

**PLEASE RETAIN
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Team 55 Deggendorf

UNARCHIVES

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BOX 8

FILE 6

ACC. PAG-413.0.11.3.2

93-254 T-55
#3

SECRET.

24th October 1946.

SUBJECT: Degendorf. Team #55.

TO : District Director, UNRRA District Office #3, Regensburg.

1. Quoted below is copy of an extract from Third Army Report under above classification. This is sent for your information and for discreet enquiry as to whether the D.P.'s concerned are in any way attached to UNRRA, in which case it should be seen to that any military type of organization is disbanded : -

" Displaced Persons Activity

...

b. Another example of minor militarism was discovered among the Jewish DPs of DP Camp #7, DEGGENDORF (U-8339), when a group of 36 were discovered doing close order drill in ranks. These 36 DPs and infiltrates from the camp are attending a special maritime school at HALBMEILE (U-8635) outside of DEGGENDORF, and are instructed in all the intricacies of Danube navigations and ship management. The group forms a Kibuc, called "Keroschej Hajam" and is led by a Slomao Steindel, a member of the Jewish Camp Committee, assisted by Emil Sassower, a former soldier in the Red Army. After school hours the group indulges in gymnastics, which include a good deal of close order drill and military discipline. Such drill was instituted ostensibly because the members, according to the Jewish Committee, 'are wild and undisciplined and ill brought up.' (970th CIC). "

C. J. TAYLOR
Deputy Zone Director

CJT/kg

Third Army
6861 - 8
Ex: 349

T-55
#3

4 October, 1946

SUBJECT: Cable from Jewish Committee, Deggendorf.

TO : The District Director,
UNRRA District No. 3.,
REGENSBURG.

Attention: Field Operations.

1. Attached for your information and appropriate action is a copy of a cable received from Field Operations Central Headquarters.

FOR THE ZONE DIRECTOR:

R.W. COLLINS,
Chief of Field Operations.

BW/VWO

UNRRA
CENTRAL HEADQUARTERS FOR GERMANY
APO 757 OR BAOR

25 September 1946.

To: UNRRA HQ - US ZONE
 (Attn: A/Director - Field Operations)

Subject: Cable from Jewish Committee, Deggendorf.

Attached is a copy of a cable received at this headquarters.
It is forwarded for your information and appropriate action.
We regret the delay in transmission.

B. R. Albert

Carl H. Martini
Department of Field Operations.

Att: 1.

Ralph C
I think this is a
protest against a
fair accomplish
150

COPY/

INCOMING CABLE

Time received: 1200 hours
13 September

From: DEGGENDORF

Action of: UNRRA CHQ AROSEN

Text:

COMMITTEE OF CAMP DEGGENDORF MIETRACHING NATTERNBERG
MAINKOFEN HARBORING 1800 INMATES LEARNING POSSIBILITY
CHANGE OF DIRECTOR AND SUPPLY OFFICER TEAM 55 WOULD
REGRET LOSS OF PERSONS ACTUALLY IN CHARGE IMMEDIATELY
KNOWING OUR NEEDS WHILE FACING GRAVE PROBLEMS OF
APPROACHING WINTER.

JEWISH COMMITTEE DEGGENDORF

Received by Reichspost - (spelling unedited)

TSS
18th May 1946.

Subject: Deggendorf Jewish DP Center - Report of Mr. Lamb.

To : Mr. A. Dunn, District Director #3.

1. We acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 14th May, and appreciate the full report you have submitted which, in our opinion, covers the main points raised by Mr. Lamb.

2. Miss Richman, Assistant Director, Relief Services, is writing to you separately in regard to the status of Mr. Lamb and the Jewish Conference, and apart from stating that Mr. Lamb's service in Germany is practically at an end, we wish to add no further comments.

For Zone Director:

C. J. TAYLOR.
Acting Deputy Zone Director.

755

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS

TEL. NOS.
REGENSBURG 2228
2485
2738

REGENSBURG
No. 10, Martin Luther Strasse

NIEDERBAY./OPF.

14th May, 1946.

