

April 2, 1946

SUB-COMMITTEE FOR STUDY OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

INTRODUCTION

The following report of services by Voluntary Agencies for Displaced Persons is based on an analysis of American Agencies only. It is recognized that indigenous agencies of other countries are making a substantial contribution in this field.

The report is concerned only with the work of Voluntary Agencies for Displaced Persons, and where such persons have been displaced across international frontiers. It is not a qualitative study of the work of Voluntary Agencies, but an analysis of information presented to the Committee.

It should be noted further that the analysis of expenditures for Displaced Persons by Voluntary Agencies is in most cases based on estimates by the Agencies.

I. RELATIVE TO THE PURPOSE OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

1. That the primary responsibility for the care and welfare of Displaced Persons rests with government and the military authority, and that the work of Voluntary Agencies is supplementary to this primary responsibility.

It is noted that in this connection the total expenditure by American Voluntary Agencies for work with Displaced Persons during the year 1945 was only an approximate \$13,430,000. Of this total, approximately \$8,000,000 was raised and expended by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

The total number of American Voluntary Agency personnel abroad working with Displaced Persons as of March 1, 1945 was approximately 358. As of March 1, 1945 the number of UNRRA personnel in Germany alone was approximately 4,460.

2. That the supplementary work of Voluntary Agencies should have as its purpose the providing of specialized services and that such services should be given on an individual rather than on a mass basis.

II. RELATIVE TO THE FUNCTIONS OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

1. That the primary function of Voluntary Agencies is to provide a highly specialized service to meet the individual needs of Displaced Persons.

Voluntary Agencies generally are in a position to require a high degree of professional qualification in personnel, and in many cases have had long experience in dealing with the wide variety of problems and special needs of Displaced Persons. In addition, Voluntary Agencies have a flexibility of operation, not presently possible in governmental agencies in providing on the basis of careful study for the special needs of individual cases.

*Preliminary  
to be  
redrafted*



## II. RELATIVE TO THE FUNCTIONS OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES (Continued)

2. That Voluntary Agencies on the above basis should (1) provide casework services dealing with personal and emotional problems of Displaced Persons; (2) provide psychiatric casework services; (3) supplement government health services in meeting special individual health problems; (4) assist organized religious work in meeting religious needs; (5) supplement governmental activities in informal educational, recreational, and training programs by providing trained leadership; (6) supplement in special cases governmental programs for location and reunion of families; (7) assist governmental agencies in settlement and resettlement efforts through provision of special welfare services enroute to and in the country of refuge.
3. That supplementation of basic maintenance is a function of Voluntary Agencies only where it is given on an individual case basis to meet individually known needs.

It is not the intention of this recommendation to exclude the valuable assistance that has been given to Displaced Persons through voluntary collections of food, clothing, medical and other supplies, but rather the expenditure of Voluntary Agency funds for purchase of large quantities of such maintenance items for general distribution.

4. That provision of basic maintenance or mass supplementation of basic maintenance provided by government or military authorities is not the function of Voluntary Agencies.

Where failure of government or the military to assume rightful responsibility makes it necessary for Voluntary Agencies to expend funds for basic maintenance or mass supplementation, such expenditure should be on a temporary basis only. Concomitant with such expenditure should go strenuous efforts to persuade the proper authorities to assume the responsibility at the earliest possible date.

## III. RELATIVE TO PRESENT PROGRAMS OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

1. That every effort should be made by Voluntary Agencies to concentrate their limited resources in providing those types of individual services which best utilize their special competence, as outline in Section II-1.

An analysis of expenditures for Displaced Persons work during 1945 by 14 Voluntary Agencies representing approximately 93% of all expenditures by American Voluntary Agencies provides the following breakdown according to type of service:

Relief and Maintenance	58%
Educational, recreational, vocational and rehabilitation Services	19%
Health Services	17%
Religious Needs	04%
Casework, location, immigration	01%

2. That particular efforts should be made to reduce the present high percentage (58%) of expenditures by Voluntary Agencies for basic maintenance and mass supplementation of basic maintenance items.



III. RELATIVE TO PRESENT PROGRAMS OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES (Continued)

3. That Voluntary Agencies make every effort to discover and more fully utilize the services of qualified individuals among the Displaced Persons themselves.

Such a step can be not only beneficial to the Displaced Persons involved in counteracting the stultifying influences of camp life, but it can and should materially add to the resources of the Voluntary Agencies.

4. That every effort should be made by Voluntary Agencies to add substantially in their service to work directed toward the solution of the long range problems of Displaced Person, rather than the present almost complete emphasis on care for Displaced Persons in their present uncertain status.
5. That a coordinated effort be made by Voluntary Agencies at the earliest possible date to organize a commission of Voluntary Agency personnel to begin a limited study of the composition of Displaced Persons groups as a first step toward eventual solution of their displacement.

It is not intended to indicate that Voluntary Agencies can take over the whole task of studying the composition of Displaced Persons groups. It is intended to point out the urgency of making a beginning immediately. Such a step could be a start toward individual migration thru the services of Voluntary Agencies, and could set a sound pattern out of the knowledge and experience of Voluntary Agencies for the more complete study of the non-repatriable Displaced Persons which must eventually be made by intergovernmental agencies.

IV. RELATIVE TO CONTINUATION OF WORK FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

1. That continuing and increased support of Voluntary Agencies is essential to meet the present and long term needs of Displaced Persons.

The analysis of the work of Voluntary Agencies clearly shows that there exist legitimate needs of Displaced Persons which it is not possible for Voluntary Agencies to meet with present resources.

Governmental and intergovernmental agencies do not in every case meet adequately their responsibilities for care and maintenance of all Displaced Persons. Future plans for the long term care and welfare of Displaced Persons on an international level are under discussion by UNO, and it is impossible to know to what extent and when action might be taken.

Further, the rigors which Displaced Persons have experienced have given rise to a tremendous volume of physical, mental and emotional problems which require skilled, individual assistance which are particularly the function of Voluntary Agencies. The uncertainty of the future and the damaging effects of camp life in the period before settlement or resettlement can be effected, will add to the seriousness of the situation and need for extensive Voluntary Agency services.



V. RELATIVE TO COORDINATION OF THE WORK OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

1. That intensive efforts be made by Voluntary Agencies on high policy levels to limit the apparent diffuseness of voluntary programs for Displaced Persons.

Such efforts are important both from the standpoint of continuing contributor support, and in the interests of securing the maximum of service for Displaced Persons thru the limited resources of Voluntary Agencies.

2. That such efforts be extended to establish effective coordinating committees on services for Displaced Persons in each country where a number of Voluntary Agencies are working. Specifically that such a coordinating committee be set up at the earliest possible date in Germany.

The American Council of Voluntary Agencies now has general coordinating committees functioning in France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Greece and Italy. These committees, however, deal with Displaced Persons operations only as a part of the overall programs of foreign relief agencies.

3. That such coordination be further extended to include planning for work with Displaced Persons on an international level through coordinating groups of the various countries.

There are coordinating councils for foreign relief services, similar to the American Voluntary Council, in Canada, Great Britain, Australia and New Zealand. Such Councils together might well give the impetus to international planning by all Voluntary Agencies working with Displaced Persons.

VI. RELATIVE TO COORDINATION OF VOLUNTARY, GOVERNMENTAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

1. That there is need for stronger presentation of the viewpoint of American Voluntary Agencies to governmental and intergovernmental agencies.
2. That such presentation and the working out of overall operating plans can be made by Voluntary Agencies more effectively through coordinating groups as outlined above, rather than thru individual efforts.



VOLUNTARY AGENCY AGREEMENTS WITH UNRRA.

*Left by  
Pollak*

It is suggested that representatives of voluntary agencies coming to UNRRA Central Headquarters in Germany to negotiate an agreement with UNRRA for Services to displaced persons should read Appendix G of SHAEF Administrative Memorandum No. 39 (revised), and also the following notes on procedures followed at Central Headquarters, before preparing their submission for official consideration.

Appendix G of Administrative Memorandum No. 39 (revised), prepared originally by SHAEF, and now followed by the COMBINED DISPLACED PERSONS EXECUTIVE (CDPX), is the official military directive through which provision has been made for voluntary welfare organizations to assist in the work with displaced persons in Germany under the supervision and coordination of UNRRA. It also sets forth the conditions with which they must comply.

The following procedure is carried out at UNRRA Central Headquarters in Germany and by CDPX, to deal with voluntary agency applications and take the steps necessary to bring an agency program into active operation.

1. The organization submits a letter to Lt. Gen. Sir Fredrick Morgan, K.C.B., Chief of Operations, Germany, UNRRA Central Headquarters for Germany, APO. 757, U.S. Army, outlining:
  - a. The desire of the organization to offer its services in the UNRRA/Military program for displaced persons in Germany.
  - b. Statement that approval of its own national government has been obtained for the organization's proposed offer of services to displaced persons in Germany. The original copy of this endorsement should be attached to the organization's letter to UNRRA.
  - c. A short description of the organization, its purposes and its work, an annual report or record of its past activities attached, if possible, the names of its principal officers, and a definition of the status or recognition of the organization in its own country, or internationally.
  - d. Type of activities the organization proposed to undertake for displaced persons in Germany, and proposed methods of operation. Specific assurances should be given that the agency has available the resources in personnel, transport, equipment and supplies to carry out the program. Supplements should be attached to the letter, if necessary, setting out more detailed descriptions of projects proposed, numbers and qualifications of personnel involved, and the personal and organizational equipment and supplies available.
  - e. Statement that the personnel of the organization will comply with military laws and serve under the command of military formations to which they are attached.
  - F. Agreement by the organization to assume responsibility for salaries, inoculations, initial clothing (uniforms) and field



equipment of the personnel employed by the agency.

- g. Agreement by the organization to carry out its activities under the supervision and coordination of UNRRA.

2. When the details of the proposed plan of operations have been agreed upon by UNRRA Central Headquarters, and the organization concerned, UNRRA submits the plan to CDPX for military approval.

3. If this approval is obtained, UNRRA notifies the agency in writing that the agreement has been approved. The military commanders and the UNRRA Liaison Officers in the American, British and French Zones are also informed through military and UNRRA channels respectively, of the plan of operations approved for this agency, and are advised that its services are available to be called forward, as required.

4. The next step must be initiated by the zone military commands. If the assistance of the agency is desired in a particular zone (this will be determined in practice by consultation between UNRRA officers and military authorities in the zone concerned), a request to call forward the necessary personnel, equipment and supplies will be sent by military authorities of the zone to CDPX which will arrange through appropriate military channels for the issuance of military permits, travel orders, etc. Details of name, nationality and sex are required at zone Headquarters, also details of transport and other equipment or supplies, before a request for the service will be initiated. Therefore to facilitate rapid action, such details should be supplied by the agency in advance.



