of requirements and make plans for action as soon as UNRRA takes over relief services. They have also assisted the military in determining the immediate industrial and agricultural rehabilitation needs for the military period. An agricultural ~~rah~~ production programme for 1945 was completed and distributed and a work-book for field workers in Greece was issued before the Greece Mission left for Athens. This and the work-books now being prepared for the other missions contain a wealth of detail about crops, livestock, seed, fertilizers, etc. The Fisheries sub-division has drawn up plans for the rehabilitation of the Greek fishing industry which, if achieved, will go a long way to relieve the food shortage in Greece.

A Middle East Supply Bureau has been set up in Cairo and has taken over the purchase in the Middle East of all UNRRA requirements, including requirements for the camps. Its task will be to investigate the Middle East countries as a source of supply, examine the stockpiling prospects, and keep in touch with other supply organisations such as MESC and

UKCC as well as the Egyptian and other local government authorities.

The Health and Welfare Divisions have also been completing their plans of operations. The Health Division has been in constant touch both with representatives of the national governments about the medical supplies they will require and with the military authorities who are relying on UNRRA's help in administering and distributing medical relief. A warehouse in Cairo has been taken over for stockpiling medical supplies for the Balkan countries and the refugee camps, and the Medical Division has been in constant touch with the ^{British} ~~Exxxx~~ and US Armies and MESC in planning medical requirements. The Welfare Division completed appreciations and plans for welfare work in each country and these were approved by ML for operation during the military period. The plans are being further developed by the Welfare Division of each Mission.

The Balkan Mission's Intelligence Section has been able to give assistance in all these planning activities by collecting material and information about the Balkan countries and conditions which UNRRA may expect to find. For instance, while Greece was still occupied the Section secured from the Military Mission operating in the country information collected in reply to questionnaires prepared by the Balkan Mission functional divisions on topics in which UNRRA was interested, such as the state of certain industries. As more information becomes available the Section will be in a better position to advise the Chief of Balkan Mission on the political, social and economic trends in the three countries which are likely to affect the plans and policy decisions of the Balkan Mission or of UNRRA as a whole.

Most of the planning which UNRRA has done has been for the phase after the military period, when UNRRA will itself be responsible for the relief supplies. However, the fact that the military have a programme of relief which they will put into

effect with the assistance of UNRRA acting as their agent has meant a considerable integration of relief plans with those of ML. UNRRA has in fact worked in very close cooperation with the military in drawing up plans for the first stage of operations and has been able to exert an influence on the relief policy which the military has adopted.

UNRRA has negotiated with the military authorities the implications of the Agreement of 3rd April and certain main principles have been established. First, UNRRA would be under the control of the military as long as the military period lasts, but at the same time the military would use UNRRA as an entity and not as a number of individuals. UNRRA would have its own headquarters and regional organisation and its own chain of command, subject to directives of the military who would be responsible for policy, though UNRRA would be consulted at all levels. Secondly, the provision of supplies would be a military responsibility as long as the military period lasted but UNRRA, acting as agent of the military, would be responsible for distribution. Thirdly, the military would hand over to UNRRA at the earliest opportunity the full responsibility for relief and rehabilitation in the Balkan countries.

When UNRRA takes over this responsibility it will do so at the invitation of the recognised government of the country and subject to conditions agreed upon between that government and UNRRA. Preliminary discussions on such an agreement have been held in Washington between UNRRA and representatives of the Greek Government. Negotiations have also been going on in Washington with a representative of the Yugoslav Government and a draft agreement has been drawn up on which the Balkan Mission has offered certain comments and criticisms. But events are now reaching the stage at which the negotiations can only be continued and concluded with the governments themselves in Athens or Belgrade or wherever they may be situated. In the case of Albania no government has yet been recognised.

The start of operations in the case of Greece, and the moving forward to Italy in the case of the Yugoslav and the Albanian Missions have been the main events of the last three months. The first UNRRA representatives landed on Greek soil - the island of Chios - on 30th September in company with ML. The Greece Mission as a whole was mobilising at that time and its regional and district offices together with its Welfare Division moved to the desert camp at Maadi at the end of September to work in close contact with ML (Greece) which was stationed there. The work of planning was continued, in particular on a regional and district level, and plans were integrated with those of ML. At the same time the Mission was in close working relationship with Greek Government staff on technical subjects such as health, shelter requirements, and supplies.

During October the Chief of Mission and certain key personnel moved into Athens and the rest of the Mission was preparing to move. Those in Greece started to make preliminary surveys of local conditions and to develop a working relationship with ML and the Greek authorities. The whole situation was considerably complicated by the unstable currency, a problem which seriously impeded the development of distribution arrangements.

The part of the Mission still remaining in Cairo was occupied in completing plans and appreciations, in discussing with ML and other authorities concerned such problems as the distribution during the military period of petroleum products and of supplies of textiles, etc., which the American Red Cross offered to make available, and generally in making preparations to move. A large part of the Mission did in fact move during November, and together with ML started on field operations. The burned villages presented an immediate problem for UNRRA to tackle. The Welfare Division cooperated with local agencies in making arrangements for the care of destitute children, and the Health Division assisted ML in equipping a medical mission to the burned areas of Thrace and Macedonia which consisted of 160 doctors,

nurses, and midwives, many of whom were refugees from those areas. Meanwhile a comprehensive appreciation and plan for a distribution system and price policy was drawn up and agreed with ML following upon which ML have proposed a plan for a ration distribution system.

The political and economic situation in Greece was soon found to be extremely complex and a more complete integration with ML than had previously been envisaged was decided upon. The Chief of the Balkan Mission attended discussions between ML and UNRRA in Athens as a result of which it was agreed that the Displaced Persons and Welfare Divisions of UNRRA, together with the Finance and Administration Division, should act independently, subject only to top military direction, while UNRRA's other operations would be carried on through the Supplies and Requirements Branch of ML, for which purposes the staff of the two organisations would be fully integrated. In this way the best use could be made of the talent available for the task of supply and distribution.

The agreed plan was put into operation, but very shortly afterwards the political situation deteriorated and fighting started in Athens. This, together with the strikes which interfered with the unloading of supplies, restricted relief work but it was found possible to continue such operations as evacuating children and bringing in supplies to some of the rural areas. UNRRA personnel also assisted in the distribution of food and medical supplies to hospitals, orphanages and other institutions around Athens in cooperation with the Red Cross and the Joint Relief Commission. At the same time members of the Welfare Division jointly planned relief measures with officials of the Greek Ministry of Public Welfare in Athens.

The Yugoslav Mission sent an advance party to Bari at the beginning of September to make preparations for the movement of the remainder of the Mission from Egypt, which took place in October, since when further reinforcements to the staff have arrived. The members of the

Mission have been engaged, first in attending as "observers" the discussions which have been going on between ML (Yugoslavia) and representatives of the Royal Yugoslav Government and the National Liberation Committee; secondly, the work of planning for UNRRA's own phase of activity has continued and has been developed on a regional basis.

Before the talks with the Yugoslavs opened members of the Mission met with ML to draw up an agenda for the discussions. The talks finally opened on 5th October, and the position of UNRRA's representatives was clearly established as that of observers only, preparatory to acting as agents of the military authorities. As the discussions continued it became clear that there was a considerable difference of opinion about the basic principles governing the distribution of relief and particularly the admission of observers to "observe and check on" the fair distribution of military supplies. In spite of reaching a deadlock on this point, authority was granted by the Allied military authorities to start technical discussions between ML and Yugoslav specialists, and sub-committees were set up to cover the subjects of port working, supplies, transportation, public health, relief, etc., with UNRRA technical experts from the various divisions attending the meeting as observers. At these meetings considerable progress was made in drawing up plans for the military period. The question as to whether there will in fact be a military period in Yugoslavia has not yet been resolved.

Meanwhile the Mission has been working on its own schemes for the time when UNRRA acts independently of the military. The Bureau of Requirements and Supply, in consultation with the Industrial and Agricultural Rehabilitation Divisions, has examined the estimates of requirements submitted by the Yugoslav Government in preparation for further discussions on the subject with the Yugoslav delegates in Bari. After a period of inactivity on the part of the voluntary

society units while waiting to move forward into Yugoslavia, the Welfare Division has made arrangements to lend personnel to the Italian Mission to work in the Yugoslav refugee camps in Italy. While the divisions of the office concerned with questions of supply still have preliminary planning of operations ahead of them, the fact that negotiations between the military and the Yugoslav delegates have reached no conclusion has led to much waiting about and consequent disappointment among the staff who arrived in Bari ready and eager to start a job. This feeling is increased by the knowledge that parts of Yugoslavia are in urgent need of supplies, and particularly of food, and that those supplies are available for transportation as soon as agreement is reached.

The Albanian Mission has developed more recently than the other two and at the end of the year, the staff was still very incomplete. A certain amount of planning had already been done when the Mission moved to Bari during November. The absence of contact with an recognised government in the country has made both planning and negotiating difficult. ML (Albania) issued a directive on 17th November appointing UNRRA to act as the Distribution Branch for ML in Albania, distributing both imported and indigenous supplies. It gives UNRRA the task of making a field survey as soon as the country is entered and the allocation of relief supplies will be based on the information so obtained. Members of the Albanian Mission, assisted by Balkan Mission staff, are holding a series of discussions with ML, and the Mission is also engaged in drawing up its own plans, both for the military period and later. No date as to when operations will begin has yet been fixed.

Apart from the country missions, the Balkan Missions's field operations have consisted of running the refugee camps taken over from NERRA in the Middle East and the repatriation of the refugees as well as other persons in the Middle East and the Balkans displaced

as a result of the war. One of the problems in the camps has been to build up a well-coordinated administration embracing not only the normal running of the camps but also the health and welfare services in them. The Health Division has been responsible for the medical, nursing and sanitation services for which a permanent staff has been set up. Arrangements have been made for training the refugees themselves as nurses. Various special studies have been made on the malnutrition among the refugees and the suitability of their diets, the death rate among the younger age groups in the camps, the measles epidemic and allied subjects, all of which, as well as being useful in themselves, may be a guide to conditions likely to be found inside the Balkan countries. Welfare work in the camps suffered a set-back when the voluntary society personnel were withdrawn during September, and there has been a serious shortage of welfare staff which is only just beginning to be made good. The closing of Khatatba camps in October and the transfer of the majority of its Yugoslav refugees to El Shatt, a camp near the Suez Canal, effected a slight economy in camp personnel. The total number of refugees in the camps has remained fairly constant.

Another problem is the shortage of supplies, mainly of clothing and of materials for welfare activities and occupational work. A thorough inquiry into the requirements of the camps has just been completed and this will no doubt lead to a much needed improvement.

The Public Relations Division has cooperated with the British Ministry of Information in producing a film on the Yugoslav camp at El Shatt. The refugees themselves take an increasing part in the running of the camps and have recently given evidence of their cultural activities, first, through the Yugoslav Choir from El Shatt which has performed in Cairo and has made recordings for the BBC, and secondly, by an exhibition of handicrafts made in the camps, often from

improvised materials, which was shown in Cairo at the end of November. One extension of the refugee camp activities on the occupational side is the assembling and repairing of fishing nets and gear at Alexandria which is being carried out by about 40 Greek fisherman.

The work of repatriation of the refugees in the camps and elsewhere, which is being undertaken by the Displaced Persons Division of UNRRA, has already begun and the SHAEF registration procedure has been completed in most of the camps in Egypt, Palestine and Cyprus, and is under way in the other African camps. A central index of registrations has been set up in Cairo which will assist in the orderly repatriation of displaced persons in the Middle East. In addition the Division on Displaced Persons has cooperated with the International Red Cross Committee in making arrangements for the refugees to obtain information about their relatives in other parts of the world.

Satisfactory relationships have been established with local representatives of the Greek, Polish and Yugoslav Governments on refugee questions. Each of these Governments has given assurances that their nationals in the Middle East area may return to their country of origin. While the Governments of these three countries will most probably be willing to accept their own nationals, whether all the nationals themselves will wish to return to their own country is perhaps more doubtful.