TO : Mr. C. J. Taylor,
Acting Deputy Zone Director,
UNRRA U.S. Zone Headquarters,
Pasing, Munich.

FROM : A.C.Dunn,
Director UNRRA District 3, Regensburg.

SUBJECT : Report of Mr. Hans Lamm - Jewish D.P. Camp
Deggendorf. Your Letter of 12th April, 1946.

Following receipt of your letter and copy of extract from report of Mr. Hans Lamm to American Jewish Conference, New York, we requested an explanation from Mr. W.V. Buckhantz director of UNRRA Team 55, Deggendorf. According to Mr. Buckhantz, he first met Mr. Lamm in Munich. Later Mr. Lamm came to Deggendorf where he spent about 24 hours inspecting the camp and talking with the Jewish Committee. He made no complaints to the Director about conditions, but Mr. Buckhantz talked freely to Mr. Lamm about difficulties of supplies, hoping that some help might be secured through Mr. Lamm's efforts.

With reference to the specific complaints listed in Mr. Lamm's report, we wish to point out that none of them can be considered very serious in the light of the conditions under which we operate.

1. Gasoline is furnished to the Camp Committee for necessary transportation into town. No-one has ever been denied ambulance transportation that needed it.

2. The quality of clothing and shoes received recently has been universally poor. All teams and centres have been faced with the same problem of having many bales of clothing to sort in order to salvage the usable material. Much of this has apparently come from clothing drives in the United States and we agree that shipping most of it was a waste of space. However, no-one has suffered from lack of adequate clothing.

3. AJDC cannot be considered responsible for mailing facilities, but they tried to offer a service. Mail facilities have been universally slow, but improvement should

Sub

14th May, 1946.

Report of Mr. Hans Lamm - Jewish DP Camp Deggendorf.

be expected with the opening of international mail service to Germany.

4. Arrangements were made through UNRRA Team 55 to have photographs taken for exit visas, and no-one who was called for immigration failed to receive this service. Later, photographs were made at the emigration staging area.

5. The Committee's complaint against Military Government for refusing the granting of exit permits is not entirely clear as to meaning, and the director has never reported any such difficulties to us. It is our understanding that Military Government has no authority to grant travel passes outside the U.S.Zone.

6. With reference to dental treatment, it is our impression that this centre has managed to do more than many others in providing needed dental treatment. Through private arrangements this team secured materials which were impossible to obtain in any other manner. Possibly not every item for dental care was furnished, but there has been no neglect within the realm of possibility.

7. We would be very interested to know what the American Jewish Conference can do to assist overseas organizations in meeting requests which are not basic needs, but which are understandable. Further, we would like to suggest that perhaps persons in Mr. Lamm's position who visit various centres, could contribute toward the understanding and confidence in organizations like UNRRA and AJDC, who are very definitely concerned with the well-being of the camp residents, but who are faced with certain practical difficulties and shortages of supply.


E. C. DUNN.
DIRECTOR.

DMJ/MEL.

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L. G. DUNN.
DIRECTOR.

DMJ/MEL.

T 55

9 May 1946

SUBJECT: AJC Report, Deggendorf Camp, Team 55

TO : Mr. A. C. Dunn, District Director, UNRRA District
Office No. 3, Regensburg

1. On 12 April we forwarded to you an extract from a report submitted by Mr. Hans Lamm of the American Jewish Conference in relation to his visit to Deggendorf on 21 March.

2. At that time we suggested that the Field Supervisor follow up the points raised by Mr. Lamm, and report his findings. As yet, we have received no report and would appreciate your following this up so that we may have this report in our hands as soon as possible.

For the Zone Director:

C. J. TAYLOR
Acting Deputy Zone Director

gb

Pending

C. J. Taylor

March 26, 1946

action against
in Heggendorf-

TO : American Jewish Conference
521 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, N.Y.
FROM : Hans Lamm
THROUGH : INRRA
RE : Report on Activities, March 18-26, 1946.

