

BALKAN MISSION 271
DIVISION DISPLACED PERSONS REPORTS

Balkan Mission 271
Division DP'S Reports

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

CAIRO REPORT NO. 5 (Extract)

DIVISION ON DISPLACED PERSONS

1. EVALUATION OF SIX MONTHS EXPERIENCE IN THE BALKAN MISSION

Balkan Mission - 271. (D.P. # 5)

It is common knowledge in Cairo that the most serious problem that has existed here has been the administrative chaos largely caused by the difficulty of processing new people with inadequate numbers and inadequately trained persons in the administrative branch of the Mission. Every executive here has had discouraging experience of spending large portions of his time attempting to get the most rudimentary administrative service provided. Every employee has had the discouraging and baffling experience of having difficulty getting rooms, getting travel vouchers paid, getting salary paid and hundred other minor details taken care of. The total of these minor difficulties adds up to an impression of an organization which did not know how to take care of the little details of living as far as its own staff was concerned which gave as a ~~rather~~ corollary the impression that it could not take care of providing the details of living for people in devastated countries. Obviously, that conclusion is not altogether justified, but it was unfortunate that such an impression was obtained and it would be inexcusable if such an impression is obtained in future missions.

The advantages and disadvantages of being included in the organization of missions has always been a subject of discussion in DP Division. My impression today indicates that there are very distinct advantages and very distinct disadvantages. Obviously, the purpose of including D.P. operations within any mission structure is to provide one central administration in any geographical area for negotiation with authorities concerned and for providing one administrative organization to service all UNRRA units.

So far as negotiations are concerned, I can say that the experience which Sir William Matthews and Cyril Pickard had had here was invaluable in directing the policies and programs of DP operations in the Middle East and the Balkans. Undoubtedly we would have made many more mistakes had we not had the advantage of their counsel and direction. Therefore, a single experienced mission head for policy direction and negotiation adds up to distinct advantage. I must be honest, however, to state that the subjection of DP operations to the administrative controls and administrative service of the Balkan Mission has been a distinct disadvantage. I have spent a tremendous amount of my time attempting to secure trivial but necessary services such as transport, supplies, personnel actions, pay, travel allowances, and a hundred other items. As soon as I had sufficient staff here, I found it necessary to assign one full-time staff member to the sole ~~staff~~ job of following through with the administrative sections of the Balkan Mission on matters of personnel actions and requirements for the DP staff alone. I am confident that without any additional staff, provided money were available, I could provide all the administrative and personnel services required for this Division with much less difficulty than obtains in attempting to get them from the Balkan Mission.

I am making this statement not as an expression of my wish to be independent of the Balkan Mission at this time, but rather to point out the problems which should be foreseen in future mission operations.

Part of the confusion resulting in the Administrative Services Section of the Balkan Mission has been due to the uncertainty of our relationship with the military. It must be recognized in the Balkan Mission and in the Country Missions that we depend upon the military for transport, uniforms, travel identification documents, PX and NAAFI, medical services, and to a lesser extent, office equipment, supplies, printing, money, and variety of other needs. These items are so vital to any successful mission operation that their availability must be a matter of contractual agreement. Otherwise, UNRRA must prepare in advance to furnish these items on a civilian basis. My own feeling is that except for those items over which the military has sole control, UNRRA should plan to furnish them as an independent civilian organization. This applies particularly to items such as PX, transport, office equipment, supplies, printing equipment, uniforms, and other similar items.

30 January 1945

To be dependent upon the military for these items is to be, to a certain extent, under military control. This is bound to influence policy in UNRRA operations which in many instances may not be desirable.

I would like to suggest that in mounting future UNRRA missions, Headquarters should carefully consider methods by which personnel are selected and allocated.

When Sir William Matthews was made responsible for the operations of the Balkan Mission, he had practically no opportunity to participate in the selection of his principal advisors or in the selection of the staff of the Mission. I submit that this state of affairs presents an almost impossible administrative assignment. Furthermore, a considerable number of the top executives of the Country Missions have not yet been appointed although the staff requirements for these Missions have been almost fully set. I would recommend on future missions, that the executives be appointed first after review and approval by the Chief of the Mission and that arrangements be made whereby representatives of the Chief of Mission who have his confidence can be present at the places of recruitment for review of prospective personnel. Personalities play such a vital part in foreign relief operations that except for certain extremely specialized professions, it is more important to select a person of the proper attitude of mind, adaptability, and aptitude for foreign service, than to pick out persons with special competence in their fields. I strongly urge DP Division to apply standards of personality, adaptability and attitude of mind to prospective employees in addition to, and if necessary rather than, experience in immigration or refugee work. In selecting personnel, the limitations on the use of female employees in war areas should be borne in mind.

It is recognized that suitable and adequate financial controls are necessary for any operations by UNRRA. It should be clearly realized that such financial controls should not handicap necessary and vital operations. The line budget was chronic administrative headache until it was eliminated. In its place we now see emerging budgetary controls, fortunately decentralized, which may prove to be equally handicapping and discouraging unless they are intelligently applied. No person in charge of operations in the field can operate unless he has a reasonable amount of freedom in financial matters. In setting up District Offices in Palestine, Cyprus, Iran, India and East Africa, we have adopted the principle that these offices must be provided with cash in local banks with which to meet current expenses and be further provided with authority to commit UNRRA funds for operations for which they are held responsible. I believe the same principle must be applied in country missions with respect to its district offices and to its operating divisions. For example, certain refugee groups in Greece have, until now, been maintained by a payment of gold by British military units. If that is the only means of providing emergency relief until supplies can be obtained, UNRRA should be prepared to do it. DP operations which might involve transport of thousands of people through many countries must have a flexibility of financial arrangements which make it possible for the person in charge to see the party through safely to its destination without embarrassment or delay. This can be done only by adequate provision of international exchange currency acceptable to all places en route. Furthermore, budgetary controls on personnel must be approached with decentralization of authority to the persons operating in the field. The tendency to increase staff, often unnecessarily, is recognized. However, nothing can be more handicapping than being charged with responsibility for an operating job without being given the human tools with which to do it. These same criteria apply to all grades of personnel and to such items as supplies, transport, or other necessary tools to do a responsible job.

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

CAIRO

4 January 1945

Mr. Thomas M. Cooley II,
Deputy Director
Division on Displaced Persons,
UNRRA,
1344 Connecticut Avenue,
WASHINGTON D.C.

C.A.N. 606

My dear Mr. Cooley,

I have received your letter of 16 December 1944, No. A537, regarding the manner in which the lump sum allocations for the Displaced Persons Budget were arrived at.