SURVEY COMMITTEE ON DISPLACED PERSONS

NATIONAL ARTS CLUB

Tuesday April 2, 1946 - 4:00 p.m.

A G E N D A

- I. Minutes
- II. Report of progress on recommendation to UN
- III. Report of progress on recommendations to UNRRA
- IV. Revision of recommendation I (1)
- V. Preliminary report of Sub-Committee on Voluntary Agencies





SURVEY COMMITTEE ON DISPLACED PERSONS

Tuesday, April 2, 1946 - 4:00 p.m.

National Arts Club

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

PRESENT

Allen Burns  
Dr. Joseph P. Chamberlain  
Raymond Disco  
Maurice Eigen  
Mrs. Kathleen Hahnstein  
Fred Hoehler  
Miss Ruth Larned  
Edward M. O'Connor  
Dr. Leland Rex Robinson

ABSENT

Earl Harrison  
Reginald T. Kennedy  
John Pierce

TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

PRESENT

Miss Martha Biehle  
E. W. Meyer

ABSENT

James Brunot  
Meyer Cohen  
Captain Herbert Fierst  
George Warren  
William J. Zucker

OTHER

Homer Edmiston  
Edward Lindsey

I. ACTION TAKEN

1. Minutes - Minutes of the last meeting were approved as mailed with the provision that certain typographical errors be corrected for the record.
2. Meeting with Ambassador Winant - Mr. Burns and Mr. O'Connor reported on a meeting with Ambassador John Winant, United States delegate to the Economic and Social Council of UNO, regarding recommendations of the Survey Committee to the UNO Committee of the Economic and Social Council on Refugees. Mr. Winant will attend the meetings of the UNO Committee beginning in London April 8th, and was generally favorable to the content of the recommendations of the Survey Committee. Mr. George Warren will be the United States delegate to the UNO Committee.
3. Fourth UNRPA Council Session - Miss Martha Biehle and the secretary reported on the Fourth Session of the UNRPA Council held recently in Atlantic City.

The final Resolution adopted by the UNRRA Council with respect to Resolution 71 was presented and discussed. Resolution 71 is to remain in effect until the next regular session of the UNRRA Council in July, 1946. Additional limitations, however, have been included regarding UNRRA assistance, particularly with regard to collaborators. (See attached copy).



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4. Action Regarding Closing of Camps For Displaced Persons - Mr. O'Connor reported that steps have been taken for a meeting with President Truman with regard to the recent announcement that Displaced Persons camps in the American zone will be closed for all except "persecuted groups" on August 31, 1946. The resolution recommends "that the camps for Displaced Persons maintained by the American military in Germany and Austria be continued in order to care for non-repatriable Displaced Persons until an overall solution becomes effective". The recommendation also includes statements with regard to forcible repatriation, and the immediate development of resettlement plans. (See attached copy). Included in the delegation will be representatives of the Federal Council of Churches, National Catholic Welfare Conference A. F. of L. and the C. I. O.
  5. Preliminary Report of the Sub-Committee on Voluntary Agencies - The preliminary report of the Sub-Committee on Voluntary Agencies was presented and generally approved by the Committee with instructions for the redrafting of certain recommendations. (See attached copy).
  6. Progress of the Survey - Consideration was given to the present status of the work of the Survey Committee.

The secretary reported that the principal work remaining for the Sub-Committee on Voluntary Agencies is the drafting of a full report of the material on which the preliminary report and recommendations were based.

The Sub-Committee on Governmental and Intergovernmental Agencies is still awaiting information from the legal division of UNRRA. It will also find it necessary to reconsider changes made effective at the Fourth Session of UNRRA with regard to Displaced Persons. There also remains the drafting of the full report of the material on which recommendations with regard to Governmental and Intergovernmental Agencies were based.

It was decided that other points which the Survey Committee should include in its work are the following:

- (1) A statement regarding basic principles relative to the rights of individuals in connection with settlement and resettlement.
- (2) A general statement regarding opportunities for resettlement.
- (3) A more complete consideration of the methods by which Displaced Persons are judged with regard to collaboration.
- (4) Consideration as to what should be the contribution of the United States with regard to the long term problem of Displaced Persons.

## II. DISCUSSION

1. Meeting With Ambassador Winant - Additional points made by Mr. Winant included (1) agreement that the proposed closing of Displaced Persons camps as announced was premature; (2) that there is indication that the State Department realizes this and that a strong proposal to the President by Voluntary groups would be welcome and probably effective; (3) that the meeting of the UNO Committee in London will be a closed meeting for official government representatives only.



## II. DISCUSSION

### 1. (Continued)

It would be especially desirable, however, for a group such as the Survey Committee to present its report to the Committee through the United States delegate. Mr. Winant would welcome such presentation.

(4) It is essential to develop a strong viewpoint in the State Department along the lines indicated by the Survey Committee's recommendations, in order that proper instructions may be given to the United States delegates. Representations from the Survey Committee to the State Department would be helpful in this regard.

### 2. Fourth UNRRA Council Session - Further discussion of the Report adopted by the UNRRA Council extending Resolution 71, noted the following points which weaken the authority of the Administration under the Resolution:

- (1) A provision that governments can bring to the Central Committee disagreements with the Administration regarding operations under the Resolution.
- (2) Paragraph 2(a) of Resolution 71 has been reworded to deny UNRRA assistance to Displaced Persons "who have been determined by the military authorities to be collaborators, or to have committed crimes against the interests or nationals of the United Nations, whether or not such persons are detained in custody".

A proposal for a continuing Committee in Germany to deal with problems in connection with care and repatriation of Displaced Persons was withdrawn.

In reply to a question of the delegate of the USSR, it was stated that nothing in the resolution would prevent the Administration from sending a delegation to visit UNRRA camps for Displaced Persons.

Although there was little consideration given to the long range problem of Displaced Persons, the report adopted included a recommendation of the Council "that its members shall seek to do all in their power to expedite the early creation by the United Nations of a body capable of dealing in an effective manner with the problem", and that efforts shall be made for continuing care of remaining Displaced Persons when UNRRA's assistance comes to an end.

### 3. Preliminary Report of the Committee on the Study of Voluntary Agencies- A preliminary report of findings and recommendations of the Sub-Committee for the study of Voluntary Agencies was discussed. The following points were made:

- (1) The whole of section II (Relative To Functions of Voluntary Agencies) was returned to the Sub-Committee for redrafting. There was general approval of the content. It was suggested, however, that some distinction be made between functions in which Voluntary Agencies assist Governmental and Intergovernmental Agencies, and functions in which Intergovernmental Agencies do not take any responsibility.

## II. DISCUSSION

### 3. (Continued)

- (2) III-2 - Explanatory material is to be added outlining reasons why it has been necessary in the past for Voluntary Agencies to do so much in providing maintenance for Displaced Persons.
- (3) III-4 - This recommendation should be reworded for greater clarity.
- (4) III - It was suggested that a recommendation be included in section III to the effect that each agency working with Displaced Persons should reevaluate its present program in the light of the changing emphasis in the direction of the long range problem of Displaced Persons.
- (5) IV-1 - In the explanatory material under this recommendation should be added a statement to the effect that there will remain a great deal of work for Voluntary Agencies to do, even if the discussions in UNO should result in establishment of an overall Intergovernmental Agency for Displaced Persons.
- (6) V-1 - This statement should be reworded to clearly distinguish the intention of the recommendation that there should be greater coordination between Voluntary Agencies.



## MEMORANDUM

### RE: CLOSING OF CAMPS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

We are strongly opposed to forcible repatriation of displaced persons who are unwilling to return to their country of origin because of race, religion, or political belief, with the exception of war criminals, quislings and traitors.

With respect to war criminals, quislings and traitors, we hold that the principle of guilt is personal and that such guilt can be established only after a full and impartial hearing on an individual case basis.

We recognize that the best solution of the problem of displaced persons lies in their willing return to their country of origin, and that every legitimate effort should be made to encourage this willing return.

For practical purposes of planning, however, it is recognized that there are already discernible among the displaced persons in Germany and Austria certain large groups who will not return to their homelands because of dangers to their lives or liberties, because of their race, religion or political belief. Among these groups will be found Jewish displaced persons from central and eastern Europe, Poles, Estonians, Latvians, Lithuanians, and some Yugoslavs, Ukrainians and Czechoslovaks.

### Recommendations

- 1) That the camps for displaced persons maintained by the American military in Germany and Austria be continued in order to care for non-repatriable displaced persons until an overall solution becomes effective. Premature closing of the camps maintained by our military, as is now proposed, would, in effect, be advocating forcible repatriation, because throwing them upon the present German economy would leave them no other alternative. Since the United Nations Organization is about to take up this question, looking to a more permanent solution of the problem, it may be expected that that body will have a program to announce by early Fall.
- 2) In order to insure the rights of individuals charged as war criminals, quislings and traitors, it is felt necessary that impartial hearing boards be set up to determine the validity of the charge. In the American zones these boards should be made up of American civilians.
- 3) That resettlement plans be immediately developed and put into operation for those displaced persons who clearly cannot return to their former homelands. In this connection, it has been suggested that for each boatload of relief supplies sent to the stricken people of Europe by the South American countries which are also offering opportunity of resettlement for displaced persons, that passage be given to displaced persons on the return trip of the boat.



COUNCIL IV Document 201  
Ad Hoc/P 42  
23 March 1946

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

FOURTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL

Second Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Policy

1. The Ad Hoc Committee on Policy concluded its consideration of Items 3 and 4 of the Council agenda, which it considered together, at its Fifteenth Meeting on Thursday, 28th March, and recommends to the Council that it adopt the following resolution on those two items: -

WHEREAS

It is necessary that the authority of the Administration with respect to displaced persons under Resolution No. 71 be reviewed by the Council at this time and clarified with respect to future operations; it is therefore

RESOLVED

1. That paragraph 3 of Resolution No. 71 shall be revised to read as follows:

"That the authority of the Administration provided in the foregoing paragraphs with respect to operations in any Area shall be continued and again reviewed by the Council at its next regular session."