S/KR
Am. Jewish C.
12/4/46
JW

1. In submitting my report on my activities during the above mentioned period of time, I would like to preclude it by the following statement:

Being aware that part of my previous reports have been given fairly wide publicity by the American Jewish Conference, I respectfully suggest that this one will be treated as confidential and to be used only for your own information. Statements contained in the following pages could be harmful if published; furthermore the impression could be created that I identify myself with criticism that I actually submit to you in a reporting manner.

2. During the last week, I have given particular attention to the problem of the restoration of Jewish property in the U.S. Zone of Germany.

The following findings result from various conferences with:

Maj. Wilhelm Harrison, Property Control Officer
Military Government for Bavaria,

Dr. S. Neuland, Vice President, Jewish Community of
Munich

Dr. Ludwig Merzbach, Director - Bayerisches Hilfswerk.
Hermann Auer, State Commissioner for Jewish Rights.

and my report on this subject is only a preliminary one.

A more conclusive statement should be possible after the Conference of the leaders of Jewish Communities in the U.S. Zone called upon my suggestion to be held at Stuttgart, March 31st, and after a subsequent interview with Col. L.W. Jefferson, Chief of the Property Control Branch of the Office of Military Government for the U.S. Zone (OMGUS) whom I expect to see in Berlin, next week.

The basic and the only step Military Government seems to have taken so far is the issuance of Law No. 52. As amended of July 20, 1945, it provides the legal basis for the appointment of curators for properties which have changed owners since 1933 and where the transfer of property has been or may have been performed under duress. The curator is a trustee for the original owner and civilian courts are to establish the legal ownership, indemnification, etc. Maj. Harrison volunteered that these cases will yet take years since the courts have not enough judges even for criminal cases. He did apparently consider those relatively few cases in which Jews have survived or returned or will return the main task and it appeared that the far more gigantic and complicated problem of communal and heirless property as well as that of Jews abroad not planning to returning to Germany had not yet impressed him with its magnitude. He invited me to return to further conversations after my Stuttgart and Berlin conferences. As you know, the Bavarian State on its own has taken steps to refund to Jews fines paid under anti-Jewish Nazi laws and orders, etc. No money, however, can be transferred to Jews outside of Germany since the above mentioned Law prohibits any such transactions. I believe that in a few weeks we should be in a position to make concrete suggestions for a further legislative treatment of this question, and it may well be that then our Joint Secretariat might consider making representations before the Allied Control Council in Berlin or proper authorities in Washington and London.

3. The question of Jewish cultural treasures, particularly libraries has been entrusted to me by the Joint Secretariat before my leaving London. While I was not yet in a position to talk to the gentlemen of the Monuments and Art Section of Military Government of Bavaria whose responsibility this problem would be - and of course I shall continue my efforts of seeing them - I had the good fortune of meeting the exceptionally well informed Mr. D. Sturman of the Library of Congress mission for Bavaria. It appears that, at least in Bavaria, no systematic effort has yet been made to safeguard, sift and catalogue Jewish book collections. One large collecting point is Frankfurt and a smaller one Berlin. The badly understaffed Monuments and Art section up to now has had to concentrate on fine art objects and wherever attention had been given to Jewish collections it was done rather because an individual was personally interested and assumed voluntarily the responsibility than as an outcome of an official directive. I was given the names of a few individuals near Frankfurt and particularly of Dr. Zuckerman in Berlin who have proven concerned about this problem and whom I shall see next week to get a more comprehensive picture and to be able to recommend action.

AC 4 W.

On Tuesday, March 19, 1946, Dr. Z. Grinberg gave a report on his trip to the U.S.A. I gave you its main points in a special report on the same day.

4. On Wednesday, the 20th and Thursday, the 21st of March, I visited the Jewish DP-Camp of Degersdorf. You know that it is the only UNRRA Camp in which a sizable number of former German and Austrian Jews have been collected.