The Balkan Mission is now completing the first phase of the work it was set up to perform. It has organized, equipped and sent into the field three country missions which are no longer dependent on it for their day-t-day operations and planning. It has now to review its future work and location. Some of its divisions have finished their work or have passed it on to their counterparts in the country missions to be completed at a country or district level. Cairo, where the Balkan Mission is at present situated, is no longer the obvious headquarters for a mission bringing relief to the Southeastern

European countries. There is, however, clearly a need for an authority to supervise Balkan operations, to coordinate the policy of the Missions, and to interpret on a Balkan level decisions and policies emanating from Washington. Already the country missions have come up against important and urgent problems which they cannot always decide for themselves. Geographically, politically and economically the Balkan countries form a unit and the activities of an external organisation such as UNRRA in any one country inevitably react on the others. A significant example is the integration with ML in Greece. There are thus good reasons for the retention of some authority which can look at national problems from a wider regional point of view - problems which can best be decided by an authority near at hand which has access to the full and up-to-date facts.

With considerable achievement to its credit, but with very real difficulties and dangers ahead, it will be for the Balkan Mission, or whatever may succeed it, to ensure that the structure it has built up not only carries out the plans it has made, but produces in the Balkan countries the lasting results of international cooperation.

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
8 Sharia Dar El-Shifa - Garden City
Cairo

9th August, 1944
CAWA/ No.113

Mr. George Xanthaky,
U.N.R.R.A.
1344 Connecticut Avenue,
Washington 25, D.C.

My dear Xanthaky,

This is in reply to your letter of the 27th July requesting certain items of information regarding the progress of our Mission here.

In the first place may I say that within a week or ten days from now I hope to send both to London and Washington a Report covering our activities for June and July. This will, I think, help to give you the full picture.

In the first paragraph of your letter you ask for an outline of the procedure which is being followed in the development of the Greek, Albanian and Yugoslav country programmes. Our first efforts have been concentrated upon a thorough assimilation of the Military planning. To this end arrangements have been made this week for ninety of our staff to receive six lectures at Meadi from the respective heads of their country programmes. In addition there is constant interchange of visits,, discussions and conferences. Also we have developed many forms of specific planning both for the Military and post War Military period. I have issued an Administrative Order which requires each functional section to clear with any other functional interests concerned and submit their studies to me. At this stage I propose to submit both to you and London asking for specific approval of our planning or such amendments as you may think fit. On authorisation either from London Or Washington we shall regard the plan as approved and commence further to develop the detail.

In the second paragraph of your letter you ask precisely how the Voluntary Society teams are to be integrated into the respective functional programmes and what role they are expected to play. This deserves a special Memorandum and in due course I will have one prepared and sent to you on the subject. Meanwhile you will appreciate I feel sure, that the Voluntary Society teams are part of the Military organizations during the Military phase and are regarded by them as fundamental to their relief and medical programmes. On termination of the Military phase it will be quite a simple matter to integrate them into the respective functional programmes. The Unit leaders could, of course, act as the eyes and ears of every functional division in so far as the territory may not be covered by representatives of the Division themselves. Reports from the United Leaders on conditions in the territories may prove of the utmost value to the district and Headquarters functional organisations.

Our relations with the Military are now and have always been of the most cordial character. Day to day contacts and suggestions on our side are continually made which influence planning. At the top of the pyramid, however, you will be the first to appreciate that General

Hughes is a long distance from AFHQ and that often he is not fully informed of their orientations. Be this as it may we are under no real handicap here, except that I am quite certain that CCAC Washington should issue directives covering the whole ground of policy. It will satisfy us if in the compilation of these directives you will consider cabling us on any points on which you are in doubt. My own personal view is that whatever form these directives may take they will not in practice be very rigid and a good deal of time can be wasted in any attempts at undue precision. General Sadler himself has been entirely co-operative, frank and ingenuous; and you may take it that mutuality of interests is duly and fully recognized.

In respect of distribution I enclose a copy of the present Military position in this respect. This is an accurate statement of their present progress. Quite clearly both they and we must further develop from the point reached in this document. No doubt CCAC directives will cover the Military planning gaps. Our Supply, transportation and distribution Divisions are in daily contact with the Military authorities on all these aspects.

As regards Yugoslavia, we are greatly handicapped by the absence of a Chief and Deputy Chief of Mission. Also by the obscurity of the present political situation. As far as our Mission is concerned we can make contacts either with the National Committee of Liberation at Bari through our Liaison Officers, or to the Bureau of Reconstruction which was set up by the Royalist Government. I observe tendencies at your end to negotiate with the Yugoslav representatives and I am troubled lest these should cut across the very delicate diplomatic relations which exist here, and also between the Yugoslavs and AFHQ. You will no doubt secure that these are harmonised. It would be fatal in my view to attempt to go into Yugoslavia in advance of the Allied Military formations unless, of course, we went in under the wing of Force 399 which is already in Croatia and Dalmatia. But considerable prestige might accrue to UNRRA if a special despatch of civilian medical supplies were sent from Washington to Bari with a request to the Military authorities that as and when possible these might be sent to Marshall Tito for civilian relief.

As you are aware discussions are proceeding on the question of the transfer of the Allied Military Mission to Italy so that it may be in closer contact with AFHQ. We are strongly opposing this; and in this respect have been supported by the British Minister Resident and the British Ambassador to Greece.

I think too that the American Ambassador to Greece is also opposing the move; but opinion appears to be hardening in the direction of leaving the Greek Mission here and despatching the Yugoslav and Albanian Missions to Italy. How these proposals would affect the overall Military Balkan Mission is yet uncertain. My feeling is that the UNRRA Cairo Mission would have to follow the Military pattern. This will introduce a fresh set of complications into which I need not enter.

I will answer your other letters as soon as I conveniently can.

Sincerely yours,

W.T. MATTHEWS
CHIEF OF BALKAN MISSION

A.M.L. SUPPLY AND DISTRIBUTION PLANS
FOR THE BALKANS

It is understood that AML proposes to operate the following plans:

Greece

Goods to be landed at the ports and warehoused under AML control. Goods to be issued from warehouses to representatives of the Greek authorities. UNRRA to exercise inspection and control over distribution.

Albania

Goods to be landed at the ports and issued from depots by AML to representatives of the Albanian authorities.

Yugoslavia

Goods to become the property of the Yugoslav authorities on arrival at the port. Warehousing to be under the control of the local authorities. If Serbia is supplied through Salonika, warehouse at Salonika to be under AML control.

It is thus clear that it is proposed to treat Greece and Yugoslavia on two different principles. In Yugoslavia, AML rely on the doctrine of unfeeling trust. In Greece, they are prepared to envisage far closer inspection and control on distribution. Attitude towards Yugoslavia is not dictated by any belief in the greater trustworthiness of Yugoslavs, but simply by the feeling that Tito will be too strong to brook interference, and that not enough Allied forces will be available to ensure proper distribution.

Be that as it may, the result is that the Greek Government can hardly be expected to agree to a control which will not be extended to Yugoslavia.

27 July 1944

Sir William Matthews
United Nations Relief and
Rehabilitation Administration
c/o American Legation
Cairo, Egypt.

My dear Sir William:

It would be extremely helpful to us here at headquarters if we could get from you at the very earliest possible date, an outline of the procedure which is being followed in the development of the Greek, Albanian and Yugoslav country programs.

We should also like to know if the various functional programs such as Health, Welfare, Displaced Persons, etc. are being developed. It would be particularly useful if you would explain to us precisely how the Voluntary Societies teams are to be integrated into the respective functional programs, and what role they are expected to play.

During the past month and a half there has been a marked improvement in our relations with the Military, as well as the other civilian agencies concerned with Balkan operations. This includes the Treasury. We are being consulted on all important operational matters which have a bearing on our work and being given full opportunity to make suggestions. In our relations with the Military, we have proceeded on the assumption that we are a working partner in an operation with which we all have a vital concern. The Military have accepted the approach and recognized our mutuality of interests.

In addition to the information asked for above, it would be helpful if you would explain to us precisely how the Army - UNRRA relations are developing, and the extent to which UNRRA is participating in military planning, particularly with respect to distribution. We are very much concerned over the Yugoslav problem. Has there been any emphasis of late, on Yugoslav planning along the lines of the AML plan for Greece? Would you send us any material available so that we may be fully advised?

Sincerely yours,

FOR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

George Xanthaky, Chief
Southern European Division
Bureau of Areas

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

8, Sharia Dar El Shifa,
CAIRO,
Egypt.

10th September, 1944

Director General,
UNRRA,
Washington.

I have the honour to enclose herewith a Report on
the activities of the UNRRA Balkan Mission covering the month of
August 1944.

A copy of the Report has been sent to UNRRA,
London.

Chief of Balkan Mission.

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES OF UNRRA BALKAN MISSION
DURING AUGUST 1944

I. Balkan Mission

Introduction

As the day of actual operations for the Balkan Mission has drawn nearer planning during this month has been developed on a country mission basis. For some time past, the Chief of the Greek Mission has been building up his line officers, and has begun to fit his various staff officers into a Greek Mission plan. More recently, observers, have been appointed to become foci around which the Albanian and Yugoslav Missions could be developed and to which district directors have been assigned on arrival. As staff have arrived, they have been nominated by their bureau or division to a country mission. All planning, training and orientation have been carried out within the divisions and bureaux, but, as chiefs and observers of country missions have required, the nominated personnel have been detached from their bureaux and divisions and attached to the country mission staffs. The general planning developed in the bureaux and divisions has then been applied to the situations known to exist in the different countries, and has been integrated into over-all country mission plans. Operational manuals have been prepared for each country, incorporating operational instructions of the bureaux and divisions. Appreciations of the problems and factors likely to be met, and plans for dealing with them have been called for from each of the bureaux and divisions covering both the military and post-military period of operations. These have been incorporated into country mission plans, and almost all have now been submitted for the approval of the Chief of the Balkan Mission.

Operational planning on a country mission basis has involved discussions with recognized governments and national authorities where these exist and joint planning with the military authorities both at the country and district levels. UNRRA's position has been established as the agent of the military authorities on the basis of the Cairo Agreement of the third of April and subsequent interpretation of this Agreement together with UNRRA's lines of communication within the military chain of command. A revised budget has been prepared for submission to Washington and arrangements have been made for training, equipping and mobilizing the missions. At the same time the general development of UNRRA's post-military plans has not been neglected.

Simultaneously the Mission has been heavily committed to its continuing responsibility for the operation of refugee camps. As the day when the Balkan Mission and the country missions will move from Cairo draws nearer, representatives have been attached from the bureaux and divisions to the Camps Division, as if it were in itself a country mission, in order to ensure that will be an adequate staff to carry on UNRRA's responsibility to the refugees in the Middle East.

A. Relationships with Balkan Governments

1. The Greek Government. Despite the uncertainties of the situation, official conferences have been carried on with the Greek Government, and detailed work has been developed with the social and reconstruction departments. At a meeting between representatives of AML, of UNRRA, and of the Greek Government, the AML plan for the distribution

of supplies in Greece, for rationing, and for controls, was explained by AML representatives to the Greek representatives. The Greek Government has submitted estimates of requirements of supplies during the first twelve months after liberation, and these are being analyzed by the Bureau of Requirements and Supply.

2. Yugoslav Representatives. The planning of the Yugoslav Mission has been considerably handicapped by the absence until recently of any agreement between the Yugoslav Government and the National Committee of Liberation. However negotiations are shortly beginning between the military authorities and the National Committee of Liberation at which the UNRRA Yugoslav Mission observer and other representatives of UNRRA will be present as observers. In the meantime the Yugoslav Mission has been planning on the basis of having supplementary plans ready against the event of there being no military relief force.