2. That the Council wishes to emphasize that, in carrying out its operations under the authority of Resolution No. 71, it should be the constant concern of the Administration to do all within its power, in consultation with and by representations to the occupying authorities, military authorities and the governments concerned, to bring about the removal of conditions which may interfere with the repatriation of the displaced persons concerned at the earliest possible moment. To this end the Administration is directed:

- (a) To remove any handicaps in the assembly centers to the prompt repatriation of displaced persons wishing to be repatriated, as may fall within its authority and to recommend to the occupying authorities, military authorities, and the governments concerned, as well as the Central Committee of UNRRA, measures for the removal of any other handicaps;
- (b) To make available to the maximum extent the facilities and personnel of the Administration for the facilitation of the repatriation of displaced persons;
- (c) To make available the required personnel and to proceed at once, in cooperation with the occupying authorities or military authorities which maintain assembly centers for displaced persons, to complete the registration of all displaced persons in assembly centers and to compile data concerning their skills, previous experience and other qualifications for employment and to make such data available in summary form without specification as to particular individuals, or in such other form as



may be authorized by the Central Committee, to the Central Committee of UNRRA, to intergovernmental organizations and to governments of origin or former residence requesting such data;

- (d) To make reports every two months to the Central Committee concerning the problems and progress of repatriation, as well as the status of the program of the occupying authorities or military authorities, which maintain assembly centers, for the elimination of those persons receiving UNRRA assistance who are ineligible for such assistance.
- (e) To ascertain which of the displaced persons receiving UNRRA assistance wish to be repatriated or returned to their countries of origin or former residence.

3. That the Council recommends to the occupying authorities, the military authorities and the governments concerned that only those persons who have been properly nominated by presently recognized governments shall be accredited to the occupying authorities and military authorities, and permitted to serve as liaison officers. The Council further recommends that existing liaison officers who are not so nominated and accredited shall not be given access to assembly centers.

4. In carrying out operations with respect to displaced persons under Resolution 71 the Administration shall keep in touch with the governments concerned with a view toward reaching agreement regarding such operations. In case of disagreement between the Administration and a government concerned, while such operations of the Administration may continue, such matters of disagreement may be referred by either party to the Central Committee for its consideration. It is understood that all of the members of the Council accept the principles announced in the resolution adopted by the United Nations Assembly on February 12, 1946.

5. That paragraph 2 (a) of Resolution No. 71 shall be revised to read as follows:

"That in cooperation with the occupying authorities, the military authorities, and the governments concerned, the Administration will take immediate measures to withdraw its assistance from those displaced persons who have been determined by the military authorities to have collaborated with the enemy or to have committed crimes against the interests or nationals of the United Nations, whether or not such persons are detained in custody."

6. That in carrying out its operations under Resolution 71, the Administration, in cooperation with the occupying authorities, the military authorities and the governments concerned shall facilitate all necessary arrangements so that displaced persons may receive full information from the governments of their countries of origin or former residence.



Ad Hoc Committee  
on Policy

COUNCIL IV Document 201  
Ad Hoc/p 42  
28 March 1946

7. That in view of the temporary nature of the assistance that can be given by the Administration with respect to all of the remaining displaced persons in all areas in which the Administration is authorized to operate, it is the recommendation of the Council that its members shall seek to do all in their power to expedite the early creation of a United Nations body capable of dealing in an effective manner with the problem, such as is contemplated under the Resolution adopted by the United Nations Assembly on February 12, 1946, and, prior to the establishment of the United Nations body for this purpose and, provided this does not delay its creation, to secure consideration of this matter by other intergovernmental agencies, and that efforts shall be made to devise ways and means to facilitate resettlement and otherwise to provide a solution to the problems which will confront the remaining displaced persons when the Administration's assistance comes to an end.

363-2



PRELIMINARY REPORT OF SURVEY COMMITTEE

REGARDING GOVERNMENTAL AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

Summary of General Findings and Recommendations

I. RELATIVE TO FORCED REPATRIATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS

1. That the Survey Committee is strongly opposed to forcible repatriation of any Displaced Persons who are unwilling to return to their homelands because of danger to their lives or liberties, on account of their race, religion or political beliefs. That it is the intention of the Survey Committee to include in this position all Displaced Persons, with the single exception of war criminals, Quislings and traitors.
2. That the Survey Committee strongly holds to the principle that guilt is personal, and that persons should be included in the above excepted groups only on an individual case basis.

The Survey Committee strongly approves that section of the Resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations Organization on February 12, 1946 which reads as follows:

"(ii) No refugees or Displaced Persons who have finally and definitely in complete freedom, and after receiving full knowledge of the facts including adequate information from the governments of their countries of origin, expressed valid objections to returning to their countries of origin and who do not come within the provisions of paragraph (d) /1 shall be compelled to return to their country of origin". /2

II. RELATIVE TO NON-REPATRIABLE DISPLACED PERSONS

1. That the Survey Committee recognize that the best solution of the problem of Displaced Persons lies in their willing return to their countries of origin and that every legitimate effort should be made to encourage this willing return.

It is recognized that among the groups of Displaced Persons who have expressed an unwillingness to be repatriated, there may well be a number of them who will change their minds as conditions within their homelands become more stabilized and the difficulties of migration become apparent

2. That for practical purposes of planning, however, it be recognized that there are already discernible among the Displaced Persons now remaining, certain large groups who will not return to their homelands because of danger to their lives or liberties, on account of their race, religion or political beliefs.

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/1 United Nations Economic and Social Council E/15/Rev. 1 - Feb. 20, 1946 - "(D) Considers that no action taken as a result of this Resolution shall be of such character as to interfere in any way with the surrender and punishment of war criminals, Quislings and traitors in conformity with present or future international arrangements or agreements".

/2 Ibid.



## II. RELATIVE TO NON-REPATRIABLE DISPLACED PERSONS (Continued)

3. That long range plans and programs be inaugurated looking toward eventual settlement and resettlement of such non-repatriables, and that such planning and programs shall no longer be regarded by Governmental and Intergovernmental Agencies as tending to prejudice possible repatriation of such persons to their homelands.

## III. RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY

1. That there should be an Intergovernmental Agency to deal with the long term problem of Stateless Persons and other Non-Repatriable Displaced Persons.

The General Assembly of the United Nations Organization on February 12, 1946 adopted a Resolution recognizing that the problem of Stateless Persons and Displaced Persons "is international in scope and nature", and that the problem "is one of immediate urgency". /1

Efforts to arrive at a solution of such an international problem, therefore, would require the establishment of an Intergovernmental Agency.

2. That such an Intergovernmental Agency should operate under a Mandate that extends to all persons, wherever they may be, who have had to leave, or may have to leave, or may be unwilling to return to their countries of residence, because of danger to their lives or liberties on account of their race, religion or political beliefs.

The possibility is recognized that this Mandate might be limited in time of coverage to persons displaced as a result of World War I, the intervening period, World War II and its immediate aftermath. Should this be the case, the following recommendation is made:

That the Intergovernmental Agency recommended should have authority to extend the time covered by its Mandate, so as to include other groups of persons, who in the future, might fall within the scope of the Mandate.

3. That the above Mandate should be interpreted broadly in the light of the Resolution of the Assembly of the United Nations Organization. /2

Recognition should be taken of the fact that future changes within governments and in international boundaries may occur, and that nations presently and in the future may not agree on claims to nationals, and that such changes and such conflicting claims do not abrogate the fundamental principle of freedom of human choice to flee from or refuse to return to a country of residence because of danger to life or liberty on account of race, religion, or political beliefs.

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/1 United Nations Economic and Social Council E/15/Rev. 1 - February 20, 1946

/2 Ibid - "No refugees or Displaced Persons who have finally and definitely, in complete freedom, and after receiving full knowledge of the facts including adequate information from the governments of their countries of origin, expressed valid objections to returning to their countries of origin and who do not come within the provisions of paragraph (d) shall be compelled to return to their country of origin".



### III. RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCY (Continued)

4. That such an Intergovernmental Agency should have powers (1) to preserve, maintain, and transport persons within its Mandate, so far as this may be necessary and practicable; (2) to negotiate with governments with respect to settlement and resettlement of Stateless Persons and Non-Repatriable Displaced Persons; (3) to negotiate with governments for the legal protection of such persons; (4) to cooperate with intergovernmental, international and Voluntary Agencies concerned with the interests and welfare of persons within its Mandate; (5) to receive funds both from Governments and from private sources, and disburse such funds in accordance with its financial regulations.
5. That such an Intergovernmental Agency be set up in appropriate relationship to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations Organization.

By reason of the scope of its charter and the international recognition by governments, the United Nations Organization is the logical body to sponsor, develop and maintain such an Intergovernmental Agency. UNO offers the essential framework for financing and facilitating the work of such an agency.

### IV. RELATIVE TO INTERIM POLICY PENDING ACTION BY UNO

1. That the program of UNRRA for Displaced Persons be continued in the interim pending action by UNO.

At the present time UNRRA administers the greatest part of the assistance that is being given to Displaced Persons. During the years of its existence, UNRRA has acquired a body of experience and developed an operating organization in the field which are essential to the meeting of basic needs of Displaced Persons. Until some overall action is taken by UNO, the work of UNRRA must be continued under a broad interpretation of Resolution 71 to include all Displaced Persons with the exception of war criminals, Quislings, and traitors.

2. That the program of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, implemented as outlined below, be continued pending action by UNO.

To carry on effectively during the interim it is recognized (1) that the program of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees should be expanded to include other groups of Displaced Persons now within the scope of its Mandate and (2) that increased financial support of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees by all member governments is urgently required.

The General Assembly of the United Nations Organization on February 12, 1946 recommended that the Economic and Social Council appoint a committee to study the problem of Refugees and Displaced Persons of all categories. The Economic and Social Council is to report the results of this study to the Second part of the First Session of the General Assembly in September.

\* \* \* \* \*

/1 Report of the Fourth Plenary Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, pg. 42, Art II, par. 2, 3.



IV. RELATIVE TO INTERIM POLICY PENDING ACTION BY UNO (Continued)

Some months would pass after this date before any Intergovernmental Agency authorized to deal with this problem would be in actual operation. Continuance of present programs for Stateless Persons and Displaced Persons, therefore, becomes imperative in the interim.

V. RELATIVE TO FUNCTIONS OF GOVERNMENTS AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

1. That the Military continue to provide basic supplies directly, or through UNRRA, for the care of Displaced Persons until an overall solution becomes effective.
2. That the primary responsibility for the long term care and welfare of Stateless Persons and Non-Repatriable Displaced Persons rests with the governments or Military in control of the Country or areas in which such persons are located.
3. That legal protection and efforts looking toward settlement and resettlement of Stateless Persons and Non-Repatriable Displaced Persons rests with the Intergovernmental Agency.



# UNRRA INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

*John Am. Council*  
*Survey Comm. 57*

**TO:** Richard Brown

**FROM:** Myer Cohen

**SUBJECT:**



**DATE:** 15 April 1946

With reference to my request for approval of travel to New York on April 18 to attend the technical meeting of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies, I have decided not to go after consulting with Mr. Lindsey, the Secretary of the Committee, concerning the agenda of the meeting.

Since the agenda concerns entirely work of Voluntary Agencies, Mr. Lindsey suggested it might be well for Mr. Henninger to come and I have passed the word on to Mr. Henninger. If he decides to go, he no doubt can use the train reservations which are being made in my name.