Today, there are at Degersdorf about 700 Jews liberated from Theresienstadt; and about 500 recent Eastern European infiltrators. I had conversations in Degersdorf with the UNRRA Team Director, Mr. William V. Buckantz, the JDC worker, Miss Sonja Seidlin, with a variety of Camp residents and above all the camp Committee and 1st chairman, Mr. Louis Löwy. The Camp is located in large former German barracks. There are 3-4 persons in a room, though there are still a number of large halls with far more residents. In general, the campers are well satisfied with the amount and quality of food though the prevailing complaints against the monotony of diet were not absent. The Camp maintains in addition to a general kitchen, special ones for the aged who are concentrated in a separate "Home", for infants, for children, for patients and those who eat only kosher food. The young people's Kibbutz of 98, located about six miles from the Camp, also has own kitchen facilities. Of the 900 people in the Camp who are able to work, 450 actually are engaged in some activity from which the community profits. The moral of the people impressed me as surprisingly good though there was much anxiety as to the future and to the possibility of an emigration in 1946.

The Camp population is slightly older than in most other installations and about 50% of them plan emigration to Palestine, ca 350 that to the U.S.A. - and since many of them were born in Germany they will benefit from the large German quota - and the rest to England and other parts of the Empire.

In the conference with the Camp Committee, a group of people that impressed me by their balanced judgment, fairness and moderateness, various members raised the following points. (I am not yet in a position to evaluate each of the complaints or observations but shall discuss them with UNRRA and AJDC. Since this report reaches you through UNRRA, it may be that UNRRA wishes to add some comments).

- a) Main complaints against UNRRA was that the Team refuses to grant to the Committee and the Camp residents a reasonable amount of gasoline and transportation facilities. It was pointed out that aged and sick people who emigrated were not given sorely

needed car or ambulance transportation to Munich or Frankfurt. Of course I drew their attention to the general gasoline shortage in the area.

- b) Clothing and shoes received through UNRRA was described as utterly worthless and a flagrant insult to the dignity of the Camp residents. I had subsequently an opportunity of inspecting large quantities of men's and women's clothing and shoes and I must confess that I was ashamed to see that Americans should have not been willing to give more generously; I dare say that perhaps 90% of the material could not be put to any use at all and should not have taken precious shipping space.
- c) The mailing facilities offered by the Joint were described as utterly inadequate, unreliable and slow. It was felt that the only solution would be an individual APO to be granted to each individual DP Camp and not to one central organization. Both letters and parcels seem to reach the DPs only sporadically.
- d) No arrangements could be made to have the photographs taken that the DPs need for their exit visas. Both UNRRA, AJDC and MC have up to now failed to furnish the needed facilities and equipment.
- e) The Committee characterized as unintelligible the attitude of Military Government that would refuse the granting of exit permits whenever re-entry permits would be requested as it is the case for anyone who applies for a Swiss transit visa while waiting for his permanent emigration visa to an overseas country.
- f) The Committee, while appreciating that the hospital facilities and the care given there are excellent, regretted that all attempts to obtain the metals needed for dental fixture have been futile. Having been without dental care for six years, practically all DPs need dental treatment badly. UNRRA, perhaps with the assistance of OSE, should be urged to give its full and urgent attention to this problem.
- g) Both men and women have not been provided yet with an adequate amount of decent clothing: suits, dresses and particularly underwear. Particularly the ladies complained that for years they have been unable to refurbish their stocks of underclothes, stockings, etc. and their demand for aid seemed to be highly justified.

n) I inquired which food stuffs were most badly needed and most urgently requested for overseas parcels. I was told that packages would be most welcome that contain sweets of all kinds (unsalted) fats, herrings (not sardines), tomatoe sauces and catch-up, dried onions and meats (sausages).

1) Deggendorf's DP Camp had unusually fine school facilities with a good high school. At present, the Committee is searching for sources to pay the salary for four German high school teachers. I trust that, when this need is brought to the attention of the Educational Department of the Joint, a solution will be found.

In general, there was registered a resentment that the organizations, like UNRRA and AJDC, supposedly concerned about the well being of the Camp residents, seem to lack a real feeling of urgency and that in no case their reasonable and justified requests have been heeded. Subsequently, a universal lack of confidence on overseas organizations is prevailing.