B. Relationships with AML

1. A course of lectures was delivered early in the month by officers of AML for the purpose of instructing new arrivals to UNRRA in the general background of military planning for the military period of relief. These lectures were followed by the establishment of regular working hours for UNRRA personnel in the offices of the military Territory Forces and technical departments.

- a. Personnel. The position with regard to the right of the military authorities to vet UNRRA personnel has been clarified, and a document has been prepared by the office of the legal adviser to be circulated to all personnel going into the Balkans.

A number of conferences have been held concerning the total number of voluntary society personnel required for medical and relief units during the military period, and concerning the status, training and assignment of these personnel.

- b. Finance and Administration. Arrangements have been made for the integration of military and UNRRA country's staffs to facilitate the taking over of the accounting system by UNRRA at the end of that period. Agreement has been reached in accounting and finance matters and special arrangements have been made for the use by UNRRA of the Command Pay Office and for the provision of local currency to UNRRA.
- c. Requirements and Supply. Members of the Bureau of Requirements and Supply have become familiar with the bases of estimation being used by the military authorities, and have access to all information and data relative to requirements estimation and screening, although it has been clearly established that the relationship of UNRRA in the field of supply during the military period of responsibility is one of observer only. A proposed survey has been prepared by

the military authorities to be carried out during the military period, which will in fact be as valuable (if not more valuable) in the UNRRA period of operations as in the military period.

- d. Industrial and Agricultural Rehabilitation. These Divisions have been working together with their opposite numbers. Meetings have been held between members of the Industrial Rehabilitation Division and the Engineer Branch of AML with a view to the development of joint plans. Similar meetings have been held between members of the Division of Agricultural Rehabilitation and their opposite numbers with particular concern regarding the provision of supplementary supplies during the military period from Turkey and elsewhere.
- e. Distribution and Transport. As has already been indicated the AML distribution and rationing plan for Greece has been presented to the Greek Government with UNRRA participation. Discussions have been held between UNRRA and AML on the general transportation operating responsibility of UNRRA during the military period. The Bureau and AML have discussed the decision of the military authorities not to be responsible for distribution operations at all after supplies have been landed at the ports and stored in war houses, or in the case of Yugoslavia after supplies have been put onto ships. Draft agreements for the handing over of supplies by military authorities to the local government have been discussed, and a tentative agreement has been reached for distribution operations by UNRRA with AML (Albania).
- f. Health. Close integration of the planning of the UNRRA Health Division has been established with the AML Health Departments, and in view of the failure of the military authorities to implement the medical establishment, an appeal has been made to UNRRA to provide doctors, sanitary engineers, medical stores officers, and nurses to make good this deficiency. A request for these personnel has been sent to Washington and London, and in the meantime the UNRRA medical officers are fitting right into the military medical plan.
- g. Welfare. Welfare and relief plans have been discussed between the Welfare Division and the Chief relief officers of AML, and discussions have been held with other UNRRA departments on a standard registration system for Greece and on a rationing scheme to cover destitute persons.
- h. Displaced Persons. Agreement has been reached between the Displaced Persons Division and the chief relief officer for Greece, and the responsibility of AML for the repatriation both of non-Greeks from Greece and of Greek Nationals to Greece during the military period, with the greatest possible use being made throughout of the Displaced Persons Division.

2. Towards the end of the month an initial directive was prepared and issued by AMHQ (Belkams) with regard to employment of UNRRA personnel during the period of military responsibility, which was based on the Cairo agreement of the third of April. This directive established:

- a. That UNRRA would act as an agency, working completely under military direction and control during the military period of responsibility for relief.
- b. That UNRRA personnel would be assigned by the military authorities without necessarily any agreement or consultation with UNRRA.
- c. That direct contact would be maintained between UNRRA personnel and AML all down the line rather than at certain points only, e.g. mission chiefs and other UNRRA line officers.
- d. That UNRRA line and staff officers would have responsibility with their own chain of command only in connection with discipline and pay and post-military planning, and would be treated as individuals within the military chain of command in all other operations, acting as deputies to their military opposite numbers.
- e. Voluntary society personnel and operational units would act as units, taking instruction from their unit leaders.

Amendments to this directive were prepared and submitted in order to bring it more into line with UNRRA's thinking and the interpretation of the Cairo agreement which had been developed in Washington. The chief amendments proposed were designed to establish:

- a. UNRRA consultation on the assignment of personnel and on the assignment of tasks.
- b. The possibility of the development of an UNRRA organization with its own line of command which could take over the responsibility for relief operations from the military authorities as rapidly and as smoothly as possible.
- c. The opportunity for UNRRA to take over full responsibility, as an organization, for certain functions in certain areas even during the military period of responsibility.

C. Development of Mission Internal Organization

In view of the imminent splitting off of the country missions from the Balkan Mission, it has been necessary to develop clear lines of responsibility and channels of communication for the UNRRA Missions and Divisions in the light of the considerable limitations imposed by the Military during the military period. An administrative order has been discussed and agreed upon which establishes:

1. That all staff officers in the field will be responsible to their immediate line officer.

2. That communications from the field will always go through the district directors and chiefs of the country mission.
3. That detailed instructions from the divisions and bureaux of country missions to the field may be sent direct to district directors for the attention of the personnel concerned in the field without prior clearance through the chiefs of the country mission, but policy directives must always be cleared in this way.
4. That, while country missions will be responsible for carrying out the policies and plans developed in the planning stage, and while they will have authority to vary the plans to meet situations as they are found, the Balkan Mission will be responsible for the over-all policies and for co-ordinating the operations in the different country missions and will exercise its functions by inspection and review and the issue of necessary directives. Such directives from the chiefs of bureaux and divisions in the Balkan Mission to the officers in the country mission will be issued through the Chief of the Balkan Mission and the chief of the country mission.
5. That all communications with Washington and London and all negotiations with the Balkan or Mediterranean military and civilian headquarters will be conducted through the Balkan Mission.

D. Revised Budget

1. One or more budget hearings have been held by the Bureau of Finance and Administration with each of the missions, bureaux and divisions including the Camps Division in which the present operating situation has been reviewed in terms of estimates of personnel requirements. As a result a revised budget has been prepared calling for an additional four hundred personnel over and above the four hundred and fifty in the original budget.
2. Towards this number, the following personnel were on duty in Cairo as of first of September 1944 (excluding personnel in camps, but including those at Camp Headquarters):

American	145
British	112
Egyptian	38
Greek	26
South African	6
Australian	2
Polish	2
Armenian	1
Yugoslav	1
Palestinian	1
Danish	1
Belgian	1
New Zealand	1
Russian	1
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3. Personnel records and procedures have been fully established.

4. Local recruitment has gone ahead for the purpose of tapping local Palestinian and Egyptian personnel for clerical work, and Army and RAF personnel for administrative positions. Negotiations have been carried on for obtaining twenty high-grade Army officers and for civilianizing Army officers already obtained.
5. Voluntary society personnel requirements have been co-ordinated and requests dispatched to London and Washington, indicating that no reduction in the original figure of 1800 would be possible without prejudicing the whole program during the military period and that, if voluntary society personnel are not available in the numbers required, direct recruitment should be established to make up the deficiency.

E. Training and Mobilization

1. Increased air passage allotments have been pressed for in view of the rapid development of events.
2. An orientation course has been organized for all newly reporting personnel, and a booklet prepared as a preliminary guide to the Middle East.
3. An over-all UNRRA Committee on Training, composed of mission, bureau and technical division representatives plus representatives of AML and the Cairo Council of Voluntary Societies, has been established with several sub-committees set up and functioning. The training has included the following:
 - a. Greek and Yugoslav classes at the UNRRA Training Camp and at UNRRA Headquarters.
 - b. Completion of a course for all voluntary society and camp personnel on the use of DDT.
 - c. A staff course for all leading members of voluntary society units.
 - d. Driving and mechanical instruction and tests for members of voluntary society units.
 - e. Development of plans by the Distribution and Transport Bureau for a special driving course for Yugoslav and Greek refugees.
 - f. Setting up of a Fisheries School at Alexandria by the Division of Agriculture and Fisheries.
4. With a view to the early mobilization of missions, a mobilization group was established in the Bureau of Finance and Administration with three senior administrative officers for the planning and execution of movements. This group has covered such matters as the establishment of the status under military law of UNRRA and voluntary society personnel; the obtaining of a military endorsement for UNRRA identity cards; the issue of instructions regarding security; the purchase of office and camp equipment for all personnel; the splitting up of the central registry of files into registries for the Balkans and each of the country missions; arrangements for medical examinations and the inoculation of personnel; and negotiations concerning services and facilities to be

made available by the British Army for all personnel while they are in the Middle East.

5. Side by side with the mobilization of UNRRA's own personnel has gone the mobilization and equipment of voluntary society field units which have been assigned to each of the territories by agreement between AML, UNRRA and the Cairo Council of Voluntary Societies.
6. The Camps Division has prepared a tentative estimate of the personnel which could be called upon for duty in the Balkans at short notice, subject to the agreement of the military authorities in order to assist with any transient center programme of operations.

F. Post-Military Planning

Most bureaux and divisions have carried on with post-military planning at the same time as with military planning.

1. The Bureau of Requirements and Supply has been developing estimates of food and textiles, and estimating supply requirements for the post-military period, and has been screening the requests made by the Greek Government. In addition, the Bureau has been organizing a system of files and records whereby data for amendments to the military period requirements can be kept current and summarized at necessary intervals.
2. The Bureau of Distribution and Transport has been developing rationing plans, distribution controls and transport schemes for the period of full UNRRA responsibility.
3. The Division of Agriculture and Fisheries has developed a crop production programme for Greece for 1945, and has been examining the possibilities of obtaining agricultural supplies such as draft animals, seeds and animal feeds suited to Balkan needs from Turkey where the search for new markets in lieu of the lost German markets has shown that the Government, in order to establish its post-war trade, may be driven to reduce the very high prices and rigid export licensing system which at present prevents the export of very large supplies which are available.
4. The Industrial Rehabilitation Division has been preparing estimates of post-war requirements.
5. The Health Division has been concerned with the establishment of agreements regarding the use of the World Typhus Commission during the UNRRA period and has been considering the multilateral quarantine and epidemiological control agreements which have been prepared in Washington.
6. The Welfare Division has made plans for the post-military period involving such activities as family and child welfare services; aid to women with children; care of orphans; advice and information services; occupational rehabilitation, etc.

G. Intelligence Activities

The Intelligence Division has continued to provide up-to-date information on economic and social conditions in the Balkans by means of:

1. A weekly talk to chiefs of missions, bureaux and divisions.
2. The preparation of intelligence papers and files for circulation to members of the missions concerned.
3. Very close contact with military forces now operating in the Balkans.
4. The interrogation of persons coming out of the Balkans, and the collection of answers to inquiries sent into the Balkans.
5. The library which is now well established with a good supply of general reference books and background reference books on the Balkan countries, and books and reports on special functional subjects, periodicals and papers received from London and Washington.

Members of the Intelligence Division have been attached to each of the country missions for which they have been specializing.

H. Public Relations

The arrival of the Public Relations Officer has made possible the development of general public relations activities in addition to those concerned particularly with the refugee camps. In particular, the flow and variety of news material from Washington and London has been increased, and the alignment of UNRRA Public Relations with AML and PWB (now AIS), OWI and the Ministry of Information, etc. has been developed by conferences and discussions. The coverage of Middle East camp operations has been increased by:

1. The assistance of photographs taken by OWI.
2. A film which is being shot by the Middle East representative of the "March of Time" of the El Shatt Camp, which is to have a background of the famous one hundred voice choir, and which, if it can be cleared through the governments concerned, will be issued through the newsreel channels of the world.
3. The arrival of the Beddington Camera Crews and of Mr. Calder Marshall.

At the same time two hundred feet of silent film have been taken of the regular Monday morning meeting of the bureau and division directors and the chiefs of missions. Press releases have been continuing and clippings of Middle East and Balkan activities are heavier and lengthier than ever.