You will by now have received Cairo Report No.4 attaching copies of our Organization Chart and memorandum on Job Descriptions. You will see from these two documents that our requirements are considerably in excess of those listed in your letter and allocated to us in the budget. For your information I am enclosing a copy of a budget which I submitted to Alvin Rosemen on 22 December. I think you will find that the main difference is that the budget as forwarded from Washington consists almost entirely of professional or secretarial personnel whereas our budget includes a considerable number of junior administrative and clerical personnel. You will note that most of these are to be engaged locally. Nevertheless, it is important that the funds to hire these people be allocated to this Division so that we may have freedom of action when necessity requires.

I have today requested the Personnel Division to make three changes from the budget as it appears in the enclosed document. I have requested the transfer of Mr. Youdin from Line 295 to 285a which is the Deputy Directorship recently authorized. Mr. Youdin has, in point of fact, been performing this function since my arrival in Cairo and the way in which he has handled this job warrants his being given the title and position. I discussed this appointment with Hochler and have the 'all clear' from him. I have also requested the transfer of H.P. Heighton from Movements Officer Line 301f to Line 295 which is being vacated by Mr. Youdin. I am doing this primarily to make room for Harry Keiles who is being appointed to the position vacated by Heighton. Keiles came from Washington on the Distribution and Transportation budget. However, his background is that of Movements Officer for the JDC and both Mr. Gerstenzang and I feel that he would be happier and perform more effectively for UNRRA with this Division.

Sincerely yours,

C.M. Pierce
Director
Division on Displaced Persons
Balkan Mission.

P.S. While Dayton was here he held a budget hearing on these positions (5 January 1945). He approved all positions already filled plus a lump sum for the remaining positions for the first

quarter of 1945 on the assumption that they would not all be filled by the end of that quarter. This is satisfactory to me provided the lump sum is sufficient and provided the encumbering ~~system~~ is sensible.

I also asked for \$100,000 for repatriation expenses for the first quarter. This may be reduced, but some money must be allocated.

Thanks for the splendid support we have had from you. It is deeply appreciated.

/s/ CMP

DIVISION OF DISPLACED PERSONS

NAME	LINE	POSITION	GRADE	SALARY
<u>BALKAN MISSION</u>				
C. M. Pierce	285	Director	13	7,000
P. M. Hopkins	Local	Secretary	-	1,500
C. H. Alspach	287a	Director	12	6,600
R. J. Youdin	295	D.P. Specialist	11	4,500
S. K. Jacobs	293	D.P. Specialist	11	4,500
(Vacant)	285a	Deputy Director	12	6,000
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	D.P. Specialist	11	5,000
H. P. Heighton	301f	Movements Officer	10	4,500
M. Galusinski	301g	Polish Liaison Officer	10	3,750
E. K. Sharland	(n.a.)	Administrative Officer	A02	2,219.25
E. Parsons	Local	Secretary	-	2,000
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	D.P. Specialist	11	5,000
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	D.P. Specialist	11	5,000
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	D.P. Specialist	11	5,000
J. W. Witwicka	(n.a.)	Chief Registrar	6	2,000
B. Charalambous	(n.a.)	Asst. Registrar	5	1,750
J. Skidmore	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,000
H. Skidmore	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,000
P. E. Kirkiridis	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,000
G. Couridaki	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,000
D. Adzemovic	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,000
H. Minty	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,250
A. Zlonoga	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,750
(Vacant)	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,250
(Vacant)	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,250
(Vacant)	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,250
(Vacant)	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,250
(Vacant)	Local	Index Clerk	-	1,250
B. U. Wrenick	(n.a.)	Office Manager	A03	1,412.25

N.B. w.o.c. - serving without compensation

n.a. - Budget line positions for which no line number assigned.

NAME	LINE	POSITION	GRADE	SALARY
<u>BALKAN MISSION (continued)</u>				
J. Dwek	Local	Typist	-	1,250
M. Shamma	Local	Typist	-	1,000
C. Zukanovich	Local	Registry Clerk	-	1,000
E. M. Gates (w.o.c.)	301a	District Representative	11	(5,000)
(Vacant)	Local	Field Representative	-	2,500
"	"	"	-	2,500
(Vacant)	Local	Secretary	-	2,200
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	301b	District Representative	11	5,000
(Vacant)	Local	Field Representative	-	2,500
(Vacant)	Local	Secretary	-	2,200
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	301c	District Representative	11	5,000
(Vacant)	Local	Field Representative	-	2,500
(Vacant)	Local	Secretary	-	2,200
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	301d	District Representative	11	5,000
(Vacant)	Local	Field Representative	-	2,500
(Vacant)	Local	Secretary	-	2,200
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	301e	District Representative	11	5,000
(Vacant)	Local	Field Representative	-	2,500
(Vacant)	Local	Field Representative	-	2,500
(Vacant)	Local	Secretary	-	2,200
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
(Vacant)	Local	Clerk	-	1,400
W. Walford	(n.a.)	D. P. Specialist (Liaison Dodecanese)	11	5,000
A. Mayerson (w.o.c.)	-	D. P. Specialist	11	(5,000)

NAME	LINE	POSITION	GRADE	SALARY
C. Urquhart (w.o.c.)	-	D. P. Specialist	11	(5,000)
				170,531.50

N.B. w.o.c. - Serving without compensation.

n.a. - Budget line positions for which no line number assigned.

GREECE MISSION

E. H. Barger	286	Director	12	6,000
M. E. Holcomb	294	D. P. Specialist	11	4,500
M. Geldard-Brown	298	D. P. Specialist	11	4,500
R. C. Mitchell	299	D. P. Specialist	11	5,000
A. E. Brown (w.o.c.)	-	D. P. Specialist	11	(5,000)
(Vacant)	283	D. P. Specialist	11	5,000
(Vacant)	300	D. P. Specialist	11	5,000
W. P. Montgomery	301	D. P. Specialist	11	5,043.76
M. St. J. Cooke	1021	Secretary	5	2,400
F. M. Berger	301h	Chief Registrar	403	1,915.75
G. Nickolakis	Local	Admin. Assistant	-	1,875
V. Tsouderos	(n.a.)	Admin. Officer	403	1,210.49
C. Van Lede	Local	Admin. Assistant	-	2,000
		<u>13</u>		<u>49,445.00</u>

YUGOSLAV MISSION

A. Farber	287	Director	12	6,000
L. Dow	292	D. P. Specialist	11	5,043.76
D. E. Myers	291	D. P. Specialist	11	3,631
M. V. Capek	290	D. P. Specialist	11	5,000
M. Flynn	289	D. P. Specialist	11	6,200
G. Weinfeld	297	D. P. Specialist	11	4,000
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	Secretary	5	2,400
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	Chief Registrar	5	2,400
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	Admin. Assistant	7	3,200
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	Admin. Officer	8	3,600
		<u>10</u>		<u>41,474.76</u>

ALBANIAN MISSION

W. H. Sharp	296	D. P. Specialist	11	6,300
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	Secretary	5	2,400
(Vacant)	(n.a.)	Chief Registrar	5	2,400
		<u>3</u>		<u>11,100</u>

N.B. w.o.c. - serving without compensation

n.a. - Budget line positions for which no line number assigned.