5. I stopped in Landshut to learn about the situation of the Jewish DPs there. They number around 65, and two of their leaders stated that the main difficulty is to find work; actually only 5 of the 65 are engaged in regular work. UNRRA has only once provided assistance with a very small quantity of food, while no aid whatsoever had been forthcoming from the JDC. The German authorities have been cooperative in providing living quarters and those for the Jewish Committee.
6. The problems of Jews living outside of Camps is becoming increasing the center of attention of many groups and individuals. Mr. Jack H. Whiting, Zone Director, UNRRA Hq. E.S. Zone, told me that while I was in London a Council for Jewish Affairs has been formed that meets twice with UNRRA. The Central Committee of Liberated Jews, the AJDC, the Jewish Agency and others participate, and I have been invited to join them and to suggest, after further study, proposals as to the care UNRRA should give to Jews in communities. Mr. Whiting explained to me that, though up to now it was doubtful whether UNRRA could provide regular assistance to people outside of Camps, the Army has now granted the right that UNRRA should give help to anyone whom it certifies to be a bona fide D.P. regardless of his residence. The fact that the settlements exhibit variety of organization complicates the problem considerably.

Rabbi Ahron Ohrenstein the new rabbi at the Munich Community whom I visited, strongly expressed that all organizations in the field have failed the Jews living outside of Camps. He not only referred to UNRRA and the ALDC, but was particularly disappointed by the Central Committee of Liberated Jews against whom he levelled grave charges of incompetence and selfishness. It should be pointed out that Rabbi Ohrenstein's background and personal experience might one expect to bring him nearer to the Committee's point of view than to that of the German Jews, but yet he was most critical of that body - excepting only Dr. Zalman Grinberg whom he called the "statesman" of the Committee not concerned about the routine of the Committee's actual work.

7. In accordance with my plan submitted to you on March 18th, the three main subjects of this report :

- A) Property Restoration
- B) Jewish Cultural Treasures
- C) Jews in Communities

will remain to be in the center of my efforts in the weeks to come. My negotiations in Stuttgart, Frankfurt and Berlin should help to bring them nearer to a solution.

Respectfully submitted:

HANS LAMM

MS.

12th April 1946.

SUBJECT: Report of Mr. H. Lamm - Jewish DP Camp, Deggendorf.

TO : District Director, #3.

1. We are forwarding herewith extract from Report submitted by Mr. Hans Lamm of the American Jewish Conference, in relation to his visit to Deggendorf at the end of March.

2. We suggest that the Field Supervisor should follow up the points raised by Mr. Lamm, and a report be submitted to us in due course.

For Zone Director.

FO/CJT/kg.

C.J. TAYLOR.
Chief, Field Operations.

Copy.

Extract from Report of Mr. Hans Lamm on Activities March 18-26, 1946, to American Jewish Conference, New York.

March 26, 1946.

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In the conference with the Camp Committee, a group of people that impressed me by their balanced judgment, fairness and moderateness, various members raised the following points. (I am not yet in a position to evaluate each of the complaints or observations but shall discuss them with UNRRA and AJDC. Since this report reached you through UNRRA, it may be that UNRRA wishes to add some comments.

- a) Main complaints against UNRRA was that the Team refuses to grant to the Committee and the Camp residents a

reasonable amount of gasoline and transportation facilities. It was pointed out that aged and sick people who emigrated were not given sorely needed car or ambulance transportation to Munich or Frankfurt. Of course I drew their attention to the general gasoline shortage in the area.

- b) Clothing and shoes received through UNRRA was described as utterly worthless and a flagrant insult to the dignity of the Camp residents. I had subsequently an opportunity of inspecting large quantities of men's and women's clothing and shoes and I must confess that I was ashamed to see that Americans should have not been willing to give more generously; I dare say that perhaps 90% of the material could not be put to any use at all and should not have taken precious shipping space.
- c) The mailing facilities offered by the Joint were described as utterly inadequate, unreliable and slow. It was felt that the only solution would be an individual APO to be granted to each individual DP Camp and not to one central organization. Both letters and parcels seem to reach the DPs only sporadically.
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FO/CJT/kg.