The Public Relations office has also issued the first two numbers of the fortnightly Mission STAFF SHEET, designed to keep all divisions informed of general UNRRA progress.

II. MIDDLE EAST ACTIVITIES OF THE BALKAN MISSION

A. The Camps Division has been concerned throughout the month of August with establishing itself as self-supporting as possible within the general organization of the Balkan Mission by the attachment to itself of representatives from the Supply, Medical, Welfare and other Balkan Mission Bureaux and Divisions so that administration of the camps can continue without interruption when the Balkan Mission leaves Egypt.

1. The military personnel establishment allocated by the British War Office to administer the camps has been fixed at 315.
2. The total number of refugees is practically the same as it was on the first of July. A thousand Polish refugees have been transferred from Persia to India, but these refugees are not yet an UNRRA commitment. Including the Poles in Persia, the total number therefore stands at 45,576.
3. A number of transfers has occurred. Eight hundred partisan Yugoslav convalescent mothers and children have been moved from El Shatt to Tolumat, and alternative accommodation has been provided at El Arish in Sinai for the small number of Yugoslav Royalists, about 340, which had previously occupied the Tolumat Camp.
4. Engineering work has been completed at Khatatba to provide accommodation for up to 20,000 refugees, subject to the provision of tentage and other accommodation stores, but in fact the establishment of the camp at Philippeville has reduced the necessity for the expansion of accommodation for refugees in the Middle East, and at the same time drastically reduced the medical staff which was being relied upon for the Middle East camps.
5. During the month, the greater proportion of voluntary society personnel, who have done much to assist in building up successful administration of the camps, has been withdrawn for mobilization to meet operations in the Balkans. It is a tribute to the voluntary society personnel that it has been possible for the refugees, trained by the voluntary society personnel, to take over their duties which include general labor with the Royal Engineers and tent pitching and sanitary duties, the supervision of cooking and baking and the control of ration issued.
6. A new ration scale which is better adapted to refugee needs has been prepared in consultation with the Health Division and the British Army.
7. Men's and boys' clothing has been obtained from the British Army and women's and children's clothing from Palestinian factories in place of the American Red Cross supplies which have come to an end.
8. Canteens have been set up under a special Canteen Division at headquarters where refugees may spend the pocket money now issued to all refugees.

B. Requirements and Supply

Arrangements are being made to meet the possible need for

change over from provision of all camp supplies by the British Army to full UNRRA responsibility. Such supplies as tea, coffee and sugar will have to be imported, as well as medical supplies and garments.

The Bureau of Requirements and Supply has worked with the Camps Division to provide estimates of requirements for the refugee camps, to procure supplies and to transport the supplies obtained. In addition to supplying the refugee camps the Bureau of Requirements and Supply has investigated the possibility in the Middle East of meeting Balkan needs. As military requirements are reduced, certain supplies are becoming available; in particular, quite large quantities of leather and shoes, the latter at the rate of 80,000 a month. The results of investigation of the possibility of obtaining supplies from Persia proved nugatory.

C. Distribution and Transport

The Bureau of Distribution and Transport has taken over the administrative responsibility for the vehicles being used in the Camps Division and for local transport in Cairo. Vehicles are being identified by the painting of the UNRRA seal on the side panels and fenders.

D. Health

The Health Division's activities in the Middle East have been mainly connected with the very heavy problems of the refugee camps. The doctors, nurses and pharmacists available from voluntary societies have not been easy to replace by local recruitment, and the personnel expected from Washington has been diverted to the Philippeville Camp. Special problems have been the measles epidemics in all camps, the establishment of a center for the large number of tubercular refugees, and the endeavor to obtain artificial limbs for a number of Yugoslav soldiers.

E. Welfare

This Division has established a Director of Camp Welfare and a Camps Division Liaison Officer. It has also been assisting in the development of welfare and occupational programmes for the camps within the limits of the small number of available personnel.

F. Displaced Persons

These activities in the Middle East have included:

1. Negotiations regarding the repatriation of Poles from India, Iran and parts of Africa.
2. The distribution of the "10027" cards of the International Red Cross through the Middle East refugee camps.
3. The establishment of a central registry of all Yugoslavs, Greeks, and Poles in Iran, India, the Middle East and Africa, which will contain all the information necessary for the use of public and private agencies providing a locator service, in order to effect the repatriation of refugees.

4. The establishment of a section to handle welfare inquiries and repatriation on an individual basis.
5. Discussions with the Deputy Director of the Italian Refugee Section of ACC regarding his experience in Italy.

G. Agriculture and Fisheries

This Division has made progress with plans for the production of garbage-fed pigs at refugee camps, and at Khatatba pens of salvaged brick are now ready for stocking.

H. Finance and Administration

Negotiations have been continued with the Egyptian Government regarding Egypt's contribution to UNRRA, and the privileges and immunities requested by UNRRA under the resolutions of the Atlantic City Conference. Discussions have been held with technical representatives of the Egyptian Government regarding the computation of Egypt's national income. Apparent agreement has been reached as to the payment of the Egyptian administrative contribution, and favorable action is anticipated by the Ministry when the UNRRA agreement comes up for ratification. Favorable action on the privileges and immunities has not yet been taken, but efforts are continuing to secure action on this subject. Great difficulties are being experienced in bringing staff from Palestine to Egypt for interview or employment.

The Accounting Department of the Camps Division has been integrated with the Division of Accounts to facilitate the installation of a uniform UNRRA accounting system in all camps.

III. GREEK MISSION

The month under review has been an unsettled one in so far as relationships with the Greek Government and AML Greece are concerned in view of impending moves and frequent changes of plan, but it has seen a steady integration of the Mission's field administration with AML's own field organization, and a continued development of special plans of vital interest to Greece. Members of the Mission have spent each morning working with district and regional staffs, and have devoted the afternoon to post-military planning, an opportunity being provided each week for breaking down to district and regional levels the planning carried out during the week by functional bureaux and divisions. Three district directors are now appointed, and two more are under final consideration; one has not yet been released from the Army, and one district has as yet no director assigned. Five regional directors have been appointed, and two are under consideration. In addition, one deputy district director and one field officer have been appointed. It has therefore been possible for functional and district planning to be developed in detail.

A. Finance and Administration

The Chief of the Bureau for the Balkan Mission has had discussions with Sir Francis Rugman and representatives of the American and British Embassies to Greece. The Greek Government's attitude in financial matters has

been in favor of introducing the new drachma notes printed in England immediately upon liberation, and of establishing a rate between the new and the old drachma and foreign exchange rates at as early a date as possible as against the issue of BMA notes. The Greek Government has been prepared to supply currency to AML and UNRRA, but wishes to receive prompt settlement in foreign exchange for military as opposed to relief expenditures. The Greek Government is also prepared to accept Bulgarian currency in Bulgarian occupied parts, but with United Nations help to recover from Bulgaria at a fair rate.

The Government intends to sell prime relief commodities at landed cost, but revenue from other goods is to be above landed cost. No clear method of establishing landed cost in currency and within the purchasing power of wage earners has been devised. Priority will be given to financing the Social Insurance Institute and the Agricultural Bank.

Subsequent communications with the U.K. and U. S. Treasuries have resulted in agreement to issue new drachma notes immediately on liberation and in agreement to the issue of BMA notes with the proviso that these are backed by sterling.

B. Requirements and Supply

The Chief of the Bureau of Requirements and Supply for Greece has been appointed. The estimated requirements prepared by the Greek Government will not be finally considered until they can be compared with the estimates which have been prepared in London. Supplementation has been recommended in respect of the medical supply programme during the military period.

C. Distribution and Transport

The conference at which the AML distribution plan was presented to the Greek Government has been referred to elsewhere in this report, as also the rationing plan prepared. These are now receiving further consideration in the light of the views of the Greek Government and the operations of the Swedish-Swiss Commission. It is planned that the Swedish-Swiss Commission should continue to operate during the first stage of liberation, and should not be subordinated to UNRRA, but should be integrated into UNRRA after negotiations to be conducted by UNRRA as and where necessary.

An inclusive caique programme has been recommended to go beyond the provision by AML of 150 caiques by the end of September and investigations in Turkey have revealed the possibility of chartering a considerable number of caiques flying the Turkish flag immediately the war ends.

Three transport men have been assigned to Greece, and a distribution team has been gathered together for Crete.

D. Industrial Rehabilitation

1. Shelter

An emergency scheme for providing shelter to meet the very considerable needs resulting from the punitive burning of villages has been prepared,

and consideration of this scheme has been one of the chief activities of the Mission during the month. A grant of \$300,000 has been received from the Greek War Relief Association with the approval of the Inter-Allied Committee in Washington for the shipment of tar paper and other building materials. The Shelter plan proposes three stages:

- a. Aid in materials for 30,000 home owners whose dwellings are susceptible of a minimum repair to make them habitable involving a minimum of 3650 tons of shipping monthly for six months.
- b. Materials for an additional number in the same category where roofs were completely destroyed and walls thirty per cent destroyed.
- c. Materials for dwellings completely destroyed where the walls are standing but useless, and the foundations intact.

Discussions have been held with AML with regard to the support of an UNRR application to the Combined Boards for additional shipping and materials during the military period to meet the needs in the first stage above.

2. An analysis has been prepared of the flour milling capacity of Greece, which reveals that this is adequate for the minimum milling needs when relief supplies of grain enter the country provided that fuel and power are available.
3. An examination has been made of the possible needs for the boring of new wells.
4. Technical discussions have been carried on with technical specialists of the Greek Government on industrial questions.

E. Agriculture and Fisheries

1. Reference has already been made in this report to the development of a crop production programme for 1945 and to investigations of the possibility of obtaining draft animals and animal feed and seeds from Turkey at the end of the war.
2. A school of fishing which has been established at Alexandria was also referred to earlier. Training covers the whole range of repair of fishing equipment and will make possible early operation of the fishing industry in Greece.
3. The Greek Ministry of Reconstruction has given valuable assistance and information for the preparation of a comprehensive report.

F. Health

1. Close co-operation has been maintained with the Greek Government and with AML Greece. The principal medical officer has prepared an appreciation and plan for the Health Division operations in Greece, and has worked out a detailed application of this plan to District No. 1

2. Strong recommendations for supplementary provision of soap and hospital equipment has been made to the Bureau of Requirements and Supply for transmission to Washington.
3. Three medical officers, one chief nurse, and eight regional nursing consultants have been assigned to the Mission and the chief nurse has been acting as chief matron for AML (Greece).
4. Of the voluntary society units available, two hygiene and First Aid units have been assigned to Greece; four medical stores officers and four drivers; five Public Health welfare nurses and one field bacteriologist.

G. Welfare

1. A thorough appreciation and plan has been prepared.
2. Discussions have been held on the need of some free emergency distribution of supplies as well as the provision for cash relief to encourage the earliest possible resumption of normal purchasing.
3. A conference was held with the Greek Minister of Social Welfare and Health to discuss welfare needs in Greece and the ways in which the Welfare Division can be most helpful in meeting them.
4. A director of welfare and four other members of the Division have been assigned to the Greek Mission together with five relief units from the voluntary societies.

H. Displaced Persons

A preliminary plan for the care and feeding of displaced persons has been prepared in consultation with the Health Division and the nutrition specialist of the Bureau of Distribution and Transport. The repatriation of Greek nationals to Greece and of non-Greeks from Greece has been discussed, and agreement as to AML responsibility has been reached. A director of displaced persons and one other member of the Division have been assigned to the Greek Mission.

IV. YUGOSLAV MISSION

With the appointment of Mr. Alan Hall as Observer, Yugoslav plans began to develop rapidly on a Mission basis. Starting with nine members assigned to the Mission, by the first week in September there were over thirty, either nominated or actually attached. Four district directors, three deputy district directors and three field officers had taken up their duties and within a few weeks plans had been obtained from each of the functional bureaux and divisions. These plans were prepared in such form as could be presented to the recognized Yugoslav Government in the event of there being no military relief force. The Mission Observer together with other representatives of the Balkan Mission will shortly be attending discussions between the military authorities and the National Committee of Liberation. Talks, lectures and language classes were begun as part of a training programme. Mobilization of personnel has been expedited, and by the end of the month an advance party moved off to advance headquarters. Two members

of the Intelligence Division have been attached to the Mission. Plans have been developed for the use of voluntary society personnel as survey units, and detailed functional plans have been developed as personnel have been assigned to the Mission.