*Myer Cohen*  
*Richard Brown*

*Harrison*  
*Slack*  
*Ame. Council - Survey Comm on DP*

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

February 21, 1946

Members of the Survey Committee on Displaced Persons:

The regular meeting of the Survey Committee on Displaced Persons will not be held next Tuesday, February 26th.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, March 5th at the Park side Hotel.

It is hoped in the meantime that the work of one, or both of the Sub-Committees can be completed.

Sincerely yours,

Earl Harrison, Chairman  
Survey Committee on Displaced  
Persons

EH:LH



*Surrey Comm. The Amer Council's  
Comm on DPs*

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

*Black*

*Black  
Peltz  
Am. Council DP file*

1. To seek out all reliable sources of information on the major problems of displaced persons, including problems of resettlement, and thus to prepare a body of information which will present the problem in its total aspect.
2. To examine the longer-term problem of displaced persons in light of governmental and intergovernmental agency functions.
3. To examine and evaluate the present programs and policies of governmental and intergovernmental agencies with respect to displaced persons. To determine whether collectively they are constituted to meet effectively all basic requirements, and how they are meeting them.
4. To recommend, wherever necessary, the prompt strengthening and expansion of governmental and intergovernmental services for the displaced to meet their basic needs adequately.
5. To examine and evaluate the programs of voluntary agencies, and to recommend the most effective division of responsibility and liaison between official and voluntary agencies, and to determine as a conclusion of the above points in what specific areas of service American voluntary effort can make its most practical supplementary contributions.

*FEB 12 Rec'd  
Surrey  
Surrey*





## SERVICES NEEDED BY DISPLACED PERSONS

### I. Maintenance

1. Basic Minimum: shelter, food, clothing
2. Specialized care for special groups -- children, aged and ill
3. Financial grants in certain situations

### II. Health Care

1. Prevention of disease and epidemics
2. Physical examination
3. Medical and dental treatment, including provision of institutional care- special foods - artificial limbs, etc.
4. Psychiatric services, including provision of institutional care

### III. Location and Reunion

1. Registration
2. The location of relatives and reestablishment of contacts
  - a.) within country
  - b.) internationally
3. Reunion of families and relatives within country

### IV. Case Work Dealing with Personal and Emotional Problems of Individuals

### V. Religious Needs

1. Services and leadership
2. Literature, objects of devotion, and supplies

### VI. Educational, Recreational, and Morale Services

1. Formal educational programs, for children, and some adults
2. Informal discussions, lectures, etc.
3. Group and individual recreation; games, drama, sports, etc.
4. Supplies for personal comfort

### VII. Vocational and Professional Rehabilitation and Placement

1. Employment
  - a.) camp labor
  - b.) self-help projects
  - c.) placement
  - d.) loans for establishing business, profession, or trade.
2. Vocational Guidance
3. Vocational Training
4. Occupational Therapy
5. Refresher and terminal courses



# VIII. Legal Protection and Services

1. Protection of "rights"
2. Intervention with governments
3. Issuance of identity cards
4. Issuance of travel documents
5. Issuance of domestic documents for employment, marriage, divorce, etc.
6. Counseling and advice

# IX. Repatriation, Settlement and Resettlement

## 1. PREPARATORY STEPS

- A. Gathering information as a basis for sound planning -- individual preference, location of relatives, vocational skills
- B. International case work toward reunion of families; inquiring into financial and other assistance from relatives; securing visas

## 2. FINAL STEPS

### A. Repatriation

- 1.) International case work
- 2.) Transportation and welfare services enroute
- 3.) Integration with social and economic life of the community

### B. Return to place of former residence other than citizenship

- 1.) Transportation and welfare service enroute
- 2.) Integration with social and economic life of the community

### C. Settlement

- 1.) Intervention with country of refuge for right of permanent residence, right to work, and other rights. Compare international treaties
- 2.) Integration into social and economic life of the community
- 3.) Specialized care for special groups - children, aged, ill

### D. Resettlement

- 1.) Gathering information on immigration possibilities
- 2.) Development of resettlement projects
- 3.) Providing transportation; welfare services enroute, finances
- 4.) Integration with social and economic life of the community
- 5.) International case work

The Convention of October 28, 1933, provides for the delivery of<sup>3</sup> Nansen certificates to take the place of passports; contains an engagement not to expel from its territory refugees authorized to inhabit it, except for reasons of national security or public order. It contains legal regulations in respect to personal status of refugees; contains a limited right to work; rights of a national of the most-favored-nation in respect to their work accidents, welfare and relief, including medical attendance and hospital treatment and social insurance legislation. The refugees will have the same rights in respect to education as other foreigners and shall not have other taxes or higher taxes than those paid by their nationals.

. . . . .

Convention of February 10, 1938, concerning the status of German refugees, grants the right of residence and the right to move freely about in the territory to which the convention applies; authorizes the issue of travel documents; fixes the law governing personal status of the refugee; grants the right to appear before the courts; suspends the restrictions in the application of laws for the protection of the national labor market, in favor of refugees resident for not less than three years in the country, married to a national, who has one or more children who are nationals. It gives to refugees who suffer industrial accidents the most favorable treatment granted to the nationals of a foreign country and gives the same treatment in respect to relief and assistance, including medical and hospital treatment and the benefits of social insurance laws. Refugees shall have the same educational advantages as other foreigners in general. They shall not have to pay taxes higher or other than those paid by nationals.



*HP Com*

January 28, 1946

TO: Members of the Survey Committee

At the meeting January 26th, the Survey Committee on Displaced Persons decided to meet each week on Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. for a dinner meeting. Meetings will be held in New York City unless otherwise specifically noted. The next meeting of the Committee, therefore, will be at 4:00 Tuesday, February 5th. The regular meeting will be held February 12th although it is a holiday, unless otherwise decided at the next meeting.

A meeting has been decided upon for Tuesday, February, 19th to be held in Washington.

Notice of the place of meetings will be sent to the Committee as soon as arrangements have been made.

Earl Harrison, Chairman  
Survey Committee on Displaced  
Persons

# *Am. Council of Vol. Agencies*

## SURVEY COMMITTEE ON DISPLACED PERSONS

Town Hall Club  
January 26th, 1946 10:00 a.m.

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING

#### PRESENT

Dr. Joseph P. Chamberlain  
Raymond Disco  
Maurice Eigen  
Earl Harrison  
Reginald T. Kennedy  
Miss Ruth Larned  
Leo Perlis  
Edward O'Connor  
Dr. Leland Rex Robinson

#### ABSENT

Allen Burns  
Fred Hoehler  
Dr. Hertha Kraus

### CONSULTANTS

#### PRESENT

Miss Martha Biehle  
James Brunot  
Charles Huber  
Richard Youdin  
William Zucker

#### ABSENT

Captain Fierst  
George L. Warren

### ALSO

Homer Edmiston  
Mrs. Alice Merriam  
Edward Lindsey

### I. ACTION

1. Minutes - The minutes of the last meeting were approved as mailed with the following notations;
  - (1) Omission of statement that Mr. Allen Burns had been elected Vice-Chairman of the Committee.
  - (2) The minutes regarding Miss Martha Biehle's report of the Fourth Plenary Session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees were devoted chiefly to discussion growing out of the report, rather than to the material of the report itself. A more complete report relating to the background and functioning of IGC is being prepared.



2. Time of Meeting - In the future, the Committee will have a weekly dinner meeting on Tuesday to begin at 4:00 p.m. Meetings will be held in New York unless otherwise scheduled. A meeting of the Committee will be held in Washington, Tuesday, February 19th.
3. Statement of Objectives - The Statement of Objectives was accepted as presented with additions to point number 3 as underlined: "To examine and evaluate the present programs and policies of governmental and intergovernmental agencies with respect to Displaced Persons"..... Final statement attached. This change was made to indicate that the scope of the survey would include as a part of the overall picture, consideration of policies of governments in relation to Displaced Persons.
4. Listing of Movements of Displaced Persons by Country of Origin  
The Committee discussed a listing of movements of Displaced Persons by countries of origin, as prepared by Mr. Disco, Mr. Eigen, Mr. Edmiston, and Mr. Lindsey. Mr. Edmiston will be responsible for completing the list and keeping it up to date with regard to current movements of Displaced Persons.
5. Data on Displaced Persons and Sources of Information
  - (1) It was decided that statistical data for the Survey would be concerned primarily with Displaced Persons from Europe, although information available on Displaced Persons in the Far East will be included.
  - (2) UNRRA appears to be the principal source of such statistical information.
  - (3) An outline of additional sources of information was discussed and additions made to the list.
  - (4) The following Sub-Committees were authorized:
    - a. Sub-Committee on Study of Voluntary Agencies. As a part of its work, this Committee will contact special nationality groups to discuss problems of Displaced Persons of the nationalities represented.
    - b. Sub-Committee on Study of Governmental and Intergovernmental Agencies.

## II. DISCUSSION

1. Listing of Displaced Persons - Although the main emphasis of the survey is on the present status of Displaced Persons, a listing was prepared of movements of Displaced Persons by country of origin provides the Committee with background information and to throw light on the reasons for movement. This will have a bearing on future disposition of various groups.



The following headings were agreed upon for the listing:

- I. Prisoners of War
- II. Forced, or Recruited Labor  
It is useful, wherever possible to distinguish between voluntary and involuntary labor, since groups of voluntary laborers are often not welcomed upon return to their country of origin. It was agreed that this distinction could not be made accurately in the listing, but should be kept in mind in discussion about possible solutions of problems of the displaced.
- III. Other  
This division includes movements for reasons of race, creed, or political beliefs, which do not fall under the categories of prisoners of war and of forced or recruited labor.
- IV. Movements Since End of World War II  
Attention was drawn to current movements taking place from Poland and the Balkans.

Material prepared by Mr. Eigen on mass movement of Jews since 1914 will be incorporated in the listing.

2. Data on Displaced Persons and Sources of Information

- (1) It was agreed that statistical data on Displaced Persons, while necessary to the work of the survey, is not required with minute accuracy. UNRRA will be the principal source of such data, and arrangements are being worked out to secure a steady flow of information from that agency. Mr. Youdin presented a tabulation supplementing the report of October 31st with figures as late as December 31st, and covering additional countries. Information is available on Displaced Persons in the Far East.

It was decided that the Committee should take note of all available information, including that related to the Far East. Any considerations given to the problem of Displaced Persons by UNO will necessarily take in the full scope of the problem. Therefore, it is desirable that the Committee have an informed opinion on the whole problem with a view to possible future representations to United States delegates to UNO. Its principal consideration, however, will be on Displaced Persons from Europe.