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Chief, Field Operations.

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- b) Clothing and shoes received through UNRRA was described as utterly worthless and a flagrant insult to the dignity of the Camp residents. I had subsequently an opportunity of inspecting large quantities of men's and women's clothing and shoes and I must confess that I was ashamed to see that Americans should have not been willing to give more generously; I dare say that perhaps 90% of the material could not be put to any use at all and should not have taken precious shipping space.
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- d) No arrangements could be made to have the photographs taken that the DPs need for their exit visas. Both UNRRA, AJDC and MG have up to now failed to furnish the needed facilities and equipment.
- e) The Committee characterized as unintelligible the attitude of Military Government that would refuse the granting of exit permits whenever re-entry permits would be requested as it is the case for anyone who applies for a Swiss transit visa while waiting for his permanent emigration visa to an overseas country.
- f) The Committee, while appreciating that the hospital facilities and the care given there are excellent, regretted that all attempts to obtain the metals needed for dental fixture have been futile. Having been without dental care for six years, practically all DPs need dental treatment badly. UNRRA, perhaps with the assistance of OSE, should be urged to give its full and urgent attention to this problem.
- g) Both men and women have not been provided yet with an adequate amount of decent clothing: suits, dresses and particularly underwear. Particularly the ladies complained that for years they have been unable to refurnish their stocks of underclothes, stockings, etc. and their demand for aid seemed to be highly justified.
- h) I inquired which food stuffs were most badly needed and most urgently requested for overseas parcels. I was told that packages would be most welcome that contain sweets of all kinds (unsalted), fats, herrings (not sardines), tomato sauces and ketchup, dried onions and meats (sausages).

- 1) Deggendorf's DP Camp had unusually fine school facilities with a good high school. At present, the Committee is searching for sources to pay the salary for four German high school teachers. I trust that, when this need is brought to the attention of the Educational Department of the Joint, a solution will be found.

In general, there was registered a resentment that the organizations, like UNRRA and AJDC, supposedly concerned about the well being of the Camp residents, seem to lack a real feeling of urgency and that in no case their reasonable and justified requests have been heeded. Subsequently, a universal lack of confidence on overseas organizations is prevailing."

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12th April 1946.

SUBJECT: Report of Mr. H. Lamm - Jewish DP Camp, Deggendorf.

TO : District Director, #3.

1. We are forwarding herewith extract from Report submitted by Mr. Hans Lamm of the American Jewish Conference, in relation to his visit to Deggendorf at the end of March.

2. We suggest that the Field Supervisor should follow up the points raised by Mr. Lamm, and a report be submitted to us in due course.

For Zone Director.

FO/CJT/kg.

C.J. TAYLOR.
Chief, Field Operations.

Copy.

Extract from Report of Mr. Hans Lamm on Activities March 18-26, 1946, to American Jewish Conference, New York.

March 26, 1946.

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"4. On Wednesday, the 20th and Thursday the 21st of March, I visited the Jewish DP-Camp at Deggendorf. You know that it is the only UNRRA Camp in which a sizable number of former German and Austrian Jews have been collected.

Today, there are at Deggendorf about 700 Jews liberated from Theresienstadt, and about 500 recent Eastern European infiltrates. I had conversations in Deggendorf with the UNRRA Team Director, Mr. William V. Buckantz, the JDC worker, Miss Sonja Seidlin, with a variety of Camp residents and above all the Camp Committee and its chairman, Mr. Louis Lowy. The Camp is located in large former German barracks. There are 3-4 persons in a room, though there are still a number of large halls with far more residents. In general, the campers are well satisfied with the amount and quality of food though the prevailing complaints against the monotony of diet were not absent. The Camp maintains in addition to a general kitchen, special ones for the aged who are concentrated in a separate "Home", for infants, for children, for patients and those who eat only kosher food. The young people's Kibbutz of 98, located about six miles from the Camp, also has own kitchen facilities. Of the 900 people in the Camp who are able to work, 450 actually are engaged in some activity from which the community profits. The morale of the people impressed me as surprisingly good though there was much anxiety as to the future and to the possibility of an emigration in 1946.