A. Finance and Administration

A director of administrative services has been appointed for the Mission and an office manager and an executive assistant assigned to work with him.

B. Requirements and Supply

No personnel has as yet been assigned to the Mission, but the Deputy Chief of the Balkan Mission has planned to be present at the negotiations between the military authorities and the National Committee of Liberation.

C. Distribution and Transport

1. This Bureau has examined the possibility of establishing a reasonable control over supplies.
2. Members of the Bureau have been assigned to Yugoslavia and a request for distribution officers for Yugoslavia has been included in the revised budget. The Deputy Chief of the Balkan Mission also plans to be present at the negotiations between the military authorities and the National Committee of Liberation.

D. Industrial Rehabilitation

This Division has submitted a plan for operations in Yugoslavia involving survey activities and the provision of technical assistance.

E. Agriculture and Fisheries

Plans have been made to provide assistance of a survey and technical nature.

F. Health

A careful analysis of the medical situation that will be met in Yugoslavia together with an appreciation of the limitations imposed on the assistance UNRRA could offer has been prepared as a basis for a plan of medical assistance to the Yugoslav Government. This envisages two main activities:

1. The provision of medical stores at an early stage.
2. The offer of demonstration units to allow the Yugoslav medical authorities to make the best possible use of the supplies available, and of the technical knowledge gained during the war.

The following personnel have been assigned to the Mission:

- 1 P. M. O. with a deputy and one other medical officer.
- 1 nursing consultant with seven regional consultants and four voluntary society Public Health nurses.
- 1 sanitary engineer

1 medical stores officer together with four voluntary society stores officers and four drivers.

1 bacteriologist with two voluntary society laboratory technicians.

3 voluntary society Hygiene and First Aid Units.

G. Welfare

An operational plan has been presented; a handbook of relief operations is being prepared; and training is going ahead for Yugoslav refugees. A director with three other members of the Division has been assigned to the Mission together with three voluntary society relief units now in the Middle East and two more which are expected shortly.

H. Displaced Persons

Negotiations have been carried on for the return of the refugees in the Middle East. Plans have been developed for collecting information for the identification, registration and transport of displaced persons and for their care and maintenance. A director with one other member of the Division has been assigned to the Mission.

V. ALBANIAN MISSION

Pending the arrival of Chief of Mission, Mr. McNabb has been delegated to act as Observer for the Mission. With a staff of twelve, plans have been prepared and completed with AML (Albania) and with the functional bureaux and divisions. This small functional staff has been made ready for immediate mobilization and has submitted detailed plans for operation.

A. Finance and Administration

This Bureau has so far not been able to make any assignment to Albania.

B. Requirements and Supply

A chief supply officer for the Mission has been appointed by this Bureau.

C. Distribution and Transport

In consultation with AML (Albania) this Bureau has prepared a detailed plan for distribution operations within the framework of AML's planning and organization.

D. Industrial Rehabilitation

No assignment has been possible by this Division.

E. Agriculture and Fisheries

One member has been assigned to the Mission from this Division.

F. Health

This Division has prepared a plan of operation for using the personnel available, particularly in the devastated areas.

The personnel at present available are a P. M. O. and one sanitary engineer, a chief nurse and one voluntary society Public Health welfare nurse, a voluntary society medical stores officer and three drivers, six laboratory technicians and one Hygiene and First Aid Unit.

G. Welfare

An appreciation of the plan for welfare operations in Albania has been prepared in consultation with AML (Albania) and a director has been assigned to the Mission with one voluntary society relief unit.

H. Displaced Persons

The Chief of the Division of the Balkan Mission has held discussions with AML (Albania) with particular reference to repatriation of the Italians at present wandering destitute, and with little food or clothing all over Albania.

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

8 Sharia Dar El Shifa,

CAIRO,
Egypt

10th August, 1944

Director General,
UNRRA,
Washington.

I have the honour to enclose herewith a Report
on the activities of the UNRRA Balkan Mission covering
the period 1st June to 31st July, 1944.

A copy of the Report has been sent to UNRRA,
London.

(sgd) Matthews,

Chief of Balkan Mission

U. N. R. R. A. BALKAN MISSION

CAIRO

Report covering the activities of the
Mission during June and July, 1944.

Preface

1. Reports are appended covering operations of the various functional divisions of the Mission during the period in question.
2. In the absence of a Chief or Deputy Chief of the Yugoslav Mission, no report on the country mission is submitted. The necessary collaboration with AML has meanwhile been maintained through the office of the Chief of Balkan Mission and a good deal of progress has been made, particularly as regards the functions and formation of voluntary society teams for work in the Yugoslav field. Other Yugoslav problems are receiving attention from the various functional divisions and are referred to in their reports.

GREECE AND ALBANIA MISSIONS

I - GENERAL

The months under review have been devoted principally to reconciling UNRRA planning for Greece and Albania with that of AML, with the co-operation of the Allied Embassies and Anglo-American informational agencies and in the light of changing conditions within the countries. Outstanding matters of interest to which the Greece and Albanian Missions have been related in these activities during the months are as follows:-

- A. Clarification of the basis on which the food stockpile for Greece and Albania is being built up. In this we joined in pointing out the error of the theory that the rural population could be regarded as self-sufficient (AML stockpiling under Combined Board allocations provides only for feeding approximately three million city and town population in Greece). Mr. Hill and Mr. Simmonds, the Commercial Counsellors of the American and British Embassies to Greece and ourselves have combined in the effort to crystallise the recognition of this fallacy in view of the continued burning of villages, disruption of farm activities, reduced crops, lack of work animals, etc. Discussions have been held in an effort to determine what would be the calory equivalent per capita of the supplies which were expected to be found locally to supplement the daily calory value of supplies to be taken in. According to figures given by Mr. Hill of the American Embassy, the assumption of the Combined Boards is that local supplies will be found which work out to the equivalent of 1170 calories per capita. This would mean that the equivalent of only 830 calories per capita would be imported during the military period. Information was sent through diplomatic channels to strengthen the efforts of Col. Katzin, Col. Bell and Mr. Gerstenzang in Washington.
- B. In the absence of industrial rehabilitation specialists we have made a beginning on requirements for textile and leather wear industries of Greece for relief needs enlisting the co-operation of CEWA. In the process information developed which we did not have previously that AML Greece on 2nd May had requested the War Office London, to give consideration to supplies of cotton and wool for Greek mills, that the War Office replied on 25th May asking for proper estimates, and that on 18th June suggestions were made to the War Office on the basis of pre-war imports into Greece that the quantities would be required as follows:-

Raw Wool	4,270 tons for three (3) months
Ginned Cotton.....	3,850 " " " " "

The above is admittedly a rough estimate. It is necessary to work up detailed requirements, based on factory conditions in the present circumstances, since UNRRA is expected to reconcile the rough estimates with actual requirements in so far as they can be determined before liberation.

C. A preliminary discussion of the question in principle as to UNRRA's supplying of roofing timber for the burned villages was prepared in consultation with the Chief of Balkan Mission for Washington in the form of a letter to Mr. Menshikov early in June. This letter was based on full consideration of this subject with the Embassies and agencies interested, mainly to approach an expression of policy. Further studies are being pursued, principally with the Agricultural Bank of Greece, which surveyed the extent of house destruction. These studies are being reconciled with a study now completed by the Greek Government which envisages construction of entire houses and is too elaborate for our purpose, but will provide a basis for our minimum estimates when the policy is defined by Washington. The policy involved the question of aid to village home owners in "getting a roof over their heads" as against prolonged care in artificial shelter centres.

D. Discussions have been held with AML Greece and AML Albania to reconcile their plans with our view that their original specifications for refugee camp operations as a solution for displaced populations must now be adjusted in the light of the facts that:

(i) rural populations have generally remained in the area of displacement "hanging on by their eyelids" among the ruins of their homes to be near their crops;

(ii) refugee congestion in the cities is made up largely of people who would likely return after liberation to the towns from which they fled in order to escape being taken as hostages.

Progress in this reconciliation is indicated in the now being made in AML communications to transient centres rather than refugee camps. In this connection, guidance has been given to the UNRRA Welfare Division in the planning of some form of service to women and children to be established in the burned areas rather than in distant centres.

E. A discussion in letter form has been submitted in consultation with the Chief of Balkan Mission to Washington on the question of financing recoverable advances in the form of raw materials for relief industries, raising the question of policy for clarification before any consideration of this reaches the Greek industries. This went forward under date of 20th June. This was discussed beforehand with the Counsellors of the Embassies and representatives of Treasuries of UK and USA.

F. Discussions on the question of recapitalisation of the Agricultural Bank of Greece to supply credit to farmers for seed and fertilizer distribution and an agricultural production programme have been held with the Agricultural Division, originated with that division by representatives of the Greek Government and the Agricultural Bank. No conclusion has been reached pending the return to Cairo of the Financial Adviser of AML and the appointment of UNRRA's Financial Adviser.

II ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS

An agreement in principle has been obtained from Washington on the gradual formation of an active Greece Mission and likewise an Albanian Mission which may later, of course, be established upon its own base of operations. Specific provision for the Missions at this time as against the original UNRRA plan for an Office of Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania Planning was required under AML pressure for integrating operational plans before entering the military period. Progress on this has been slow, but understandable in the light of this radical change in policy.

Concrete progress may be recorded as follows:

GREECE

District and Regional Directors:

- Appointed - John A. Saunders - at one time in charge for the League of Nations of the exchange of populations between Bulgaria and Greece and in recent years in charge of the very considerable Lloyds business in Greece.
- Appointed - Charles Piercy - an engineer attached to the Sudan Government with considerable administrative responsibility who spent two years in Greece in charge of operations enlarging tunneling and other drainage facilities in the Lake Kopais Project.
- Proposed - Captain Richard Small - US Provost Marshall's office in Cairo.
- Proposed - Eugene Vanderpool - formerly in Greece, now in USA.
- Proposed - Certain members of Force 133 and OSS.

Industrial Rehabilitation:

- Negotiations - O.R. Verity former manager of Public Utilities, Mexico City, commercial manager, Public Utilities, Athens.
- Proposed - Percy Hamilton - operational engineer of the Athens Water Works and Struma Drainage.

Financial Adviser:

- Proposed - Elgin Groseclose - US Treasury, formerly Financial Adviser to Iranian Government.

Director, Finance and Administration:

- Proposed - Lowell Collins - former Finance Director for Balkans of Near East Relief, now Chief Planning Division, Farm Credit Administration, USA.

Chief Public Relations and Special Assistant:

- Appointed - Homer Davis - former President, Athens College, now US State Department, Turkey; former Executive Vice President, Greek War Relief.

/Proposed..

Chief Public Relations and Special Assistant (contd)

Proposed - Sloman - former Director, English School, Spezia. Faculty member Athens College.

Welfare Division:

Appointed - Glen Leet - Director. Five (5) years State Administration of Public Assistance, Rhode Island.

Appointed - John Dula - former Assistant Director of Child Welfare, New York State Public Welfare.

Appointed - Meverette R. Smith - consultant in welfare planning for burned areas.

Appointed - Charles E. Lewis - Senior Welfare Specialist for Greece.

Agricultural Rehabilitation Division:

Appointed - Wayne Adams - Deputy Director for Greece.

Proposed - Paul Allen - Former County Agricultural Agent, New York State.

On loan - Artificial breeding specialists on loan from Near East Foundation (all of Cornell University):
Irvine F. Elliott
Glen Salisbury
C.S. Stephanides

Health and Sanitation Division:

Lieut-Col. Gilbert Osincup, US Public Health Service.