In presenting figures to the Committee, Doctor Robinson suggested the use of master charts, and the Secretary was authorized to explore this method of presentation.



- (2) International Committee of the Red Cross - An outline of information desired will be presented to Mr. Huber who will discuss the matter in Geneva. He will secure information now on hand, and work out a flow of information from future reports.
- (3) State Department and War Department - In preparation for the meeting of the Committee in Washington, February 19th, a list of information desired from the State Department and the War Department by the Committee will be submitted in advance.
- (4) Special Nationality Groups - Representatives of special nationality groups will be invited to appear before members of a Sub-Committee to outline problems of Displaced Persons in each particular nationality group. Each group will be heard separately.

3. Sub-Committee on Voluntary Agencies

Some information had previously been compiled by the Displaced Persons Committee of the Council, and can be used as a basis for further study.

4. Sub-Committee on Governmental and Intergovernmental Agencies

This sub-committee was authorized as a first step in carrying out points No. 2 and No. 3 of the Statement of Objectives. A preliminary report of its work will be presented at the February 19th meeting in Washington.

5. Technical Consultants

Technical Consultants will be so listed when serving as members of sub-committee



Info requested by  
Mr. Lindsey of Am. Council  
(Surrey, on 8/1)

— 8 Jan. 46 —

1. Copies of UNRRA Resolutions on displaced persons - original conventions.
2. Conference decisions, Atlantic City, Montreal, and London
3. Legal interpretations of displaced persons.
4. Information on total number of persons involved, as you see it now, according to nationality without reference personally to geographic location.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICES, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, N. Y.

Minutes  
Committee on Displaced Persons  
January 17, 1946



Agencies Represented:

American Christian Committee for Refugees  
American Committee of OSE  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
American ORT Federation  
Hadassah  
International Rescue & Relief Committee  
Refugee Relief Trustees  
Russian Children's Welfare Society  
Selfhelp of Emigres fr. Central Europe  
Unitarian Service Committee  
United Lithuanian Relief Fund  
War Relief Services-NCWC  
YWCA  
National Refugee Service  
Staff members of American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, Inc.

Guest: Mr. Edward Lindsey and Mr. Paul Anderson

Dr. L. R. Robinson, Chairman, presided

Dr. Robinson introduced Mr. Edward Lindsey, director of the Displaced Persons Study, who made a short report of his committee's activities to date. Dr. Robinson stated that Miss Martha Biehle and Father Swanstrom who were to have reported at the meeting on their recent trips to Germany were unable to be present. Highlights of Miss Biehle's report would be read during the meeting. Dr. Robinson then introduced Mr. Paul Anderson who reported on the Displaced Persons situation in Germany.

Mr. Anderson said that he would report first on life in the camps, secondly, the activities of the agencies, their relationship to UNRRA and the Army and then give a brief indication of the next stage and what the agencies might do to meet resultant needs.

Mr. Anderson stated the first impression one gets upon entering the camps is that of mass. It is hard to get to the individual. You do not deal with the individual but with the Displaced Person. When you go to authorities, you don't deal with a case or cases, you deal with the problem of Displaced Persons. The people in the camps say that they are well fed, but the food is not suitable for young children, who are suffering from lack of proper feeding. The Displaced Persons go out into the country. They take food. "We want to buy it, but they won't sell, so what can we do? We just take it." The younger children often don't know who they are or where they are from.

Mr. Anderson in discussing the activities in the camps described a "good" camp. It was composed of 2000 Poles, poor wooden barracks, set out in the open, but a good camp nevertheless. The head of the camp was himself a Pole. They had a vine, well-equipped kindergarten. They also had an automobile training course,



consisting of two old cars and a few primitive tools. They said everything was going fine. The only difficulty was that after they had assembled a car, they had no gas to see if it worked. Mr. Anderson said that some other camps were more fortunate. For example in Lubek there was a fine school. Much material had been left in the environs of the Lubek camp, and they had excellent equipment, an experienced instructor and even plenty of gas to test the assembled motors.

Mr. Anderson mentioned the various natural problems facing each camp. He said one camp was located in a woods. Cold weather was coming on, one had only to go into the woods to cut fuel for the camps. But it took a week for them to cut the wood to heat the camp for one single day. In another camp a complaint had come in that the bread was consistently soggy. Men were sent to investigate. The flour had been received in excellent condition, the bread was well baked and turned out, but the town had been bombed. There was no place to store the bread, it was put in the only available place, a damp cellar, where the bread became soggy. In another camp of 4000 people there was a two weeks' ration of food on hand, and the camp authorities were worrying about what to do when those supplies were exhausted. As regards education, the impulse is strong, and every nationality group all over Germany has its own school. But there is no room for the schools in the camps. There are no text books, the people in many cases make their own syllabuses, and often very successfully, but at an expense of great effort and with few materials. The problem of displaced persons is first and foremost a community problem of people. Building, construction or handwork of any kind is hampered by lack of material, whether it be wood, cloth, metals, glass, leather. In some parts materials can be found, as for example, an abandoned shoe factory near Lubek, where the displaced persons have made 60,000 pairs of shoes. But these shoes cannot be distributed, for lack of communications. The problem of distribution is an extremely difficult one, and makes other problems only the more difficult. In the problem of distribution, too, the army for instance is torn between the needs of the DP's and the returning refugee Germans. Then again in the camps, when a "find" has been made in the vicinity, it is guarded jealously, because it can be used, bartered, exchanged against an uncertain future.

In describing the relationship of UNRRA and the military of voluntary agencies Mr. Anderson named Marjory Bradfore, Charity Grand and Ann Wood as the three persons with whom the agencies deal in large and small problems. The first, Marjory Bradford, is responsible for working up all voluntary agency agreements with the authorities. The Third Army has its own voluntary agency liaison person. Mr. Anderson said that there were inevitable delays after a project had been approved, before a worker would be called forward, since Germany is an occupied area, and Eisenhower must sign every order. The need for workers is great and recognized, but the program must be well interpreted so that the need for a particular worker becomes obvious. Marjory Bradford does this interpretation. Mr. Anderson stated that communications within and within Germany were in a terrible state especially during the winter and it is impossible to get reports back readily from private agency representatives in Europe.

The next stage in the position of the displaced persons would come in the spring. Mr. Anderson said that there would be no further repatriation during the winter. When repatriation does begin again, there will be left a hard core of Poles and Balts (the Largest), Volksdeutsche, Czechs and French collaborators, as well as Russians from the Baltic states and other territories west of the '39 borders, and also the white Russian (revolution refugee) group and their children who have not acquired citizenship in the countries of refuge. The question remains what agency or agencies will handle these groups, and what can be done.

These are two possibilities, Mr. Anderson continued, the displaced persons may emigrate, how and where? or they may be integrated into the German economy



(still remaining potential emigrants). But German cities are ruined, the German economy is chaotic (200 industrial plants have been opened in the American zone, 26 metal, the rest wood). German economy will be a wooden economy. The DP's so integrated might themselves have within the German economy a supplementary economy of their own. This might be separate and regulated by the Military.

Questions followed Mr. Anderson's report.

What is the condition of the Jewish displaced, particularly the children?

In the American zone the Jewish displaced are all in separate camps. This will also be the case in the British zone. The Jewish camps do not differ greatly from any of the others. The Jewish camps at the present moment are greatly overtaxed, because of the great influx of Jews occurring now, and therefore the situation is temporarily not so good as with other nationalities.

Of the nationality groups, which one or two are least likely in the present setup to have a responsible agency to look after them, if there are any such? What is the particularly sore spot?

The most neglected is the Russian group.

Why?

Partly because of the relief setup in the United States and England for the Russians. Russian War Relief was assumed to be the agency for relief to the Russians, but its services were restricted to the confines of the Soviet Union.

Was this their own decision or was it done with the knowledge of the War Fund?

I have tried to find out. Russian War Relief however was never willing to give a nickel to Russian outside the Soviet Union, even to Soviet prisoners of war or Russian Balts or Poles. The American Red Cross and the Tolstoy Foundation cared for these to the best of their ability.

Was any statement concerning this made to the American public?

The public was permitted to think that they gave to the Russians, all the Russians, but their gifts went only to the Soviet Union. A second group in similar circumstances are the Yugoslav 26,000 displaced in Germany. Perhaps the Yugoslav Relief will be able to help them. Then the Latvians (the Estonians will be cared for by the Latvian groups of this country, as they are largely Lutheran). The Latvians have no corresponding religious groups interested in their welfare. The Lithuanians will be served by United Lithuanian Relief. There is a small group, about 3000, also of irrepatriable Czechs, whom Czechoslovak Relief cannot assist. The Baltic group is fairly large, many of them are not in camps—about 100,000 Estonians and 150,000 Latvians.

Who feeds the Russians now?

If they are in camps, they are fed by UNRRA as everyone else. The basic supplies are given by UNRRA. It is the supplementary things which are lacking, because these are supplied to other groups by private agencies. Educational services are the same for all. Those outside of the camps do not in principle have the privileges enjoyed by those in the camps. They don't have the right, for example, to receive a card for parcels from America. With all these groups it is not primarily the physical conditions of their present life that is hardest to bear,—it is the question "what next?" This is especially true of the Russians.



How about repatriation?

There are repatriation officers for each nationality. In the case of the Russians, if a Soviet officer should declare that a certain person is a Soviet citizen, the case is referred to a Verification Commission composed of British and American officers to decide whether the person actually did come from outside the 1939 borders. If the person is proved a citizen then the Americans and the British must, at the request of the Soviet officer, be repatriated. It happens quite often that the Soviet officer does not insist however. It is my impression that since October there has been very little, almost no forced repatriation of this kind. Furthermore when word spreads through the camps that a Soviet officer is approaching, most of the Russians disappear.

What will happen to the irrepatriables when UNRRA withdraws?

As I said before they might be incorporated into the German economy, with all the attendant problems. But in any case UNRRA does not pay for food or other basic supplies, these being supplied by the military who gets it from German sources. If UNRRA went out, and the military is still there, the latter would have to take over. It is possible that the camps then would be ordered dispersed, and the displaced be given German ration cards. But because of the problems that move would entail, it is more probable that they will be retained under the camp roof, and voluntary agency personnel might then be necessary. The IGC and the UNO might take charge, or the voluntary agencies. The displaced outside the camps who had been brought in for labor, often had small reserves of money to maintain them until now, but this is coming to an end and their position is daily growing more precarious. People are still crossing borders, which are fairly open yet all over Europe, to get into American zone in Germany.

The mails to Germany cannot be opened up before spring in any case, because delivery is difficult. The mails inside Germany are beginning to function, even interzonally. The railroads are beginning to function, but are limited to military transport, including moving food and persons. This is picking up, however.

We can probably do nothing about the British governments giving up supervision of the displaced to UNO.