The Camp population is slightly older than in most other installations and about 50% of them plan emigration to Palestine, ca 350 that to the U.S.A. - and since many of them were born in Germany they will benefit from the large German quota - and the rest to England and other parts of the Empire.

In the conference with the Camp Committee, a group of people that impressed me by their balanced judgment, fairness and moderateness, various members raised the following points. (I am not yet in a position to evaluate each of the complaints or observations but shall discuss them with UNRRA and AJDC. Since this report reached you through UNRRA, it may be that UNRRA wishes to add some comments.

- a) Main complaints against UNRRA was that the Team refuses to grant to the Committee and the Camp residents a

reasonable amount of gasoline and transportation facilities. It was pointed out that aged and sick people who emigrated were not given sorely needed car or ambulance transportation to Munich or Frankfurt. Of course I drew their attention to the general gasoline shortage in the area.

- b) Clothing and shoes received through UNRRA was described as utterly worthless and a flagrant insult to the dignity of the Camp residents. I had subsequently an opportunity of inspecting large quantities of men's and women's clothing and shoes and I must confess that I was ashamed to see that Americans should have not been willing to give more generously; I dare say that perhaps 90% of the material could not be put to any use at all and should not have taken precious shipping space.
- c) The mailing facilities offered by the Joint were described as utterly inadequate, unreliable and slow. It was felt that the only solution would be an individual APO to be granted to each individual DP Camp and not to one central organization. Both letters and parcels seem to reach the DPs only sporadically.
- d) No arrangements could be made to have the photographs taken that the DPs need for their exit visas. Both UNRRA, AJDC and MG have up to now failed to furnish the needed facilities and equipment.
- e) The Committee characterized as unintelligible the attitude of Military Government that would refuse the granting of exit permits whenever re-entry permits would be requested as it is the case for anyone who applies for a Swiss transit visa while waiting for his permanent emigration visa to an overseas country.
- f) The Committee, while appreciating that the hospital facilities and the care given there are excellent, regretted that all attempts to obtain the metals needed for dental fixture have been futile. Having been without dental care for six years, practically all DPs need dental treatment badly. UNRRA, perhaps with the assistance of OSE, should be urged to give its full and urgent attention to this problem.
- g) Both men and women have not been provided yet with an adequate amount of decent clothing: suits, dresses and particularly underwear. Particularly the ladies complained that for years they have been unable to refurnish their stocks of underclothes, stockings, etc. and their demand for aid seemed to be highly justified.
- h) I inquired which food stuffs were most badly needed and most urgently requested for overseas parcels. I was told that packages would be most welcome that contain sweets of all kinds (unsalted), fats, herrings (not sardines), tomato sauces and ketchup, dried onions and meats (sausages).

- 1) Deggendorf's DP Camp had unusually fine school facilities with a good high school. At present, the Committee is searching for sources to pay the salary for four German high school teachers. I trust that, when this need is brought to the attention of the Educational Department of the Joint, a solution will be found.

In general, there was registered a resentment that the organizations, like UNRRA and AJDC, supposedly concerned about the well being of the Camp residents, seem to lack a real feeling of urgency and that in no case their reasonable and justified requests have been heeded. Subsequently, a universal lack of confidence on overseas organizations is prevailing."

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#3

UNRRA DISTRICT NO. 3. HEADQUARTERS, BAMBERG.

20th February, 1946.

CONFIDENTIAL.


TO: MR. J. H. WHITING, Director,
UNRRA Headquarters, U. S. Zone, Operations.
APO 403, U. S. ARMY.

Att: Mr. C. J. Taylor,
Chief of Field

SUBJECT: Principal Welfare Officer,
Team 55, Deggendorf.

Acknowledgment is made of your letter
dated 7th February.

Field Supervisor agrees with evaluation
of the person concerned, as well as with
conclusions expressed. Since Miss Powers
is on leave it is planned to transfer her
to some other setting on her return.


A. C. DUNN
DISTRICT DIRECTOR.

ACD/s.