Miss Bell Greve (General Secretary, International Society for Crippled and Disabled).

Dr. Harland Wilson: Specialist in Orthopedics (for war disabled)

Three (3) specialists in physical therapy, occupational therapy and manufacture of artificial limbs.

Division of Displaced Persons:

Waitstill C. Sharp, Director of Division

ALBANIA:

Proposed - Harry T. Fultz - for Chief of Mission, former Director, American Red Cross Technical School, Tirana.

Appointed - John D. McNabb, former American Red Cross Service, Albania, Construction and Personnel Superintendent, Dupont Company, USA.

Appointed - Dr. Wilson Dodd, now PMO, El Shatt.

Agricultural Rehabilitation Division

Proposed - Professor L.H. MacDaniels, former Department Head Cornell University, Agricultural College, now Director Agricultural Extension, Syria.

III OPERATION/L PLANNING

District Directors have been bracketed with District Officers in AML and regular routine conferences have been arranged. Regular conferences have been established between District Officers and UNRRA Division Chiefs of Supply, Transport, Health, Welfare, etc. Mr. Saunders and Mr. Piercy are working on organisational plans and estimates of personnel required in Districts One and Two to which they are assigned. They are also considering the relationship of the District Office to the Headquarters of the Mission and to the functional division representatives in the field. Selection of voluntary society personnel now in training at Maadi or in the refugee camps will be made in co-operation with UNRRA functional divisions and the voluntary societies themselves to fill needs for personnel not met by the UNRRA budget. Special problems in the districts such as the burned villages are under survey.

An informal conference is being held in the office of the Chief of Mission every other Saturday morning at 11 a.m. with representatives of the Embassies and various UK and US agencies, etc.

During the period the Chief of Mission addressed the AML Albania at their invitation, as had been done in May to AML Greece and Yugoslavia.

IV GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

In keeping with the Chief of Balkan Mission's cablegram to Washington, we have followed the lead of AMHQ in delaying formal relations with the new Greek Government pending the establishment of military liaison procedure which would legalise the exchange of fundamental information necessary for reconciling the government planning and our own.

Exchange of technical services has proceeded as before, particularly in agricultural planning, with a newly arrived Manager of the Agricultural Bank of Greece and with the Fisheries Specialists of the Greek Government, as will be discussed in detail in the report of Mr. Kelsey.

As to Albania, there is the apparent confusion in the facts that promises of independence and national integrity have been made by the Foreign Office and the Department of State and that we have no recognised government with which to work. Mr. McNabb and the Chief of Mission maintain informal contact with the Charge d'Affaires, Ahmed Sule Bey, who is recognised by the Egyptian Government as representing Albania in Egypt and is apparently in good relations with the British and American Embassies. We understand that Albania through its former government, now in London, will request admission to membership at the September meeting of the UNRRA council. We continue to be advised closely on Albanian affairs by Mr. Fultz and others with whom Mr. McNabb set up a working basis during his visit to Bari at the end of May.

BUREAU OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

I GENERAL SUMMARY

The work of the Bureau of Finance and Administration during the months of June and July has been concerned primarily with the following four major fields.

- 1) The initial organisation of the constituent units of the Bureau.
- 2) The installation of accounting and fiscal controls for the Mission.
- 3) The selection of locally engaged staff for the Mission.
- 4) The provision of office facilities and services for the Mission.

In general, these months have represented the initiation of the Bureau's work and the establishment of its divisional organisation. The internal organisation of the constituent units has progressed farthest in the Division of Accounts, but now substantial progress has been effected in the organisation of the Personnel Division. The functions of the Division of Disbursements, contemplated on the organisation chart as a separate unit, have been carried on under the direction of the Chief of the Accounts Division because of the limited work presently involved and the shortage of staff. The Division of Administrative Services has been functioning under the supervision of the Acting Director of Personnel and has not as yet assumed its full responsibilities. The Division of Statistics has not yet been established.

In addition to the divisional activities indicated below, the Bureau undertook certain other tasks during June, involving relationships with the Egyptian Government and the military authorities. Negotiations were initiated with British and American military authorities and with the Egyptian Government for the acceptance of the UNRRA identification and travel visas. Preliminary discussions were held with the UNRRA Liaison Office of the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning the amount and form of Egyptian contribution to UNRRA and, in co-operation with the Bureau of Requirements and Supply, enquiries were made of British and American supply agencies in the Middle East concerning the relation of the Egyptian contribution to existing supply arrangements in Egypt.

Discussions were also held with the Egyptian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of the Interior on problems of UNRRA communications, privileges and immunities, and progress made in securing consideration of these matters by a special committee of the Cabinet, which is expected to take favourable action before the end of August.

A statement of the liaison relations with AMHQ (Balkans) was developed and issued to the staff.

The following administrative orders and staff notices were issued:

Administrative Order:

- No. 1 - Functions and Administrative Organisation of the Balkan Mission.

Office Memoranda:

- No. 1 - Military identification passes
- 2 - Attendance and leave
- 3 - Camp kits
- 4 - Office correspondence procedure
- 5 - Use of UNRRA transportation
- 6 - Staff appointments
- 7 - Time off allowed during summer months

II MAJOR DIVISIONAL ACTIVITIES

A. Division of Accounts:

1. On 1st June the Mission accounts were transferred from the Disbursing Officer of the American Legation. A consolidated report of expenditures from 1st February to 30th May was prepared and forwarded to Washington.

2. Pursuant to Washington instructions, an inventory of the physical assets and stores at the ex-MERRA camps was inaugurated.

3. After inspection visits to camps at Khatatba, El Shatt and Moses Wells, arrangements were made for the installation of a more uniform system of camp accounts.

4. Payroll and disbursing procedures were established for the Mission headquarters.

B. Division of Personnel and Training:

1. Strength Report

On 31st July the staff of the Mission, excluding military and local civilian personnel employed in refugee camps, but including the Camp Operations Division headquarters, totalled 238. The distribution of nationalities was as follows:

American.....	89
British.....	70
Egyptian.....	52
Greek.....	17
Palestinian.....	1
Polish.....	1
South African.....	3
Maltese.....	1
Yugoslav.....	4
	<u>238</u>

The strength of the voluntary society personnel as at 31st July was 270.

2. A personnel registry was established during the month. Personnel files are being made out for all employees and applicants and a subject matter file on personnel policy is in process.

3. Action was undertaken to eliminate certain anomalies in connection with the salaries of ex-MERRA employees and locally engaged personnel. Adjustments were effected in some of the most obvious cases, and an analysis is in preparation covering the salary levels of the entire staff in relation to the Mission budget.

4. Procedures were established, in collaboration with MEF, GHQ, for the civilisation of members of the British Forces joining UNRRA.

5. Improvements were effected in the procedure for security vetting of all UNRRA employees, in collaboration with British and American security officers. All employees have now been vetted.

6. A staff billeting officer has been appointed to deal with the problem of receiving staff members arriving from US or UK and making necessary arrangements for their living accommodation and other personal affairs.

7. Greek language classes were organised for staff members desiring such instruction.

8. Discussions have been held with the Health Division concerning the problem of medical care for the staff, looking forward to the possibility of establishing dispensary facilities.

9. 65 new locally engaged staff members were employed during the two months.

10. The proposed regulations on employees' injury compensation and on the Provident Fund, received from Washington, were reviewed and comments prepared.

11. Preparations for the mobilisation, equipment and further training of the first 90 voluntary society medical and welfare personnel withdrawn from present work and training in refugee camps have been completed. Special training units for four leaders began on July 10th; 150 at least will be mobilised by the end of August.

12. Further requests for additional UK and US personnel have been received from AML during the months. Discussions with AML to clarify the total demand for personnel and to define their duties continue.

C. Division of Administrative Services

1. The rehabilitation of the building at 8, Sharia Dar El Shifa was completed and the staff (other than Camps Operations Division staff) moved to the building.

2. A typing pool was established and staffed to the limit of available equipment.

3. With considerable difficulty, sufficient office furniture and supplies, other than typewriters, were secured to meet immediate requirements. The organisation of the Local Procurement Division of the Bureau of Requirements and Supply is substantially facilitating the procurement of office supplies and machines.

4. Estimates are being prepared with respect to the office equipment and supplies required for operating missions in Greece, Yugoslavia and Albania in order that these items may be procured and assembled.

5. The central registry system has been revised. Additional registry equipment and staff have been secured.

6. The messenger and cleaner service has been organised and placed under central direction.

7. A security officer has been appointed and arrangements effected in co-operation with the military security authorities to instal necessary premises and documentary security measures.

8. The staff transport arrangements have presented very serious difficulties, because of the rapid expansion of the staff and the inadequacy of existing facilities. Efforts to secure one or more additional staff buses have thus far been unsuccessful, although the present buses are overloaded far beyond the danger point.

9. Investigation was undertaken, in collaboration with the Office of the Minister Resident and AMHQ (Balkans) into possible additional office accommodation for the Mission. By 31st July the present building was filled almost to capacity and the scheduled arrival of new staff from US and UK will require at least a doubling of present facilities. Additional temporary accommodation has been found at the Greek School, Cairo. More permanent arrangements are being made at Maadi Camp.

Bureau of Requirements and Supply

1. Until June 15th, no member of the staff of the Bureau had arrived in Cairo. On that date Alan Hall reported to the Chief of the Mission. Matters related to Requirements and Supplies have been handled by the Bureau of Distribution and Transport with Mr. Patterson as Acting Chief, and other local supply matters have been handled by Mr. Roseman of Finance and Administration. Mr. Grant Tolley arrived in Cairo on 14th June, Mr. Elkinton, Deputy Chief of Mission and Head of the Bureau of Requirement and Supply arrived on the 28th. Mr. W.H. Johnston on loan from the Middle East Supply Centre had been working from early June in assisting on questions of local procurement and later joined the Bureau. Mr. R. Filbert arrived from Washington on 1st July.
2. Members of the staff of the Bureau have spent considerable part of their time since their arrival in making contacts with local agencies with whom this Bureau will work in close association. These agencies include: The British Army, Supply and Quartermaster Division, Allied Military Liaison, Balkans, Middle East Supply Centre, Balkan Supply Centre and commercial attaches and advisers attached to the British Embassy and U.S. Legation. At the instruction of the Chief of Mission, members of the staff of the Bureau have spent several days acquainting themselves with work in refugee camps.
3. On the 28th and 29th of June a two day meeting was called by this Bureau at which Refugee Camp Commanders attended and also Supply Officers recently attached to MERRA. Future requirements and supplies were discussed at length, and certain recommendations have been put forward concerning future supplies for Refugee Camps and an effort will be made to bring about these recommended changes at the earliest possible date. Arrangements are on hand for the taking over and direct control of the staff previously attached to MERRA on questions of local procurement and supply and two members of the MERRA staff will shortly join the staff of this Bureau.
4. All staff of the Mission have been seriously handicapped by local lack of office supplies such as furniture, desks, chairs, and essential office furniture particularly typewriters, and it has been one of the first tasks of the Local Procurements Section to arrange for immediate supplies of these items to be obtained. Complete requirements of all furniture and stationery have now been compiled and orders placed with appropriate sources.

MEDICAL DIVISION

A. Medical

1. Arrival of personnel. During the months of June and July the following personnel has arrived.

(a) Lt.Col. Musson who will be epidemiologist for the Balkan Mission as well as Deputy Director, Medical Division, and Dr. Kirk and Dr. Patterson from U.K.

(b) Major Jacobs who is in the Sanitation Section.

(c) Mr. Norelli who will be in charge of the medical supplies for the Balkan Mission.

(d) Misses Geller, Needham, Rosenwald and Susich who are in the Nursing Section.

(e) Dr. A. Topping of the London Office visited Cairo and discussed various problems of the Medical Division together with appointments made by the London Office of UNRRA. In each instance Dr. Topping gave information regarding the qualifications of the different appointees but left to the judgment of the Cairo office the ultimate assignment of each one.