M-1 Matthews
M-1 Menshikov
P-1 Pierce

D-3

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

8, Sharia Dar El-Shifa - Garden City - Cairo

Balkans Mission - 271
(#2)

KN

August 5, 1944

Ref CAWA/ No. 133

Mr. M. Menshikov
Deputy Director General
Bureau of Areas
UNRRA
Dupont Circle Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Menshikov:

I transmit, herewith, Cairo Report No. 2 by C. M. Pierce, Director of Displaced Persons, Balkans, for the attention of T. M. Cooley, II, Deputy Director, Division of Displaced Persons.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ W. T. Matthews
Chief of Balkans Mission

Encl.

CMP:EP

C O P Y
59143

C
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August 5, 1944

TO: Fred K. Hoehler
Director, Division of D. P.
London

(Copy to: T. M. Cooley II
Dep. Dir., Div. of D. P.,
Washington)

From: C. M. Pierce

Subject: Cairo Report No. 2

1. Personnel.

Since writing the first report, Mr. Sharp and Mr. Farber have arrived from Washington and London respectively. The former is serving in his capacity of Displaced Persons Director for Greece, the latter was appointed immediately as Acting Director for Yugoslavia because it was necessary for someone to begin work immediately with AML Yugoslavia to do the planning for that country. Mr. Youdin had been added to my staff as assistant because it was not known how long it would be before Farber arrived. Youdin is making a very competent assistant and therefore I could utilize Farber for the acting directorship of Yugoslavia and Albania.

I received a cable from Washington in reply to my cable suggesting Farber's appointment as permanent Director, Yugoslavia, to the effect that Alspach had been appointed as Director, Yugoslavia. I am holding Farber as Acting Director until Alspach arrives, and until the situation regarding Mr. Sharp is resolved. Washington informed me by cable that they had a Washington budget line for Youdin's permanent appointment which I intend to utilize. There is a possibility that another budget line will become available thru the desire of George McCandlish to be attached to a position in the Greek Mission. You will probably have cabled information on this before this report reaches you.

I have added S. K. Jacobs to my staff to make the trip to the camps in Iran, India, East and South Africa. He is starting on these trips immediately so that we can compile a Central Registry in Cairo of the persons in those camps, can study the conditions in these camps and work out transportation routes for the evacuation of the refugees. S. Jacobs will prepare a complete overall report of each camp visited which will be submitted to London and Washington. I have asked for the creation of a new budget line in the Balkans Mission for S. Jacobs. In the meantime, I am asking for his appointment in any available budget line in order to establish a permanent association with this Division.

Ratay is at this point still here. I had a discussion with Sam Keeney as soon as he arrived, regarding his cable requesting postponement of Ratay's departure for Italy. Keeney's explanation was that he was restricting the activities of the Italian Mission including its D. P. components to Observation. He felt that Sorieri and Nadzo were adequate to take care of D.P. Observation and he, therefore, would not require Ratay until actual operations begin. I asked Keeney as to what happened regarding General Wilson's request for active operation by UNRRA on United Nations nationals. The answer was not wholly satisfactory. He thought the number of D.P. of United Nations nationality who were bonafide refugees, exclusive of the Yugoslavs, were very few, and until he had a chance to learn the scope and extent of this problem, he was not prepared to assume actual responsibility for them. I explained that that was a different concept from one which we had held in Washington and one on which our budget request was based. I was not prepared to force Ratay's departure for Italy without specific advice from you. In the meantime, I have assigned Ratay to the Yugoslav D. P. group where he is doing valuable work.

I would appreciate a complete list of persons hired for D. P. positions, Balkans, together with budget lines against which they were hired, with the salary paid, and the effective date of the appointment. If such list could be cabled from both Washington and London, it would be helpful for current planning here. Also, I would appreciate being advised of subsequent changes by cable.

2. International Red Cross

I have had preliminary conversations with Mr. Seidl of the International Red Cross concerning their request to distribute the "10027" cards in the Refugee Camps. I also discussed with Mr. Seidl the possibility of furnishing the International Red Cross with a photographic record of all the refugees in the Middle East and East Africa compiled by photographing the cards in the proposed Central Registry. Whether or not such information can be furnished to the International Red Cross depends upon the assurances they can give for its security. They informed me that such information given to them will not be sent to Geneva until after the War. It would be retained at this time in a tentative location either in Lisbon or Cairo, and the business machine cards held there until they can be flown to Geneva after the War. I asked Mr. Seidl to incorporate such security assurances in a letter which I have not as yet received.

3. Central Registry

Sir William Matthews has approved the establishment of a Central Registry in Cairo for repatriation purposes. This will include all refugees in the Middle and Near East Africa and India. I have requested the creation of the supervisory positions needed for this Registry and I am preparing an estimate of locally engaged personnel and salary requirements.

In his visits to the camps in Africa, Iran, and India, etc., Mr. Jacobs will have compiled a current register of all refugees in those camps. A form is being devised whereby, by monthly reports, this registration can be kept current. We do not plan to use the SHAEF forms for this, mainly due to the fact that all the information on the SHAEF forms will not be needed for our purposes, and also it will not be possible for Mr. Jacobs to take any large quantities of forms with him. Instead, our plan provided for a registration on plain paper prepared according to an outline which Mr. Jacobs will take with him. The number and extent of cross index for the Central Registry has not as yet been determined. At this point it would appear that a cross index by skill and by former place of residence might be required.

4. New York Registry

As I mentioned in the section under "International Red Cross", we are exploring the possibility of photographing cards in our Central Registry, in order that information can be furnished to the New York Registry, International Red Cross and one in London if that is set up. I have talked to the Kodak men here and find that no Recordak machines are available here. They could be purchased in the United States but it would require three or four months for shipment. I contacted the U. S. Army here and have received tentative permission to use the "V" Mail machines in off periods, if such machines could photograph our records adequately. I plan to make a test check on a "V" Mail machine in the near future. Would the Washington office please communicate with the Registry in New York to find out if they can utilize such information received by film. My plan would be to send the film of these cards to New York where they could send it to Kodak for developing. I would suggest then that Kodak make at least two other copies of the film and send one to International Red Cross and one to London. In that way all Registries can be supplied with essential information regarding refugees in this area by one manual operation here. Will Washington also please inquire of the New York Registry, when they can start receiving these records and how they propose to handle inquiries in the United States.