TSS
#3

9 May 1946

SUBJECT: AJC Report, Deggendorf Camp, Team 55

TO : Mr. A. C. Dunn, District Director, UNRRA District
Office No. 3, Regensburg

1. On 12 April we forwarded to you an extract from a report submitted by Mr. Hans Lamm of the American Jewish Conference in relation to his visit to Deggendorf on 21 March.

2. At that time we suggested that the Field Supervisor follow up the points raised by Mr. Lamm, and report his findings. As yet, we have received no report and would appreciate your following this up so that we may have this report in our hands as soon as possible.

For the Zone Director:

C. J. TAYLOR
Acting Deputy Zone Director

gb

7 February 1946

SUBJECT: Team 55, Deggendorf, Principal Welfare Officer

TO : Mr. A. C. Dunn, District Director, UNRRA District
Office No. 3, Bamberg

1. I have received a confidential report from Relief Services Division in regard to the Principal Welfare Officer of this team, Miss Powers. Relief Services consider that in the interests of team administration and on grounds of welfare of Displaced Persons, it would be better if Miss Powers were transferred to another center where there are non-Jewish Displaced Persons.

2. Extract of the report is given below. I should be glad if you would let me have your early reply and recommendations. If you believe that Miss Powers should be transferred, the question of replacement could be gone into. Relief Services do not anticipate too much difficulty in finding suitable person for Deggendorf.

3. "Miss Powers is ambitious, energetic, capable, a strong administrator who has worked hard and contributed much to the organization of the program and to the improvement of physical facilities. She is also adept at the administrative routines involved in tracing and emmigration. In her first assignment with UNRRA she seems to have made a successful record in a center responsible for some 20,000 DP's.

"However, she is not Jewish, she speaks only English, and it is reported that her manner toward the individual DP is cold and autocratic, that she has no rapport with - is even disliked by them. In addition, her relations with the team members are strained to a point affecting the morale of the team".

J. H. WHITING
Director

FO/CJT/gb

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UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES ZONE HEADQUARTERS
PASING - MUNICH
APO 757

2 February 1946.

SUBJECT : Team 55

TO : Director of Field Operations

Deggendorf Center for Jewish DPs administered by UNRRA T-55 has always been a particular credit to the DP operation. Recently, since its former Director and other staff left, we have had reports from informed and reliable sources that the situation has considerably deteriorated.

One factor aggravating the situation appears to be the Principal Welfare officer, Miss Powers. On the recommendation of the former Director, this Division has recommended her transfer since last Fall. At present it is being blocked by the Field Supervisor who apparently feels, and probably correctly, that Miss Powers is administratively the strongest person on the team. It is also being held up by the problem of where to reassign Miss Powers and who should replace her.

Miss Powers is ambitious, energetic, capable, a strong administrator who has worked hard and contributed much to the organization of the program and to the improvement of physical facilities. She is also adept at the administrative routines involved in tracing and emigration. In her first assignment with UNRRA she seems to have made a successful record in a center responsible for some 20,000 DPs.

However, she is not Jewish, she speaks only English, and it is reported that her manner toward the individual DP is cold and autocratic, that she has no rapport with - is even disliked by them. In addition, her relations with the team members are strained to a point affecting the morale of the team.

I have visited Deggendorf; on a variety of occasions I have discussed the situation with past and present members of the team, with representatives of outside investigating - reporting agencies, with the former District Director and with the present District Relief Services officer. In my opinion the situation warrants prompt action by your office, since Relief Services, limited to consultant activity, has not been able to effect it.

I recommend that Miss Powers be transferred to some very large center of non-Jewish DP's as Principal Welfare or preferably, as Deputy Director.

As her replacement you may wish to consider someone like Mrs. Andree Dembitzer, now at Funk infiltree Kaserne in Munich

SUBJECT : Team 55

TO : Director of Field Operations

who has indicated that her work there is stabilized to the point where she could take on new responsibilities.

Will you let me know what action can be taken.

Carnzu Clark
Relief Services Division

CC ls