2. Assignment of personnel

(a) El-Shatt

(i) Major Benning has been assigned to work with Dr. Dodd on the measles epidemic.

(ii) Misses Conley, Frazier, Geller, Ingram, Lasker and Lyons have been assigned for nursing duty.

(iii) Miss Kerse still remains as Head Nurse.

(iv) Dr. V. Cabasso has been assigned as head of the laboratory.

(b) Khatatba

(i) Major Zuger has been appointed as the Principal Medical Officer.

(ii) Major Jacobs has been assigned to special work on sanitation problems.

(iii) Misses Needham, Perry and Susich have been assigned as nurses.

(c) Museirat

(i) Lt.Col. Dodge remains as P.M.O.

(ii) Major Aldridge has been assigned as Sanitarian and Miss Rosenwald as Nurse.

(d) Cairo Office

Lt. Col. Osincup has been working on plans for Greece and has assisted in the office of the Medical Director.

3. Meetings. The Medical Division has had representatives at meetings with the AML section on Albania and Greece, with the Cairo Council of Voluntary Societies, the Medical Co-ordinating Committee (AML) and with the Middle East Supply Centre.

4. Supplies

(a) During the month of June an arrangement has been completed with the Middle East Supply Centre whereby UNRRA may obtain medical supplies from Lend Lease and UKCC excess stocks. Arrangements have been made for payment of such supplies either through London or Washington according to the source of the supplies.

(b) As a result of a conference held by the Medical Division with the Commanding General, U.S. Army Forces in the Middle East, all of the sanitation supplies requested in the early spring from the U.S. Army were obtained. These sanitation supplies had previously been refused because of the decision in Washington by the War Department that UNRRA should not be eligible for such supplies. In addition to those sanitation supplies, the U.S. Army Theater Commander, Middle East, made available to the Medical Department two command cars to be used by the Medical Division until such a time as transportation facilities are made available by UNRRA.

5. Refugee arrivals

(a) During the months of June and July 5000 refugees from Yugoslavia arrived in the Middle East and were assigned to the different camps. Amongst these were approximately 200 wounded who will require orthopedic treatment. Such treatment will be given by the 3rd General Hospital of the British Army. These refugees have been assigned to the camp at Khatatba as a receiving camp. From this camp as large a number as can be treated as ambulatory cases at the 3rd General Hospital, will be sent to the camp at Tolumbat. The distance from Tolumbat to the 3rd General Hospital is not very great. As rapidly as the 3rd General Hospital discharges the patients they will be sent back to Khatatba and others will be sent to Tolumbat. Thus a pool of individuals under treatment will be maintained at Tolumbat (near 3rd General Hospital) and the large group will be kept at Khatatba Camp which has greater accommodation than Tolumbat. While at Khatatba these patients will be under the supervision of a Yugoslav Army Doctor.

(b) Condition of Yugoslav refugees Recently arrived refugees are in poorer physical condition than earlier arrivals. This is due to a prolonged state of malnutrition which has made the problem of caring for these refugees more difficult as they are more susceptible to illness.

(c) Measles epidemics Measles epidemics have occurred in three of the camps, Nuseirat, El Shatt and Khatatba. Due to desert heat, states of malnutrition and the fact that children had just arrived by boat and overland, many cases of broncho-pneumonia developed amongst the victims of measles. Under desert conditions, the case of these young children is very difficult. The rate of mortality in the younger age group has been high. In an effort to recondition this group, a children's camp at Tolumbat will be established. Tolumbat is located near the sea and affords a cooler climate and more favorable environment for children.

6. Hospitals

(a) The Hospital at El-Shatt has been expanded to a bed capacity of 300. It has the possibility of being expanded to 500. This will be accomplished during the month of July without further buildings simply by increasing the number of beds and other hospital equipment.

(b) A new hospital of 80 beds will be established at Telumbat. A building is available for this hospital and No. 1 priority has been obtained from the British Army to remodel the building and make it available for hospital purposes.

(c) The present hospital at Khatatba is being enlarged to a bed capacity of 500. This work is now in progress in anticipation of a possible increase in camp population.

7. Permanent staff for the camps. Palestinian and Egyptian doctors are being employed by UNRRA. These doctors will gradually replace the medical staff of the camps now supplied by UNRRA and the Voluntary Agencies. A permanent staff will soon be established for each camp so that at the time of the withdrawal of UNRRA personnel from the camps with the opening of the Balkans, there may be a minimum disturbance of the medical, nursing and sanitation work.

8. Typhus Training Course. The typhus training course has been carried on at Maadi during the month of June after a slight interruption due to the illness of Major Wheeler who has given the course. Over 100 members of the Voluntary Society personnel have been trained in the use of DDT for disinfection of refugees. Major Wheeler will take the typhus teaching unit to Moses Wells and Nuseirat the month of July to complete the course of training. Following this a continuation training of refugees will be had in the camps. Selected refugees will be taught the use of DDT, by the trained members of the staff.

9. Planning for the Balkan Mission. Up until the present time the work in the refugee camps has required almost the full attention of the existing personnel of the Medical Division. It is hoped that in succeeding months replacement of medical personnel of UNRRA in the camps by a permanent staff recruited in the Middle East will make it possible for the Medical Division to devote more of its time to the future problems of the Balkan re-occupation, and that personnel may be freed from some of the more pressing problems of the refugee camps.

Bureau of Distribution and Transport

1. Personnel

The staff of the Bureau of Distribution and Transport was increased during the month of July by the arrival of five persons, bring to eleven the number of people now on duty in Cairo. In addition, one man has just been appointed locally to the Bureau's staff. No assignments have yet been made to country missions, but discussions with AML during the past few days have clarified this point to an extent where I anticipate most of our people will very soon be paired off with their opposite numbers.

2. Planning Activities

Prior to Mr. Gerstenzang's return from Washington, the Bureau continued it's work on various planning projects which were in process during the month of June. Work on a proposed rationing and distribution system for Greece which had been begun has been continued and nearly completed, and the Bureau is now ready to present our plan to AML-Greece for further discussion. The Bureau has developed a program of transport requirements for the UNRRA staff in the Balkans which is being submitted to AML. Work has continued with AMK's staff on accounting and financial problems, although its development has been hampered by the delay in policy decisions in the financial field. These plans must now be integrated with those of AML.

The outline of a training program for the personnel of this Bureau to supplement the AML course now under way at Maedi has been laid down. The creation of the UNRRA Training Committee will materially assist in the orientation aspect of the personnel problem, but it is felt that specialized training in the functions of this Bureau will be needed by most of the personnel arriving from the States and can be provided by the Balkan Staff.

The work program for the coming month will be greatly enlarged. Many problems were clarified as a result of Mr. Gerstenzang's Washington visit, and recent meetings with AML have resulted in laying the foundations for an agreement on broad question of policy. At the most recent meeting with the staff of AML-Greece, the following preliminary working understanding was reached as to the functions and responsibilities of this Bureau in Greece.

"Supplies will flow from the S & P Depots at the ports directly in the hands of the Greeks and will be accounted for by Greek signatures.

Control of supplies by AML-UNRRA from S & P Depots to the consumer will not be of a managerial nature, but will be exercised by an UNRRA supervisory and inspectorial staff which will be charged with ensuring that control measures agreed upon between AML-UNRRA and the Greek Government are in fact carried out".

From this starting point the Bureau will now proceed to develop with AML the details of a plan for implementing this arrangement, and hopes to play an active part in the negotiations which must shortly take place between AML and the Greek Government looking toward an overall agreement as to the AML-UNRRA function in Greece.

DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

AGRICULTURE

1. Regular meetings are being held with A.M.L. every Friday. The kinds of materials needed for Agricultural Rehabilitation and other requirements are being discussed in the light of daily information received from the Balkans.

2. Refinancing of the Agricultural Bank of Greece has been discussed with Economic Advisers to the U.S. and British Embassies and with A.M.L. Information regarding the need for credit at an early time in the liberation of the country has been confirmed and a report of the business of the Agricultural Bank of Greece in peacetime and after occupation as prepared by Mr. C. Vasmadgides has been translated and distributed by this Division.

3. Mr. Vasmadgides who was connected with the technical division of the Agricultural Bank came out of Greece recently and has rendered valuable services in determining requirements, distribution, conditions within the areas, specifications of materials, varieties of seeds, and many other useful facts including a list of warehouses owned and operated by the Agricultural Bank. This list was translated to English and gives the capacities in tons of cereals. It was arranged by districts and regions according to A.M.L. plans and copies were mimeographed and circulated to those concerned. Mr. Vasmadgides is now connected with the Greek Ministry of Reconstruction and will continue his aid to this Department.

4. Albanian Plans

A temporary list of requirements for Albania during the UNRRA period has been prepared but it still requires coordination with AML plans.

5. Yugoslavia - Food Industries and Agricultural Supplies:-

Maps showing the location of food industries and factories making agricultural tools and equipment are being prepared, lists of such factories and processing plants together with capacity and kinds of raw materials needed are being continually improved. This work will be done in close cooperation with the Division of Industrial Rehabilitation.

6. Personnel:

Dr. Mandl a Yugoslav with agricultural economic training is being employed for that country. He is now residing in Palestine. Dr. Myers an agronomist from Kansas now working with MESC has been requested for this Division. Wayne Adams who is on a mission in Ethiopia with the Foreign Economic Administration will be requested to come back to UNRRA by this Division some time in August. More men with experience in the Balkans who can help us make detailed plans with AML are needed. In the case of Yugoslavia we are making the fullest use of one or two Yugoslavs in this city who have had some agricultural training.

Fishing

1. Close cooperation exists between our Fishing Section and AML. Our model nets were used in an exhibit at AML recently. A British Sergeant works regularly here on map drawing. AML concurs in our plans to start operations through fishing stations.

2. The development of personnel plans for the rehabilitation of the fishing industry in Greece together with a budget for UNRRA is being subjected to criticisms and revisions, and will be finished within a week.

3. The situation regarding fishing boats for immediate use after liberation is being studied in the light of:

- (i) Transport needs
- (ii) The offer of the Greek Government to help, and
- (ii) Desire of UNRRA not to own and operate boats.

these three factors are the point of departure for solving the problem.

Camp Projects:

1. A pig project is being developed at Moses Wells. Sufficient study has been given to justify approval of the project of raising garbage fed pigs. Plans have been drawn for construction of the styles including water, shade, feeding floors and so forth. A supply of healthy pigs has been located and we have the cooperation of Major Lawrence a veterinary of the U.S. Army in selecting and examining the stock. By next month we hope to have the pigs in the pen.

2. The making of fish nets at refugee camps is in progress.

3. The purchase of some nets and other gear for use in the camps has been negotiated with a Fishing Company at Suez which is being liquidated.

Miscellaneous:

Eight lectures were given to local audiences covering a general discussion of UNRRA, its work, policies and operations.

B. SANITATION SECTION

General sanitation in all of the camps showed marked improvement during the month of June, due in large part to our being able to obtain badly needed sanitary supplies.

The fly problem has to a large extent been solved but can only be kept under control by eternal vigilance by a large force.

The water supplies of the different camps have been checked regularly and where free chlorine was not found arrangements were made to correct the condition at once.

The sanitary forces in the camps are being and so far as possible to date have been organized as follows:

- " One Chief Sanitarian to a camp with one assistant to each section of six thousand and a sub-inspector to each unit of twelve hundred with the necessary number of laborers, for each unit, depending on the work involved. We are picking an opposite from among the most likely refugees for each member of our force who does the supervision of the workers under the direction and instruction of our personnel. This plan is working out better than we could have hoped for and it is believed that within a month to six weeks we will have the force trained to the point that it will be possible to withdraw our personnel for work in the liberated countries with little or no disruption!