5. Trip to the Camps

Starting on July 13, Youdin, Ratay, and myself made a tour of the camps in this immediate area, including Moses Wells, El Shatt, Tolumbat and Khatatba. My most outstanding impression was that the desert is not necessarily an undesirable location for a refugee camp. Except for a few cases of under-nourishment in recently arrived Yugoslav children, the inhabitants of these camps appeared healthy, well fed, and reasonably happy. The main problem in all of the camps is activities to keep the persons occupied. This was more striking in the new camps than in the older ones.

On the whole, persons on these camps will return to their homes much healthier than when they left. The Administration of the camps is still military, and the stores being utilized are still military. Due to the fact that the Administration is military, there is considerable shifting of personnel. If there is any prospect of long-term existence of these camps, it would appear desirable that the supervisory personnel be shifted to a civilian status as soon as it is feasible.

I have given Sir William Matthews the suggestion that consideration be given to continued maintenance and staffing of some of these camps even after the present refugees have been repatriated; such camps to be held as a reserve for possible temporary refuge for stateless persons which we might be called upon to evacuate from Europe. Sir William Matthews replied in a manner which I anticipated; namely, that such a probability would be met with objections on the part of the Egyptian Government. I only raised the question with Sir William Matthews in the first instance in order that we keep it in mind in our long-term planning for these camps. If these camps are not available for such purposes, I would suggest that we consider Philippeville or some other location for such a resource.

6. SHAEF Registry Plan

During the course of a conversation with W/Cmdr. Painter, S.O.I. (Staff Officer I); the C.R.O. (Chief Relief Officer); and A.M.L. (Allied Military Liaison, Greece), it appeared that the Military here had no previous knowledge of the SHAEF registry plan. W/Cmdr. Painter had developed a proposed registry procedure for Greece. This procedure contemplated the registry of all persons who required services from AML Greece and UNRRA adjuncts. At that time, both Farber and myself were under the impression that SHAEF registry plan had general application to all persons in Allied or occupied countries requiring services. We suggested, therefore, to Painter that he give consideration to SHAEF registration plan in lieu of his own for purposes of uniformity, and because of the fact that the SHAEF forms were already printed. Because of his willingness to do so, provided the forms were immediately available, I cabled London for their dispatch. Upon receipt of information that the SHAEF forms were designed only for Displaced Persons, I had another meeting with Painter and brought in the UNRRA Welfare Division. Painter is now of the opinion that if the SHAEF forms have general application, he is willing to consider them for general use in Greece. This decision will be made only after he has had a chance to study the forms. If he is willing to use them generally, I am prepared to turn over the supply which is being sent to Cairo for the Middle East and Africa.

All the refugees in these camps have been registered in one way or another on forms generally satisfactory for our purposes except for those who will be registered by Jacobs on his trip. Registrations already exist that will be available to us. I think it would be a waste of time and money to re-register all these people here, so that if London approves I propose to dispense with SHAEF registry in the Middle East and Africa. The sample forms arrived on

August 5, but we have not as yet had a chance to see them.

7. Orientation program of Displaced Persons Personnel

The Personnel Division proposes to send all new personnel, who arrive here, to Maadi for an orientation program to be given there. This will last about one week and will include a lot of necessary details such as identification passes. At the completion of this orientation program, if or five D.P. people are available, we plan to send such persons to two camps for at least one week in order to study such persons under field conditions and to determine if they have any particular facility for working with Greek or Yugoslav refugees. This procedure is being done for the expressed purpose of trying to match those best suited for Greece and Yugoslavia, so that they will be likely to work well together without undue friction with each other or with the Mission Director. Following the camp experience, we plan to make specific assignments to country missions and attach such persons to the Mission Director in Cairo for planning purposes.

8. Reception camp at Casablanca

As you probably know, there is under consideration the transfer of the Sephardic Jews and a number of Greeks from Casablanca to the Middle East where they will be merged with the Greeks in our camps here for eventual repatriation to Greece. With the transfer of this number which would comprise approximately at least 400 of the 600 odd refugees in the Casablanca camp, there will be no necessity for continuing that camp. This matter has been referred to me for making appropriate recommendations to Washington and London. Before making such recommendations, however, I plan to send Mr. Jacobs, who is leaving tonight, to Casablanca, to ascertain the following information:

- a) Has the Greek Government indicated in any formal manner its willingness to accept the Sephardic Jews for repatriation?
- b) Will the French Government accept the remaining refugees for residence in French Morocco?
- c) If the camp is abolished, is UNRRA relieved of the responsibility for support and eventual repatriation of the remaining refugees?
- d) What method will be used for transporting the refugees to the Middle East?

I am sure that Beckelman has gone into all these questions. However, before I can make any recommendations to Washington, I feel obliged to cover these specific points. I feel confident that Washington will raise them if I do not. The plan is to put the recommendations to Washington and London and to let them decide on the matter of state policy involved.

9. Philippeville and Tripoli

Governor Cochran was here this week and reported that Philippeville was being developed for reception of Yugoslavs. He indicated that he was prepared tentatively to recommend that Yugoslavs in Italy be evacuated to the camps in Egypt at least until a total of 40,000 is reached before considering evacuation of Yugoslavs to Philippeville. However, he did believe that Philippeville should be developed as a potential resource; a conclusion with which I concur. It might also be considered as another resource to be used in connection with stateless persons. There is no further news here as far as I know regarding the situation involved in the camp at Tripoli.

10. Liaison with London

It appears increasingly necessary to maintain a close liaison with London office. That necessity is evident for the whole Balkans Mission. As a result, Sir William Matthews has appointed a liaison officer for periodic trips to London. I intend to utilize his services as much as possible. However, if I find that the trips are not frequent enough, or that the material is not being adequately covered, it may be necessary to send a D.P. representative from time to time. In this connection I would appreciate if London continues to send us copies of all D.P. material being produced. We are receiving a considerable amount from you now and we find that extremely valuable.

11. Liaison with Washington

It is requested that Washington forward copies of all current material of special or general interest. If we are to develop a coordinate program, it is necessary that we keep each other currently informed of developments.

12. Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees

Will you please communicate with Pat. Malin and urge the immediate appointment of an I.G.C. Cairo representative. It is important in the case of repatriation of refugees from this area that there be a representative to work closely with us now, so that the machinery may be established to handle the residual stateless people in this area. The appointment of an I.G.C. representative here to work closely with us will allow a development of these cases for resettlement at an early date.

13. Work with AML, Greece, Yugoslavia & Albania

Both Mr. Sharp and Mr. Faber are working in close cooperation with their AML counterparts. Certain features of AML plans present serious complications in the proposed work in the Balkans. These plans of course cannot be discussed in this report. I will ask the Liaison Officer going to London to take up the question generally with you for your advice as to how to proceed.

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The above person has been suggested to us by Alan Hall who knows of her work with the American Red Cross, as a person who might prove valuable in Displaced Persons activities either here or elsewhere. Her application is on file in the London Office. You can get full details from there. Mr. Hall who knows of the organization of your personnel office in London thinks it would be worthwhile for you to interview her personally. Please let me know your reactions so that I can inform Mr. Hall.

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Best regards,

/s/ C. M. Pierce

Encl.
CMP:EP

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August 3, 1944

TO: Sir William Matthews
FROM: C. M. Pierce
RE: Visit to Four Refugee Camps

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As I discussed with you personally, the responsibility for repatriation will involve the necessity for a central index of the individual whom we will be called upon to repatriate. This central index should be maintained in Cairo, and should be kept current. It should be cross-indexed to the point where we could perform the required services for the Government involved, speedily, efficiently, and economically.

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The existence of a considerable number of disabled partisan soldiers at Khatatba raises the question in my mind that, if these men are soldiers and in continued need of medical attention as most of them appear to be, I would think that they require care in a military or convalescent hospital. I am informed by Major Jaksic that these men have now located relatives in the camp and would therefore be unwilling to leave. I am therefore not suggesting that they receive care elsewhere now. If, however, future groups of a similar type are received, I would suggest consideration of some other type of care since this appears to be a purely military problem.

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Because of my ultimate responsibility for repatriation of United Nations nationals in the Middle East and Africa, I am vitally interested in any decision taken to add to the numbers of refugees already here. I would respectfully suggest that I be consulted before such decisions are taken.

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In two instances I noticed civilian employees wearing U. S. insignia on their uniforms of a quasi-military nature. UNRRA is a United Nations organization and, in my opinion, civilian employees should not designate themselves with the symbols representing any one country.

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I think that the camp section can be congratulated on the good organization of the administration of the camps. I was impressed with the healthy and reasonably happy appearance of the refugees and the orderly appearance of the camps. I have the distinct impression that on the whole the camp administration was very competent. Mechanical processes seem to function smoothly and efficiently. Most of the commandants expressed a genuine and sympathetic interest in the problems of the refugees. What appeared to be required in all camps was an increased emphasis upon camp activities hopefully of a productive nature. The idleness, obvious to even a casual observer, produces serious moral problems. Even the imminent evacuation of these camps should not lessen efforts to produce work of all sorts for refugees in the camps.

/s/ C. M. Pierce

CMP/EP

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

8, Sharia Dar El-Shifa - Garden City - Cairo

August 5, 1944

Ref CANA/ No. 133

Mr. M. Menshikov
Deputy Director General
Bureau of Areas
UNRRA
Dupont Circle Building
Washington, D. C.

Balkan Mission #271

(wp # 2)

Dear Mr. Menshikov:

I transmit, herewith, Cairo Report No. 2 by G. H. Pierce, Director of Displaced Persons, Balkans, for the attention of T. M. Cooley, II, Deputy Director, Division of Displaced Persons.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ W. T. Matthews
Chief of Balkans Mission

Encl.

CMP:WF

COPY

59143

G
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August 5, 1944

TO: Fred E. Hoehler
Director, Division of D. P.
London

(Copy to: T. M. Cooley II
Dep. Dir., Div. of D. P.,
Washington)

From: C. M. Pierce

Subject: Cairo Report No. 2

1. Personnel.

Since writing the first report, Mr. Sharp and Mr. Farber have arrived from Washington and London respectively. The former is serving in his capacity of Displaced Persons Director for Greece, the latter was appointed immediately as Acting Director for Yugoslavia because it was necessary for someone to begin work immediately with AEL Yugoslavia to do the planning for that country. Mr. Youdin had been added to my staff as assistant because it was not known how long it would be before Farber arrived. Youdin is making a very competent assistant and therefore I could utilize Farber for the acting directorship of Yugoslavia and Albania.

I received a cable from Washington in reply to my cable suggesting Farber's appointment as permanent Director, Yugoslavia, to the effect that Alsop had been appointed as Director, Yugoslavia. I am holding Farber as Acting Director until Alsop arrives, and until the situation regarding Mr. Sharp is resolved. Washington informed me by cable that they had a Washington budget line for Youdin's permanent appointment which I intend to utilize. There is a possibility that another budget line will become available thru the desire of George McCandlish to be attached to a position in the Greek Mission. You will probably have cabled information on this before this report reaches you.

I have added S. K. Jacobs to my staff to make the trip to the camps in Iran, India, East and South Africa. He is starting on these trips immediately so that we can compile a Central Registry in Cairo of the persons in these camps, can study the conditions in these camps and work out transportation routes for the evacuation of the refugees. S. Jacobs will prepare a complete overall report of each camp visited which will be submitted to London and Washington. I have asked for the creation of a new budget line in the Balkans Mission for S. Jacobs. In the meantime, I am asking for his appointment in any available budget line in order to establish a permanent association with this Division.

Ratay is at this point still here. I had a discussion with Sam Keeney as soon as he arrived, regarding his cable requesting postponement of Ratay's departure for Italy. Keeney's explanation was that he was restricting the activities of the Italian Mission including its D. P. components to Observation. He felt that Sorieri and Nadzo were adequate to take care of D.P. Observation and he, therefore, would not require Ratay until actual operations begin. I asked Keeney as to what happened regarding General Wilson's request for active operation by UNRRA on United Nations nationals. The answer was not wholly satisfactory. He thought the number of D.P. of United Nations nationality who were bonafide refugees, exclusive of the Yugoslavs, were very few, and until he had a chance to learn the scope and extent of this problem, he was not prepared to assume actual responsibility for them. I explained that that was a different concept from one which we had held in Washington and one on which our budget request was based. I was not prepared to force Ratay's departure for Italy without specific advice from you. In the meantime, I have assigned Ratay to the Yugoslav D. P. group where he is doing valuable work.