Dr. Robinson read excerpts from Miss Martha Biehle's report on the plenary session of IGC in Paris. He asked that this report be mimeographed and made available to members of the Committee. He also spoke briefly upon the advisability for American voluntary agencies to have representatives observing the meeting of the Economic and Social Council of UNO.

Dr. Robinson then introduced Dr. William Simpson of the Ecumenical Refugee Commission, formerly director of the Christian Council for Refugees from Central Europe, who is here from England. Dr. Simpson explained that the Ecumenical Refugees Commission was an arm of the World Council of Churches, and that he was here to prepare for a meeting of the organization. He spoke of the experience of the British people and the refugee groups in England, of the fellowship of peoples resulting. He brought greetings from COBSRA to the ACVAFS.

Meeting adjourned.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701, New York 10

January 3, 1946

TO: To All Members of Committee on Displaced Persons

FROM: Miss Charlotte E. Owen

As the time for final arrangements and then actual work of the Survey Advisory Committee on the Displaced draws very close, we are concerned about positive arrangements for financing the undertaking, and Mr. O'Connor, Chairman of the Interim Committee of the Committee on Displaced Persons, and I have decided to communicate with each agency.

Several agency representatives have given verbal assurance of generous financial support of the Study; we have one payment on hand. May we now urge each participating agency to forward its check to the Council or a letter stating the agency's decision and approximate date of payment? The Council is prepared to set up a separate account for the fund and to make complete reports to the Study Committee regarding the status of the fund and to act on the advice of the Study Committee regarding over subscription or under subscription.

The total estimated cost of the Study is \$5000; this includes salary of a technician for several months, stenographic service and travel costs. The total should be spread among the cooperating agencies so that the burden on any one or two should not be too heavy.

Some agencies interested to participate may wish further information about the plan of the Study and the financing of it. We shall be very glad to give that information but trust that inquiries will be made at a very early date - if possible, within the next four or five days.

STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

1. To seek out all reliable sources of information on the major problems of displaced persons, including problems of re-settlement, and thus to prepare a body of information which will present the problem in its total aspect.
2. To examine the longer-term problem of displaced persons in light of governmental and intergovernmental agency functions.
3. To examine and evaluate the present programs of governmental and intergovernmental agencies working with displaced persons. To determine whether collectively they are constituted to meet effectively all basic requirements, and how they are meeting them.
4. To recommend, wherever necessary, the prompt strengthening and expansion of governmental and intergovernmental services for the displaced to meet their basic needs adequately.
5. To examine and evaluate the programs of voluntary agencies, and to recommend the most effective division of responsibility and liaison between official and voluntary agencies, and to determine as a conclusion of the above points in what specific areas of service American voluntary effort can make its most practical supplementary contributions.

*Winters to Sir Michael*

*Ed Cummings - See NC we head  
+ See the wood*



Mr. Fred K. Hoehler

Leonard L. Henninger

Meeting of Interim Committee on Displaced Persons

3 December 45

Miss Charlotte Owen has confirmed the date of the meeting of the Interim Committee on Displaced Persons of the American Council which we discussed some time ago. The Committee is especially anxious to have you and Sir Michael Creagh meet with them. The meeting will be held on Tuesday 11 December. Miss Owen is writing to you to extend an invitation and to confirm the time of the meeting which has tentatively been set at 3:00 P.M.

LLHenninger:ww

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, N.Y.

July 25, 1945

TO: Members of American Council  
FROM: Charlotte E. Owen

Attached is a copy of the revised memorandum to the Intergovernmental  
Committee on Refugees from the Committee on Displaced Persons.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, New York

July 25, 1945

TO: The Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees  
FROM: Committee on Displaced Persons, American Council  
of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, Inc.

Recommendations Submitted to the Director of  
The Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees

A. Recommendations re Principles

1) That the IGC interpret its mandate as broadly as possible in defining its area of competence and coverage for those in demonstrated need and re-defining its scope from time to time to cover groups not now considered eligible for IGC aid as presently defined.

2) That IGC should stand firmly upon the principle of meeting need of persons eligible for its aid regardless of the numbers of persons in such categories, with thoughtful insistence that responsible governments must find the resources necessary for the help required. At the same time encouragement should be given to reducing the number of stateless persons as far as may be consonant with their personal well-being and to guard against a possible tendency on the part of displaced persons to place themselves in that status too hastily because of seeming immediate advantages which may in the long future prove disadvantageous. (see paragraph 4)

3) Governments should be encouraged to accept for return, and grant permanent residence and such benefits as are thus due, to persons who were long-term residents of those countries before the war and its prelude of political upheaval. Preliminary material from the survey of refugees in Switzerland indicates the desire of a number, resident in France for a period as refugees, to return to countries of former residence rather than to their countries of origin. For example, in Sweden, we understand, stateless refugees from Denmark were recognized as Danish people and as such received assistance from the Danish Legation.

4) The Committee is deeply concerned that displaced persons should not be forced to return to countries of previous residence against their will. We suggest that the IGC, which has as one of its special functions negotiating with governments regarding the welfare of displaced persons, refugees who are stateless urge that the governments declare a moratorium on enforced repatriation and not denationalize those who do not immediately wish to be repatriated, thus giving time for conditions to become more settled, until it is established when repatriation can take place. Such a moratorium might serve to prevent an increasing number of persons from becoming stateless and thus reduce the number of persons for whom the IGC must care.

5) That IGC accept for immediate assistance those persons now clearly in the "stateless" category, for example, Spanish Loyalists in Portugal, France and other countries.



6) That Governments be encouraged to cooperate in the reunion of families who have been separated by political and war conditions.

7) That displaced persons within the mandate of IGC be permitted the right to reside, to work, to share in public relief benefits and to place their children in the free public schools in the country in which they are resident. In the countries where work on the same basis as the country's nationals is not possible, the IGC should, if possible, provide special non-competitive work projects for the displaced persons in order that they may have constructive employment.

8) Cooperation with other international bodies concerned with population movements, such as the International Labor Office.

#### B. Questions re Program

1) The Interim Committee feels sure American agencies and those in other countries would welcome a more detailed definition by IGC of its own program as well as whatever summation or analysis of its general situation and principles as may now be possible. Agencies would also welcome definition of policy in the use of private agency assistance and cooperation that IGC now envisages. The agencies would be glad to know what resources are now available to IGC, how much of its resources is available for relief and what needs it will include under "relief assistance".

2) How soon and how extensively will IGC initiate efforts to find new opportunities for resettlement? What has thus far been done toward this end? What steps has IGC taken carrying out the suggestion in A-7.?

3) In what way can agencies assist IGC to secure from various countries the information essential as basis for resettlement plans?

4) At what point does IGC anticipate taking over responsibility for stateless persons from UNRRA?

5) Agencies would welcome information as to current progress regarding some passport coverage for stateless persons similar to the Nansen passport in the period following the First World War.

#### C. Recommendations re Program

1) We strongly recommend the early establishment by IGC of an information service regarding repatriation and resettlement possibilities in various parts of the world. Fullest possible information should be secured regarding political conditions, public attitudes, climate, important cultural aspects as well as the social, economic and labor conditions, understanding of which is vital to a wise choice by individuals or groups for the future. Such information should be frequently rechecked and circulated currently to agencies giving service to persons in the process of deciding their future movements.



2) While it is obviously difficult to build a constructive program for a future which is uncertain and sometimes unforeseeable, the very insecurity thus engendered creates the greater need for a carefully planned rehabilitation program which will place the individual in sounder physical, mental and vocational position at whatever time he can move to a permanent home. The provision of work opportunities either through national permission or through IGC assistance is one of the most constructive elements in a rehabilitative program. We regard a minimal policy of maintaining individuals in the condition in which they are rescued or liberated as inadequate since they have necessarily suffered physically, mentally and spiritually through years of displacement which require rebuilding in order to be ready for a constructive future. Many displaced persons will be found to need psychiatric help. The provision of such professional assistance must be anticipated. The cost of such rehabilitation, we believe, will be found less than cost of long-term assistance or permanent support for persons allowed to retrogress further.

3) In the selection and preparation of a group for resettlement, the Committee on Displaced Persons urges that the greatest care should be taken to provide to the group the most factual knowledge of conditions to be met that can be presented with opportunity for full consideration of the adjustments entailed in meeting such conditions together with the most practical preparation for them.

4) The Committee recognizes with satisfaction the concern of the IGC that its representatives are chosen, as far as possible, with regard for the background and knowledge of the laws of various countries affecting displaced persons and the way in which to handle the problems which such persons present, and that further, it is essential that representatives of IGC should be persons of broad understanding and tolerance.

5) The Committee would like to urge upon IGC the importance of using as far as possible in carrying on its relief and welfare operations the voluntary agencies in the countries in which there are persons under its mandate.

Neither the American Council of Voluntary Agencies nor most of its member agencies can, as operating agencies in the field of relief and welfare, concern themselves with the development of such authority. They are deeply concerned, however, that there be such adequate authority and will be glad to make their experience available to the IGC and to those groups and individuals who are striving to implement it with essential power and means for its task. The stimulation of public interest in welfare and relief problems which results from the activities of operating welfare and relief agencies is an important factor in building the public understanding in many nations essential for vigorous action by the IGC.



✓  
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, New York

PROPOSED COUNCIL RESOLUTION RE: DISPLACED PERSONS

For Transmittal to Earl Harrison, Intergovernmental  
Committee on Refugees, and to ~~Dean Acheson~~, United  
States Department of State *W. L. Clayton*

For presentation in the July 18, 1945 meeting of the American Council, on  
recommendation of the Interim Committee of the Committee on Displaced Persons.

BE IT RESOLVED

That it is the sense of the Council that no person under the juris-  
diction of the United States, or of its military forces, should be obliged to  
return to his country of nationality or former residence, in case he has reason  
for believing that on his return he will be subjected to oppression or discrim-  
ination because of race, religion, political views or activities, ~~or activities~~  
~~on behalf of the United Nations.~~

Funds given to the UNRRA for repatriation should not be used to re-  
patriate such persons against their will.

Any such compulsory return would be contrary to the principles of the  
freedom of the individual and of humanity and to the sentiment of our people.  
The Council trusts that the United States will to the full follow the implica-  
tions of this policy, both in its domestic regulations and in the administration  
of territories under its control or the control of its military forces, and  
that it will seek the cooperation of other United Nations in making effective  
this policy.

The UNRRA and the IGC should, each within its respective jurisdiction,  
make provision for the support of such persons on the same terms as other dis-  
placed persons or refugees under their respective jurisdictions.