Work has proceeded with the training of the Voluntary Agency personnel in the method of delousing with DDT. This training work has been done by the U.S.A. Typhus Commission and in turn the refugee hygiene squads are being trained by our trained personnel. The names and addresses of all trained refugee personnel are being taken and will be recorded as possible material to be used for similar work in the liberated countries.

Much work of an important nature remains to be done in the camps to bring them to a desired standard, but this is being accomplished at as rapid a rate as could be asked for.

C. Nursing

1. General

(a) Personnel

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A considerable number of applications have been received to date - one excellent fully trained nurse has been employed and one satisfactory nurses' aide and two fully trained nurses started work on July 1st. A number of others have been interviewed. Polish Nurses' Aides were interviewed in Tel-Aviv and out of seven seen, three appear to be definitely interested, but no applications have been received from them as yet.

(b) Madi Training Camp

A talk was given at the Madi Training Camp to a group of Voluntary Societies personnel from Kenya. The Voluntary Societies personnel spend two weeks at Madi before going to camp and have a series of lectures during this time.

2. Refugee Camps

Early in May 11 British Army Nurses who were scheduled to go to the Balkans were assigned by the British Army to Khatatba and El-Shatt. This was done because we needed help in these camps and because A.M.L. felt it would be good training for them and that they in turn could assist in training refugee nurses' aides for work in the Balkans. For sever reasons, this plan did not work out as smoothly as was expected and numerous conferences were held in June in an attempt to arrive at the most acceptable plan for all concerned. This matter has not been entirely settled as yet but much closer working relationships have been established with A.M.L. and the British Army Medical Directorate.

All the camps were visited during these two months. Three visits were made to Ahatatba. This being the newest camp has naturally the most problems and has needed the most attention during the past two months.

El-Shatt is running smoothly and at last has the minimum number of nursing personnel.

At Nuseirat camp the hospital previously run by a Greek Army Unit, is now being taken over as part of the refugee camp.

Control has now been established over the assignment of nursing personnel to camps. Particulars of the education and previous experience of all nurses and nurses' aides who had already been assigned to camps has been sent to this office. All new nursing personnel, whether voluntary society, army or UNRRA now come to this office for an interview before going out to camp. This has made their adjustment to camp a good deal easier.

The question of nurses uniforms and camp equipment has still not been settled. The problem becomes more acute as more local personnel are employed.

WELFARE DIVISION

1. UNRRA Welfare Staff

On July 31st there were ten members of the Welfare Staff in Cairo. After a brief orientation course at the Maadi training camp, each member of the staff is assigned to one of the Refugee camps for a stay of approximately two weeks. Members of the Greek Mission are sent to one of the Greek Refugee Camps; members of the Yugoslav Mission to one of the Yugoslav Camps. The experience gained in this way has been exceedingly helpful in enabling the staff to secure some knowledge of the customs of the people and a preview of some of the welfare problems ahead when active operations begin.

2. Welfare Services in Refugee Camps

During June and July members of the Welfare Division made a number of visits to each of the refugee camps. Conferences were held with the Camp Commandants, the welfare activities were reviewed and evaluated, and recommendations for much needed welfare services are now being formulated.

There is an acute shortage of clothing and necessary supplies and equipment to carry on an adequate work program in the camps. These needs have been called to the attention of the Bureau of Supplies and every effort is now being made to meet this situation.

3. Voluntary Agencies

The first contingent of eleven members of the American Voluntary Societies arrived during July. 48 persons from the British Voluntary Societies also reported for duty. The number of voluntary workers from U.K. and U.S. has now reached a total of 270. Unfortunately this is far below expectations. AML has expressed real concern at UNRRA's failure to provide the number of teams requested and at a recent conference indicated that UNRRA's participation during the Military period in the Balkans will be seriously jeopardized unless the requested number of Voluntary workers is speedily forthcoming. Cables have been sent to Washington and London urging that emergency measures be taken at once to expedite recruiting of the Voluntary workers required.

4. Mobilization Training

On July 31st the first group of 95 Voluntary Society workers were withdrawn from the Refugee Camps for special training by AML at Maadi. When these workers have completed their training it is proposed that a second group will be called from the Camps. The Welfare Division will supplement this training with special courses to be given to the relief and refugee units.

5. Re-Organization of Cairo Council of Voluntary Societies

Representatives of the Welfare Division participated in the preliminary conferences which led to the re-organization of the Cairo Council. The major changes recommended and adopted include provision for a Joint Secretariat drawn from the British and American Societies and the creation of a General Purposes Committee of 12 which is to advise UNRRA on matters affecting the common interest of the Voluntary Societies.

6. Lipson with AML

Good working relations have been established with AML; regularly scheduled conferences are held with officials of AML Greece and AML Yugoslavia. Preliminary plans for use during the Military period will be prepared by the Welfare Division and submitted to the Military Authorities for review and approval.

7. Visit of Lady Falmouth and John Fulton

During July Lady Falmouth, Vice Chairman of the Council of British Societies for relief abroad, and John Fulton Acting Director of the Welfare Division of the European Office in London visited Cairo and a number of helpful conferences were held with them during their stay in Cairo.

INDUSTRIAL REHABILITATION DIVISION

The Division started to function early in July when Captain H. Williams reported for duty. Mr. R. du Moulin and Mr. J. Van Teylingen (both from Washington) commenced work on July 5 and 17 respectively, and Mr. F.E.M. Thrupp the Director (also from Washington) commenced work on July 24th.

Up to the present the personnel comprises only the above four persons but plans are in hand for recruiting others locally and a cablegram was sent to Washington asking what other personnel can be sent out.

The budget provides for three Directors (for Headquarters, Greece and Yugo-Slavia but none for Albania) eleven specialists and four associate engineers, total eighteen. This number permits of the following distribution:-

	H.Q.	Y-Slavia	Albania	Greece
Chief	1	1	1	1
Deputy Chief	1	1	1	1
Shelter Specialists	1	1	1	1
Mechanical & Electrical Engineers	1	2	1	2
	4	5	4	5
				Total... 18

It is thought that in view of the large areas, time taken up in travelling and possibilities of sickness two or three more Engineers should be provided for in the Budget.

In anticipation of the receipt from UNRRA London of their screened list of Government requirements a preliminary study is being made to determine the stores which will be most urgently needed and which are left out of consideration by the Military, viz:- materials for the repair of buildings of all sorts (dwellings, hospitals, warehouses etc.) and for the repair of industrial equipment. The Industrial Rehabilitation Division understands its function as being limited to the repair of damage to buildings and equipment up to the point when any production needed to provide relief can be commenced.

The division does not contemplate the supervision of production or of sales as conducted by the owners and it would not be concerned with the provision of raw materials. These would be a responsibility of the owners assisted by the appropriate Bureau or Divisions.

Initial quantities of fuel and consumable stores, such as lubricating oil, belting and other spares when not otherwise available to the owners would be provided under the auspices of the Division of Industrial Rehabilitation to cover anticipated requirements during a period of approximately three months.

CAMPS DIVISION

1. Staff

Owing to the assumption by the Camps Division of duties previously carried out by MERRA and the necessity for introducing personnel to replace UNRRA personnel now engaged in other duties connected with the Balkan Mission, re-organization of the Camps Division has been in progress. The War Establishments submitted in December, 1943, have been accepted by GHQ MEF, the War Office, Foreign Office and the Treasury, and will be promulgated in the near future. This will serve to put on a proper footing the position and duties of most of the military personnel employed by the Camps Division. These establishments, however, are lacking in uniformity and a new establishment has been drafted and discussed with the various branches at GHQ MEF and will if eventually agreed to economise in manpower and be considerably more satisfactory than the establishment hitherto agreed upon. The total military personnel employed by the camps Division is 97 officers and 295 other ranks. The total number of voluntary society personnel working in camps is 154, and the number of locally employed people at the camps is 40. 100 of the voluntary society personnel are to be withdrawn for future training in the near future and will be partly replaced by about 50 new personnel from the U.K. As the military authorities are unlikely to produce any more military personnel for the existing number of refugees, the camp staffs will be reduced. Camps Division considers that this reduction can be effected without loss of efficiency.

2. Refugee Statistics

The total number of refugees in the camps as at 1st July was as follows:-

Tolumbat	366
Khatatba	6644
Moses Wells	3440
El Shatt	20545
Aleppo	365
Nuseirat	8866
Poles (Persia)	6798

Total 47024

The increase in numbers during the month of June were as follows:

Yugoslavs	3303
Greeks	697
Others	34

3. Administration

Every effort has been made to get refugees to undertake greater responsibilities in the camps with a view to their replacing UNRRA personnel but this has not been very successful, due partly to the political quarrels among the Greeks and partly to the low educational standard among the large majority of Yugoslavs. The Camp at Aleppo has been subordinated to the Camp Commandant, Nuseirat, which is a satisfactory measure and will further simplify the refugee problem in Palestine and Syria.

4. Accommodation

To cope with possible new influxes accommodation at Moses Wells is being increased to take a maximum of 6,000, El-Shatt to take a maximum of 24,000, and Khatatba to take a maximum of 20,000. Khatatba is capable of further expansion up to 50,000 as and when personnel is available to administer them and providing that the Army can supply. Nuseirat is not being increased and Aleppo, which is being put under Nuseirat, is being re-transformed into a transit camp pure and simple. The camp at Tolumbat is being doubled to take sick Yugoslav children from El-Shatt and Khatatba.

5. Supplies

No major difficulties were encountered as regards supplies though the lack of many commodities in the Middle East rendered the provision of certain materials for construction in the camps a slow process. There is a general lack of clothing and cloth has been difficult to obtain. Nevertheless a certain amount of clothing and some medicines have been obtained through the offices of the Refugee Aid Committee run by the ladies of Alexandria and Cairo, and further items have been obtained by local purchase. Food supplies, though ample, were the cause of some difficulty owing to the fact that the refugees, who are mostly of the peasant or fisher class, are unaccustomed to a large meat ration and would prefer fish. Efforts are now being made to obtain a fish ration as a partial substitute for meat and also to provide facilities for the refugees to catch their own fish in such places where they are near the sea.

6. Finance

From the point of view of internal economy in the camps, the financial situation of the Yugoslavs is still difficult owing to refusal to adopt any form of cash payments. This necessitates the institution of camp currency with token coins which is in process of being arranged. It would, however, be far simpler if the Yugoslavs would agree to deal with normal local currency.

7. Employment

Every effort is being made in all the camps to employ as many refugees as possible and many are in fact employed in various duties in the administration of the camps themselves. Encouragement is being given to refugees to do their own baking, run their own laundries and to make their own clothes. Nursing assistants, hospital orderlies, drivers, storemen are all being trained to carry out the duties indicated and for subsequent employment in the liberation phase. Here again the low education standard among the Yugoslavs is a problem which prevents any rapid success of this scheme. Nursing assistants have been trained among the Greeks where an excellent course is in progress at Moses Wells through which several dozen refugees have already passed.

8. Education

Schools are functioning in all the camps but education is generally hampered by a dearth of teachers and a very considerable lack of the primary scholastic necessities, such as paper, pencils, blackboards, copy books, children's primers, etc. It is hoped that some assistance may be forthcoming from the University of Alexandria where certain lady students have formed a committee which may produce certain of these necessary articles. Some are also being bought on the local market.

9. Welfare

The whole question is receiving the attention of the Welfare Division. Meanwhile welfare work in the camps is proceeding satisfactorily. Considering the circumstances under which the refugees live, their morale is high and shows no signs of falling. This is due to the belief shared by the large majority that the end of the war is in sight and that they will shortly be returning to their own homes. It is also in no small measure due to the sympathy and tact displayed by the camp staffs in their dealings with the Greek Ministry of Social Welfare and the Yugoslav Central Committee, on the one hand, and the personnel of UNRRA on the other.

10. Conclusion

On the whole the change-over from administration of the refugees by MERRA HQ. to their administration by the Camps Division, UNRRA, has been effected with the minimum of friction. It is hoped that by the end of July the reorganization of Camps Division HQ. and of the Staffs of the camps themselves will be completed.