I would appreciate a complete list of persons hired for D. P. positions, Balkans, together with budget lines against which they were hired, with the salary paid, and the effective date of the appointment. If such list could be cabled from both Washington and London, it would be helpful for current planning here. Also, I would appreciate being advised of subsequent changes by cable.

2. International Red Cross

I have had preliminary conversations with Mr. Seidl of the International Red Cross concerning their request to distribute the "10027" cards in the Refugee Camps. I also discussed with Mr. Seidl the possibility of furnishing the International Red Cross with a photographic record of all the refugees in the Middle East and East Africa compiled by photographing the cards in the proposed Central Registry. Whether or not such information can be furnished to the International Red Cross depends upon the assurances they can give for its security. They informed me that such information given to them will not be sent to Geneva until after the War. It would be retained at this time in a tentative location either in Lisbon or Cairo, and the business machine cards held there until they can be flown to Geneva after the War. I asked Mr. Seidl to incorporate such security assurances in a letter which I have not as yet received.

3. Central Registry

Sir William Matthews has approved the establishment of a Central Registry in Cairo for repatriation purposes. This will include all refugees in the Middle and Near East Africa and India. I have requested the creation of the supervisory positions needed for this Registry and I am preparing an estimate of locally engaged personnel and salary requirements.

In his visits to the camps in Africa, Iran, and India, etc., Mr. Jacobs will have compiled a current register of all refugees in those camps. A form is being devised whereby, by monthly reports, this registration can be kept current. We do not plan to use the SHAWF forms for this, mainly due to the fact that all the information on the SHAWF forms will not be needed for our purposes, and also it will not be possible for Mr. Jacobs to take any large quantities of forms with him. Instead, our plan provided for a registration on plain paper prepared according to an outline which Mr. Jacobs will take with him. The number and extent of cross index for the Central Registry has not as yet been determined. At this point it would appear that a cross index by skill and by former place of residence might be required.

4. New York Registry

As I mentioned in the section under "International Red Cross", we are exploring the possibility of photographing cards in our Central Registry, in order that information can be furnished to the New York Registry, International Red Cross and one in London if that is set up. I have talked to the Kodak men here and find that no Recordak machines are available here. They could be purchased in the United States but it would require three or four months for shipment. I contacted the U. S. Army here and have received tentative permission to use the "V" Mail machines in off periods, if such machines could photograph our records adequately. I plan to make a test check on a "V" Mail machine in the near future. Would the Washington office please communicate with the Registry in New York to find out if they can utilize such information received by film. My plan would be to send the film of these cards to New York where they could send it to Kodak for developing. I would suggest then that Kodak make at least two other copies of the film and send one to International Red Cross and one to London. In that way all Registries can be supplied with essential information regarding refugees in this area by one manual operation here. Will Washington also please inquire of the New York Registry, when they can start receiving these records and how they propose to handle inquiries in the United States.

5. Trip to the Camps

Starting on July 13, Youdin, Batay, and myself made a tour of the camps in this immediate area, including Moses Wells, El Shatt, Salsabat and Khatatba. My most outstanding impression was that the desert is not necessarily an undesirable location for a refugee camp. Except for a few cases of under-nourishment in recently arrived Yugoslav children, the inhabitants of these camps appeared healthy, well fed, and reasonably happy. The main problem in all of the camps is activities to keep the persons occupied. This was more striking in the new camps than in the older ones.

On the whole, persons on these camps will return to their homes much healthier than when they left. The Administration of the camps is still military, and the stores being utilized are still military. Due to the fact that the Administration is military, there is considerable shifting of personnel. If there is any prospect of long-term existence of these camps, it would appear desirable that the supervisory personnel be shifted to a civilian status as soon as it is feasible.

I have given Sir William Matthews the suggestion that consideration be given to continued maintenance and staffing of some of these camps even after the present refugees have been repatriated; such camps to be held as a reserve for possible temporary refuge for stateless persons which we might be called upon to evacuate from Europe. Sir William Matthews replied in a manner which I anticipated; namely, that such a probability would be met with objections on the part of the Egyptian Government. I only raised the question with Sir William Matthews in the first instance in order that we keep it in mind in our long-term planning for these camps. If these camps are not available for such purposes, I would suggest that we consider Philippeville or some other location for such a resource.

6. SHAWF Registry Plan

During the course of a conversation with W/Cmdr. Painter, S.O.I. (Staff Officer I); the C.R.O. (Chief Relief Officer); and A.M.L. (Allied Military Liaison, Greece), it appeared that the Military here had no previous knowledge of the SHAWF registry plan. W/Cmdr. Painter had developed a proposed registry procedure for Greece. This procedure contemplated the registry of all persons who required services from AME Greece and UNRRA adjuncts. At that time, both Farber and myself were under the impression that SHAWF registry plan had general application to all persons in Allied or occupied countries requiring services. We suggested, therefore, to Painter that he give consideration to SHAWF registration plan in lieu of his own for purposes of uniformity, and because of the fact that the SHAWF forms were already printed. Because of his willingness to do so, provided the forms were immediately available, I cabled London for their dispatch. Upon receipt of information that the SHAWF forms were designed only for Displaced Persons, I had another meeting with Painter and brought in the UNRRA Welfare Division. Painter is now of the opinion that if the SHAWF forms have general application, he is willing to consider them for general use in Greece. This decision will be made only after he has had a chance to study the forms. If he is willing to use them generally, I am prepared to turn over the supply which is being sent to Cairo for the Middle East and Africa.

All the refugees in these camps have been registered in one way or another on forms generally satisfactory for our purposes except for those who will be registered by Jacobs on his trip. Registrations already exist that will be available to us. I think it would be a waste of time and money to re-register all these people here, so that if London approves I propose to dispense with SHAWF registry in the Middle East and Africa. The sample forms arrived on

August 5, but we have not as yet had a chance to see them.

7. Orientation program of Displaced Persons Personnel

The Personnel Division proposes to send all new personnel, who arrive here, to Madi for an orientation program to be given there. This will last about one week and will include a lot of necessary details such as identification passes. At the completion of this orientation program, if or five D.P. people are available, we plan to send such persons to two camps for at least one week in order to study such persons under field conditions and to determine if they have any particular facility for working with Greek or Yugoslav refugees. This procedure is being done for the expressed purpose of trying to match those best suited for Greece and Yugoslavia, so that they will be likely to work well together without undue friction with each other or with the Mission Director. Following the camp experience, we plan to make specific assignments to country missions and attach such persons to the Mission Director in Cairo for planning purposes.