*Revised as above in Council meeting.  
Subject to further editorial changes*

7/13/45

*(Subject to editorial changes)*



*Macomack*  
AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC. *File*  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, New York  
*File Council vs. Agency*  
*Grassmeyer*

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7/13/45

NAME: AMERICAN COUNCIL VOLUNTARY AGEN.  
ADDRESS: 122 E. 22nd St.  
N.Y. 10

C  
44543  
DATE OF  
CORRESPONDENCE  
25 July 45

REFERRED BY: Owen, Charlotte E.

REGARDING: Enc. memo to Intergovernmental Committee on  
Refugees, this replaces original prepared by Interim  
Com. of Com. on Displ. Persons ~~XXXXXX~~

**FIRST REFERENCE FILE COPY**

REFERRED TO:

(1) Mr. Richard Brown

(2)

(3)

DATE:

30 July 45



REPLIED

N. A. N.

TYPE OF REPLY

INITIALS

DATE

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NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

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ELIZABETH C. REISS, ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE  
FLORENCE M. DIESKOW, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Mr. Richard Brown  
UNRRA - Bureau of Services  
Dupont Circle Building  
1344 Connecticut Avenue  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Brown:

Enclosed please find a memorandum addressed to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, on the suggestion of the Committee on Displaced Persons, and sent to Sir Herbert Emerson.

This memorandum replaces the original one which was prepared by the Interim Committee of our Committee on Displaced Persons prior to Mr. Earl Harrison's first conference with the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees in London last March.

Very sincerely yours,

*Charlotte E. Owen*

Charlotte E. Owen  
Executive Secretary

CEO/rr  
Enc.

44543



## AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.

*To provide a means for consultation, coordination and planning so that relief and reconstruction programs may be carried on in the most effective way.*

### MEMBER AGENCIES

America Denmark Relief, Inc.  
American Association of University Women (A)  
American Bureau for Medical Aid to China  
American Christian Committee for Refugees, Inc.  
American Committee in Aid of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives  
American Committee of OSE (A)  
American Field Service  
American Friends of Czechoslovakia (A)  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Hungarian Relief, Inc.  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.  
American ORT Federation  
American Relief for Czechoslovakia, Inc.  
American Relief for France, Inc.  
American Relief for Holland, Inc.  
American Relief for Italy, Inc.  
American Relief for Norway, Inc.  
American Women's Hospitals  
Armenian General Benevolent Union (A)  
Belgian War Relief Society, Inc.  
Brethren Service Committee  
British War Relief Society, Inc. of the U.S.A. (A)  
China Aid Council  
Church Committee for Relief in Asia  
Committee on Christian Science Wartime Activities of the Mother Church (A)  
Congregational Christian Service Committee  
Cooperative League of the United States of America (A)  
Girl Scouts  
Greek War Relief Association, Inc. U.S.A.  
Hadassah

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society  
HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, Inc. (HICEM) (A)  
International Migration Service  
International Rescue and Relief Committee, Inc.  
Labor League for Human Rights, AFL  
Mennonite Central Committee  
National CIO War Relief Committee  
National Council of Jewish Women, Inc. (A)  
Near East Foundation  
Paderewski Testimonial Fund, Inc.  
Philippine War Relief of the United States, Inc.  
Polish War Relief  
Refugee Relief Trustees, Inc. (A)  
Russian Children's Welfare Society, Inc.  
Salvation Army  
Save the Children Federation, Inc. (A)  
Tolstoy Foundation, Inc.  
Ukrainian American Relief Committee (A)  
Unitarian Service Committee  
United China Relief, Inc.  
United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America, Inc.  
United States Committee for the Care of European Children, Inc. (A)  
United Yugoslav Relief Fund of America  
War Relief Services—National Catholic Welfare Conference  
World Student Service Fund  
Young Men's Christian Associations, International Committee of  
Young Women's Christian Association, World Emergency and War Victims Fund  
(A) Associate Membership



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, N.Y.

July 25, 1945

TO: Members of American Council  
FROM: Charlotte E. Owen

Attached is a copy of the revised memorandum to the Intergovernmental  
Committee on Refugees from the Committee on Displaced Persons.

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MINUTES

Committee on Displaced Persons and Interim Committee  
June 26, 1945

The following agencies were represented:

American Christian Committee for Refugees, Inc.  
American Committee of OSE  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
American Relief for Czechoslovakia  
Council of Canadian Voluntary Agencies  
Central Location Index  
Common Council for American Unity  
Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society  
HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, Inc.  
Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees  
International Migration Service  
International Rescue and Relief Committee  
Labor League for Human Rights, AFL  
National CIO War Relief Committee  
National Council of Jewish Women  
Refugee Relief Trustees  
Russian Children's Welfare Society  
Tolstoy Foundation, Inc.  
Ukrainian American Relief Committee  
Unitarian Service Committee  
United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America  
United States Committee for the Care of European Children  
War Relief Services - NCWC  
World Student Service Fund  
YMCA - National Board

*This relates to  
the situation at  
this time re  
displaced persons.*

Presiding, Dr. Leland Rex Robinson.

The minutes of June 12 were approved as circulated.

The Nominating Committee, Miss LaFollette, Chairman, Mr. Asofsky, Mr. Riley and Mrs. Edelheim, reported the following nominations: Committee on Displaced Persons, Chairman, Dr. L. R. Robinson; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Edward O'Connor; Secretary, Miss Ruth Larned; Interim Committee, Chairman, Mr. O'Connor; Vice-Chairman, Miss Larned; Secretary, Miss Jones; also Mr. Louis Sobel, Miss Sheba Strunsky, Mr. Henry Muller; and Dr. Robinson and Miss Owen, ex officio. The nominations of the above officers were approved and unanimously elected.

Dr. Robinson then reported on the re-draft of recommendations to the Intergovernmental Committee submitted at the last meeting by the Interim Committee, in which certain changes had been made. After discussion, Miss Larned was authorized to draw it up in its final form.

Dr. Robinson called on Miss Biehle, who spoke to the Committee at its last meeting and had some additional information now.

Miss Biehle: "I have some further information on the operations of the Intergovernmental Committee in France and Belgium. At the last meeting, I reported that at the



request of France, the IGC has taken some legal responsibility for German and Austrian refugees in France. The member agencies of Refugee Relief Trustees will be very much interested in the further information now received. This indicates that we are beginning an operation in France as of June 1, limited specifically to German and Austrian refugees, victims of persecution, and other refugees who do not have the right of settlement in France or do not have the protection of any other government. This excludes repatriable people, refugees holding Nansen passports, refugees who have come into France to work within France like Poles, etc. and have been there for a number of years, and foreigners originally residents of other countries who are unwilling to return to their former country of residence but who still have the protection of their government. Any agencies represented here who care to work with German or Austrian refugees in France should ask their representatives in France to make suggestions through our French Resident Representative. Our method of working will be to enable these agencies to secure certain funds for the care of German and Austrian refugees. If any agency wishes to negotiate with the French Resident Representative, suggest this to your representative, but also discuss the matter with me in this country. You will be repaid for certain services on behalf of these refugees. Maintenance grants will be made, short-term loans, retraining and training courses for occupation, services for children who have no parents or relatives to take care of them, etc."

Miss LaFollette asked whether Miss Biehle's statement regarding German and Austrian refugees meant that the British and American Governments are willing to help the refugees of an ex-enemy country and are not willing to help the Poles and Russians and Yugoslavs who are our Allies. Miss Biehle replied that the IGC's mandate authorizes them to serve people who are victims of religious, racial or political persecution. The IGC's work is, therefore, limited to the groups Miss Biehle had described before. Applications have been made to their Executive Committee to enlarge this policy, but the Executive Committee has not as yet been able to do so. Miss LaFollette asked to protest this policy, which rested on a fiction and to which her organization was opposed. Dr. Robinson suggested that it might be well to get the comments of Mr. O'Connor and Dr. Schwartz first and discuss this matter afterwards. Miss LaFollette had to leave the meeting, but she introduced Mr. Dennen, her successor, who will carry on in her place. The representatives of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund voiced his agreement with Miss LaFollette and reported that there were millions of Baltics, Poles, Yugoslavs, and Ukrainians in a similar predicament, and asked that some organization be specifically created for these. Dr. Robinson announced that we would discuss all this after the reports and called on Mr. O'Connor, who had returned two weeks ago from extensive travels in Europe.

Mr. O'Connor: "Displaced persons fall into two categories. One is the group in internal Germany, which is controlled by SHAEF. Under section G-5 of the agreement with SHAEF, UNRRA carries on its operations there.

"The other category are the displaced persons found in Belgium, Holland, France, Italy, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. They become the responsibility of national commissions. In Holland it is the Netherlands Military Administration, in Belgium the Commission on Displaced Persons, in France the Ministry of Prisoners, Deportees and Refugees, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Health, in Italy the Commission for the Repatriation of Prisoners of War and Displaced Nationals, and similar commissions in Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. Therefore, if you want to work with displaced persons in the countries outside of Germany, your agreements will have to be made with these commissions and not with SHAEF.

"In Holland, the situation is acute and they cannot at this point afford to have any displaced persons come out of Germany because they have no food for them. They have set up 39 camps under the Netherlands Military Administration. There are about 400,000 returned prisoners of war and 11 or 12,000 political deportees whom they have to feed, give them housing and medical facilities in the receiving centers.



Those who are brought back from Germany now are only those who are physically well enough to make the journey. Some are held until their health improves, until they are screened, or until their homes are rebuilt.

"In Belgium, the same is done, but they can return their people to their homes more rapidly, and the same is true in France. In Italy, it works the same way. They are held in reception centers for a short time.

"The problems you will have to face are the fact that there is no limit to the area of opportunity for voluntary agency work. In internal Germany, there is an unlimited need for any type of service you can think of -- food, clothing, morale, medical service, anything at all. Any voluntary agency who has a contribution to make to the welfare of these people will be welcomed with open arms, and there won't be these many many conferences with the result of nothing that we used to have. What resources are available the world over should be brought there right away. Arrangements will have to be made with UNRRA.

"Miss LaFollette made an observation that concerns us greatly. The Government agencies concerned with this question feel that they have to wait until there is some definite indication that someone is actually stateless before they can operate. In internal Germany, there is the problem of the Poles, the Baltic group, the Balkan group, and all those who for one reason or another do not care to return to their former homeland. A number of these people may want to wait a year or longer to see what develops, and somebody will have to look after them. Another problem is the number of Ukrainians and White Russians and Ruthenians who do not want to go home. In the Mediterranean theatre of war, 45,000 Kossaks who fought with the Germans against the Russians surrendered to General Mark Clark and asked that they be regarded as German prisoners of war and not as Soviet citizens. There are Yugoslav prisoners of war who have stated that they do not want to go home at this time, and so have some Czechs.