8. Reception camp at Casablanca

As you probably know, there is under consideration the transfer of the Sephardic Jews and a number of Greeks from Casablanca to the Middle East where they will be merged with the Greeks in our camps here for eventual repatriation to Greece. With the transfer of this number which would comprise approximately at least 400 of the 600 odd refugees in the Casablanca camp, there will be no necessity for continuing that camp. This matter has been referred to me for making appropriate recommendations to Washington and London. Before making such recommendations, however, I plan to send Mr. Jacobs, who is leaving tonight, to Casablanca, to ascertain the following information:

- a) Has the Greek Government indicated in any formal manner its willingness to accept the Sephardic Jews for repatriation?
- b) Will the French Government accept the remaining refugees for residence in French Morocco?
- c) If the camp is abolished, is UNRRA relieved of the responsibility for support and eventual repatriation of the remaining refugees?
- d) What method will be used for transporting the refugees to the Middle East?

I am sure that Beckelman has gone into all these questions. However, before I can make any recommendations to Washington, I feel obliged to cover these specific points. I feel confident that Washington will raise them if I do not. The plan is to put the recommendations to Washington and London and to let them decide on the matter of state policy involved.

9. Philippeville and Tripoli

Governor Cochran was here this week and reported that Philippeville was being developed for reception of Yugoslavs. He indicated that he was prepared tentatively to recommend that Yugoslavs in Italy be evacuated to the camps in Egypt at least until a total of 40,000 is reached before considering evacuation of Yugoslavs to Philippeville. However, he did believe that Philippeville should be developed as a potential resource; a conclusion with which I concur. It might also be considered as another resource to be used in connection with stateless persons. There is no further news here as far as I know regarding the situation involved in the camp at Tripoli.

10. Liaison with London

It appears increasingly necessary to maintain a close liaison with London office. That necessity is evident for the whole Balkans Mission. As a result, Sir William Matthews has appointed a liaison officer for periodic trips to London. I intend to utilize his services as much as possible. However, if I find that the trips are not frequent enough, or that the material is not being adequately covered, it may be necessary to send a D.P. representative from time to time. In this connection I would appreciate if London continues to send us copies of all D.P. material being produced. We are receiving a considerable amount from you now and we find that extremely valuable.

11. Liaison with Washington

It is requested that Washington forward copies of all current material of special or general interest. If we are to develop a coordinate program, it is necessary that we keep each other currently informed of developments.

12. Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees

Will you please communicate with Pat. Malin and urge the immediate appointment of an I.G.C. Cairo representative. It is important in the case of repatriation of refugees from this area that there be a representative to work closely with us now, so that the machinery may be established to handle the residual stateless people in this area. The appointment of an I.G.C. representative here to work closely with us will allow a development of these cases for resettlement at an early date.

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Encl.
CMP:MP

August 3, 1944

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/s/ G. M. Pierce

CMP/UP

Cairo - General
Balkan Mideast - 271
DP#1
2 August 1944

TO: L. Leonard
FROM: Betty Douglass
SUBJECT: First Cairo Report from Pierce to Hoehler

The report, dated July 11, raises questions on transportation to Cairo, and outlines the current situation regarding displaced persons in Camps under UNRRA jurisdiction.

1. Transportation

Pierce reports that the trip by boat took 33 days, accommodations were extremely poor, and risk to UNRRA personnel increased because all sleeping quarters were in one hold below the waterline of a poorly protected Liberty ship. He recommends that UNRRA endeavor to send personnel by plane for speed and to spread risk, and if that is not possible sea transport be limited to neutral vessels or fast troop carriers. Mr. Sorieri, destined for Algiers, went to Cairo because he was not allowed to get off the ship until Suez.

2. Camps

a. A refugee camp site in North Africa (Philippeville, Algeria proposed) was considered because of the 40,000 ceiling agreed upon by MERRA-UNRRA and the Military in Cairo. Pierce believes UNRRA's sites in the Middle East could accommodate up to 70,000 if the Military would furnish supplies and some personnel, which they are unwilling to do, although they would have to furnish supplies at the other site.

b. The British War Office has ordered their military staff in Cairo to establish a refugee camp in Tripoli accommodating 2,000 to 3,000 and capable of expansion to 5,000. Since establishment of the North African Reception Center, the U. S. has pressed the British, pursuant of the agreement reached at Bermuda whereby the U. S. would establish a camp in North Africa provided the British establish one in Tripoli or Cyrenaica, costs of both to be shared equally. It is apparently contemplated by the British that UNRRA will ultimately accept responsibility for the Tripoli Camp. Pierce feels this scattering of operations would increase administrative difficulties for UNRRA.

c. The current population of UNRRA Middle East Refugee Camps is seen in the attached chart.

Attachment: Population of UNRRA Middle East Refugee Camps.

POPULATION OF UNRRA MIDDLE EAST REFUGEE CAMPS

June 30, 1944

Camp

Aleppo.	365	Greeks
Nuseirat.	8,866	Greeks
Moses Wells	3,732	Greeks
El-Shatt.	20,551	Yugoslavs (Partisans)
Khatatba.	6,657	Yugoslavs (Partisans)
Tolubat.	566	(254 Yugoslavs (Chetniks)
		(114 Yugoslavs (Neutrals)
		(140 Greeks
		(56 Italians
		(2 Rumanians

The increase during the month of June was 3,303 Yugoslavs, 697 Greeks and 34 other nationalities. Consideration is being given to the early repatriation of the 56 Italians.

11 July, 1944
CALO No. 16

To: Fred K. Hoehler, Director, Div. of D. P., London.
(Copy to: T.M. Cooley II, Dep. Div. Div. of D.P.,
Washington).

From: C. M. Pierce.

Subject: Cairo Report No. 1

*In. Mr. M.M.
original was a bad
carbon copy.*

Part I - Report on sea trip to Egypt.

Balkan Miss - 2 (p#1)

I arrived in Egypt on 29 June, after an uneventful but extremely slow crossing. Disembarkation was at Suez which meant that, because we came through the Med. we traversed the Suez Canal before getting off the ship. Mr. Sorieri came all the way, despite the fact that his destination was Algiers, because he was not allowed to get off the ship until Suez. This was particularly trying for Mr. Sorieri because ships in the convoy turned off for Casablanca, Oran, Algiers, Bizerte, Italy and Alexandria.

A general critique can be made of the method of transportation used for the seven UNRRA members in this party. The boat trip lasted 33 days which was a loss of valuable time of the services of these people. The accommodations were very poor, especially considering the exorbitant fare which UNRRA was charged \$225.00. All passengers (about 50) were crowded into one hold where their bunks were set up in small, poorly ventilated rooms below the water line. No service was provided so that the passengers had to police the quarters and bathrooms daily. The food was cooked in the galley above deck, and then was served cafeteria style in the hold, so that it was often cold and unappetizing. No attempt was made to control flies, so that the lack of an epidemic was due entirely to luck. The crew members assigned to serve food received no extra pay, and thus were dependent on gratuities from the passengers. The boat was a Liberty which rolled exceedingly, was slow, and thus prolonged the voyage. The Captain did not want passengers aboard; neither did the crew. Both went out of their way to make things disagreeable. No provision was made for passenger comfort above decks in the daytime. The decks were covered with cargo, and the clear spaces of deck were slimy with oil where the oil tanks had overflowed in filling. Throughout the voyage no attempt was made to scrub down the decks, stretch an awning or take any of several steps which would have added to our comfort. The food was plentiful and of good quality (suffering often in preparation and serving) and no attempt was made to conserve that, so everybody who could eat had full insides. There was no fresh water for bathing.

Perhaps the most important criticism which can be made is one of safety. Because sleeping quarters were all in one hold below the waterline of a thin skinned Liberty, if a torpedo should have hit that hold, UNRRA would have had seven vacancies to fill. I believe UNRRA should exert every effort to send personnel over by plane for the sake of speed and also to spread the risk. If that is not possible, I would suggest limiting sea transport to neutral vessels or fast troop carriers.

Part 2 - First Week Activities in Cairo.

On 29 June, after going through quarantine in Suez, we came by Army truck to Cairo, some 80 miles across the desert in an open truck averaging 40 miles per hour, an experience you are not apt to forget. Luckily, everybody had tanned on the boat, so wind burn was reduced. Hotel rooms were found for us by UNRRA Headquarters, and we were advised to take it easy over the week-end - good advice. On Saturday, we were given a short orientation lecture by Mr. Roseman and later Sir William Matthews met the group. Saturday night I was taken with a rather violent attack of what is known locally as "Gippy Tummy" which is a rather coy way of describing a nasty dysentery composed of its usual effect in addition to nausea, chills and fever. I was in bed at the hotel until Thursday. Treatment was sulphaguanadine and opium pills. I dropped a good ten pounds which was no loss.

Mr. Sorieri had many interviews during this week (arranged by Mr. Pickard) with Major Webb, Liaison Officer, Major Jaksic, Yugoslav Partisan Officer, and others. He was asked by Sir William to look into the Philippeville camp project while in Algiers and send a report to this office. Tony left Thursday night, 6 July, for Algiers and thence to Italy. I reported back in the office for the next next but did little the rest of the week.

I have recommended to Sir William that Mr. Richard Yondin be reclassified to my assistant at \$5000 in place of Farber. Yondin impressed me as a very capable chap. He knows the local situation. He has a background of work with the State Department. Until now he has been assisting Mr. Roseman who is willing to release him. I have not yet had Sir William's reaction.

Part 3 - Current situation regarding displaced persons in camps under UNRRA jurisdiction and some comments on pending problems.

As of June 30, 1944, the population of the UNRRA camps in the Middle East was composed as follows:-

Aleppo	365 Greeks
Nuseirat	8,866 Greeks
Moses Wells	3,732 Greeks
El-Shatt	20,551 Yugoslavs (Partisans)
Khatatba	6,657 Yugoslavs (Partisans)
Tolumat	566 (254 Yugoslavs (Chetniks)
	(114 Yugoslavs (Neutrals)
	(140 Greeks
	(56 Italians
	(2 Rumanians.

It is impossible to give a weekly or monthly average of rate of arrival because the figures vary according to available transportation and other incalculable factors. However, for the month of June the increment was 3,303 Yugoslavs, 697 Greeks and 34 other nationalities.

The 56 Italians at Tolumat arrived in the Middle East from the Dodecanese Islands. Most were born in Italy and all appear to be Italian nationals. The question has been raised whether this group might not be repatriated to Italy at an early date. Consideration is being given to this problem.

There has been some discussion regarding the proposed refugee camp at Phillippeville, Algeria. It appears that a campsite in North Africa was considered because of the 40,000 ceiling agreed upon by UNRRA/MERRA and the Military here. In point of fact, UNRRA's camp-sites in the Middle East could accommodate up to 70,000 refugees provided the Military undertook to furnish equipment supplies and some personnel. However, the Military here are unwilling to accept this additional responsibility. Since the military will have to supply the same items to the proposed camp in North Africa, my first thought on this subject is that UNRRA should press for the increase of the Middle East ceiling in as much as this would be a much more economical solution to the problem as well simplifying UNRRA's administrative problem. A process of scattering displaced persons in several sites will only complicate the job of repatriation.

A cable from the War Office has just been received by the British Military here ordering, for the highest political reasons, the establishment of a refugee camp in Tripoli which is to accommodate in the first instance 2,000 to 3,000 refugees with a possible expansion to 5,000. I am informed that the background of this camp dates back to the Bermuda conference when the U.S. Government agreed to establish a refugee camp in North Africa provided H.M. Government followed suit in Tripoli or Cyrenaica. In both instances the costs were to be shared equally by the two governments. It now appears that with the establishment of the North African Reception Center at Casablanca the U. S. Government is pressing H.M.G. to establish the second camp. According to the cable, it is contemplated that UNRRA will ultimately accept responsibility for the Tripoli camp. By the time you receive this you will probably have received the cabled comments of this office on the proposal. The War Office cable has just been received and I have not had the chance to discuss it fully. However, my preliminary opinion is that it would be most unwise for UNRRA to give any indication of willingness to accept any responsibility for the Tripoli Camp. This would again result in scattering the area of our responsibility and thus increase administrative difficulties. The limit of absorption in Egypt, with adequate military assistance, has not been reached. It would be much easier to repatriate people from concentrated locations, where they can be sorted out readily, than from locations scattered throughout the Mediterranean area.

Part 4 - Immediate plans

The latter part of this week or the first of next, I plan to visit the camps in the immediate vicinity of Cairo in company with Mr. Youdin and Mr. Ratay who arrived Sunday night. I plan to concentrate for the immediate future on registration plans for our camps and the A.M.L. It is a very pressing subject at this time, and of course it is one which deserves the most careful consideration. If you have any of the printed SHAEF registration forms, will you send some along?

In closing, I wish to say that my reception here has been most cordial. There is a sense of urgency about the work here, which is all to the good. Sir William, Mr. Pickard, Mr. Roseman and others have been very considerate and helpful. I am sure that a solid working relationship among the bureau and division heads can be established.