"We had some meetings of voluntary agency representatives, and some points came out of them. The whole question of free choice should be broken down into three principal parts: (1) returning to their former homeland; (2) remaining in the country of present residence if the national authority gives its consent; (3) going to free havens offered to them by other countries of good will. Statements had been made and headquarters had been ordered that nobody was going to be forced to go back to their former homeland if they did not wish to do so, but I was asked to discuss this with the IGC in London, which I did, and to have our Committee approach Earl Harrison. Through IGC, can we help our former Allies who are now displaced? We should also look into the possibility of sending them to South America."

Dr. Robinson thanked Mr. O'Connor and introduced Mr. Hayes of the Canadian Council. He then called on Dr. Schwartz to speak.

Dr. Schwartz: "Mr. O'Connor was quite right in making the distinction between internal Germany and the rest of Europe. In Germany, displaced persons are under the care of the Army, who has the responsibility of feeding and housing them. UNRRA does its work not as UNRRA but as Army personnel, and the voluntary agencies come in subject to UNRRA coordination, but directly under the Army, and therefore the entire matter is now an Army responsibility. People in the SHAEF zone are not to be repatriated against their will. There are many people in Germany today in that category -- Poles, Hungarians, etc. They are being treated like all other displaced persons in that area. When UNRRA signed the agreement with SHAEF, it was assumed that after the military period, UNRRA would take over as UNRRA. This is now complicated by the fact that UNRRA signed the agreement with SHAEF and SHAEF will soon be discontinued; so there will have to be renegotiations with the Allied Commission and the British, American



and French armies of occupation. If the attitude of the French army of occupation in Germany will be anything like its attitude in France, there is a strong possibility that UNRRA will not get permission from them to function in that part of Germany. UNRRA will probably get permission from the Americans and the British.

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Miss Biehle thanked Dr. Schwartz and Mr. O'Connor for their comments on the Inter-governmental Committee -- particularly Mr. O'Connor's remarks that the IGC staff in London were open to discussion on the question of dissident nationals, and Mr. Schwartz's remarks that the IGC was originally a legal agency and not a maintenance relief one.

Dr. Robinson threw the meeting open for questions and discussion on the speakers' reports.

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months, but it may run into a much longer period of time."

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Dr. Schwartz: "Then file the application in Washington, and Washington will send it to its liaison officers in Frankfurt. It takes a very long time, but maybe the procedure will now be shortened."

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Question (by Miss Larned): "Did you say that some of these dissident nationals might want to wait a year?"

Mr. O'Connor: "Yes."

Question (by Miss Larned): "Will there be any possibility of holding the governments off long enough until this is settled?"

Mr. O'Connor: "At our meeting in Paris, we felt that many people in internal Germany will desire this waiting period. Some may want to wait six months or a year until word comes out to them that they are able to return and resume their life's work. I thought there might be a million of these potentially stateless. It was generally thought that there will not be more than one million, provided there will be an acceptable solution of political problems on an international level."

Question (by Mr. Brooks): "What will the attitude of these governments be toward caring for their own people in other countries?"

Mr. O'Connor: "That is a political question. Some nations seemed to indicate that for manpower shortage and other reasons, the earliest possible return of their people is what they wanted. In France, for example, there did not seem to be any undue pressure. There will never be any unemployment on the farms."

Miss Owen announced that the Chairman of the Interim Committee had said that the Interim Committee will meet on July 9 at 3:30.

The meeting adjourned.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street - Room 701  
New York 10, New York

MINUTES

Committee on Displaced Persons and Interim Committee  
June 26, 1945

The following agencies were represented:

American Christian Committee for Refugees, Inc.  
American Committee of OSE  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
American Relief for Czechoslovakia  
Council of Canadian Voluntary Agencies  
Central Location Index  
Common Council for American Unity  
Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society  
HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, Inc.  
Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees  
International Migration Service  
International Rescue and Relief Committee  
Labor League for Human Rights, AFL  
National CIO War Relief Committee  
National Council of Jewish Women  
Refugee Relief Trustees  
Russian Children's Welfare Society  
Tolstoy Foundation, Inc.  
Ukrainian American Relief Committee  
Unitarian Service Committee  
United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America  
United States Committee for the Care of European Children  
War Relief Services - NCWC  
World Student Service Fund  
YMCA - National Board

Presiding, Dr. Leland Rex Robinson.

The minutes of June 12 were approved as circulated.

The Nominating Committee, Miss LaFollette, Chairman, Mr. Asofsky, Mr. Riley and Mrs. Edelheim, reported the following nominations: Committee on Displaced Persons, Chairman, Dr. L. R. Robinson; Vice-Chairman, Mr. Edward O'Connor; Secretary, Miss Ruth Larned; Interim Committee, Chairman, Mr. O'Connor; Vice-Chairman, Miss Larned; Secretary, Miss Jones; also Mr. Louis Sobel, Miss Sheba Strunsky, Mr. Henry Muller; and Dr. Robinson and Miss Owen, ex officio. The nominations of the above officers were approved and unanimously elected.

Dr. Robinson then reported on the re-draft of recommendations to the Intergovernmental Committee submitted at the last meeting by the Interim Committee, in which certain changes had been made. After discussion, Miss Larned was authorized to draw it up in its final form.

Dr. Robinson called on Miss Biehle, who spoke to the Committee at its last meeting and had some additional information now.

Miss Biehle: "I have some further information on the operations of the Intergovernmental Committee in France and Belgium. At the last meeting, I reported that at the



request of France, the IGC has taken some legal responsibility for German and Austrian refugees in France. The member agencies of Refugee Relief Trustees will be very much interested in the further information now received. This indicates that we are beginning an operation in France as of June 1, limited specifically to German and Austrian refugees, victims of persecution, and other refugees who do not have the right of settlement in France or do not have the protection of any other government. This excludes repatriable people, refugees holding Nansen passports, refugees who have come into France to work within France like Poles, etc. and have been there for a number of years, and foreigners originally residents of other countries who are unwilling to return to their former country of residence but who still have the protection of their government. Any agencies represented here who care to work with German or Austrian refugees in France should ask their representatives in France to make suggestions through our French Resident Representative. Our method of working will be to enable these agencies to secure certain funds for the care of German and Austrian refugees. If any agency wishes to negotiate with the French Resident Representative, suggest this to your representative, but also discuss the matter with me in this country. You will be repaid for certain services on behalf of these refugees. Maintenance grants will be made, short-term loans, retraining and training courses for occupation, services for children who have no parents or relatives to take care of them, etc."

Miss LaFollette asked whether Miss Biehle's statement regarding German and Austrian refugees meant that the British and American Governments are willing to help the refugees of an ex-enemy country and are not willing to help the Poles and Russians and Yugoslavs who are our Allies. Miss Biehle replied that the IGC's mandate authorizes them to serve people who are victims of religious, racial or political persecution. The IGC's work is, therefore, limited to the groups Miss Biehle had described before. Applications have been made to their Executive Committee to enlarge this policy, but the Executive Committee has not as yet been able to do so. Miss LaFollette asked to protest this policy, which rested on a fiction and to which her organization was opposed. Dr. Robinson suggested that it might be well to get the comments of Mr. O'Connor and Dr. Schwartz first and discuss this matter afterwards. Miss LaFollette had to leave the meeting, but she introduced Mr. Dennen, her successor, who will carry on in her place. The representatives of the United Lithuanian Relief Fund voiced his agreement with Miss LaFollette and reported that there were millions of Baltics, Poles, Yugoslavs, and Ukrainians in a similar predicament, and asked that some organization be specifically created for these. Dr. Robinson announced that we would discuss all this after the reports and called on Mr. O'Connor, who had returned two weeks ago from extensive travels in Europe.

Mr. O'Connor: "Displaced persons fall into two categories. One is the group in internal Germany, which is controlled by SHAEF. Under section G-5 of the agreement with SHAEF, UNRRA carries on its operations there.

"The other category are the displaced persons found in Belgium, Holland, France, Italy, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. They become the responsibility of national commissions. In Holland it is the Netherlands Military Administration, in Belgium the Commission on Displaced Persons, in France the Ministry of Prisoners, Deportees and Refugees, the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Health, in Italy the Commission for the Repatriation of Prisoners of War and Displaced Nationals, and similar commissions in Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia. Therefore, if you want to work with displaced persons in the countries outside of Germany, your agreements will have to be made with these commissions and not with SHAEF.

"In Holland, the situation is acute and they cannot at this point afford to have any displaced persons come out of Germany because they have no food for them. They have set up 39 camps under the Netherlands Military Administration. There are about 400,000 returned prisoners of war and 11 or 12,000 political deportees whom they have to feed, give them housing and medical facilities in the receiving centers.



Those who are brought back from Germany now are only those who are physically well enough to make the journey. Some are held until their health improves, until they are screened, or until their homes are rebuilt.

"In Belgium, the same is done, but they can return their people to their homes more rapidly, and the same is true in France. In Italy, it works the same way. They are held in reception centers for a short time.

"The problems you will have to face are the fact that there is no limit to the area of opportunity for voluntary agency work. In internal Germany, there is an unlimited need for any type of service you can think of -- food, clothing, morale, medical service, anything at all. Any voluntary agency who has a contribution to make to the welfare of these people will be welcomed with open arms, and there won't be these many many conferences with the result of nothing that we used to have. What resources are available the world over should be brought there right away. Arrangements will have to be made with UNRRA.

"Miss LaFollette made an observation that concerns us greatly. The Government agencies concerned with this question feel that they have to wait until there is some definite indication that someone is actually stateless before they can operate. In internal Germany, there is the problem of the Poles, the Baltic group, the Balkan group, and all those who for one reason or another do not care to return to their former homeland. A number of these people may want to wait a year or longer to see what develops, and somebody will have to look after them. Another problem is the number of Ukrainians and White Russians and Ruthenians who do not want to go home. In the Mediterranean theatre of war, 45,000 Kossaks who fought with the Germans against the Russians surrendered to General Mark Clark and asked that they be regarded as German prisoners of war and not as Soviet citizens. There are Yugoslav prisoners of war who have stated that they do not want to go home at this time, and so have some Czechs.

"We had some meetings of voluntary agency representatives, and some points came out of them. The whole question of free choice should be broken down into three principal parts: (1) returning to their former homeland; (2) remaining in the country of present residence if the national authority gives its consent; (3) going to free havens offered to them by other countries of good will. Statements had been made and headquarters had been ordered that nobody was going to be forced to go back to their former homeland if they did not wish to do so, but I was asked to discuss this with the IGC in London, which I did, and to have our Committee approach Earl Harrison. Through IGC, can we help our former Allies who are now displaced? We should also look into the possibility of sending them to South America."

Dr. Robinson thanked Mr. O'Connor and introduced Mr. Hayes of the Canadian Council. He then called on Dr. Schwartz to speak.

Dr. Schwartz: "Mr. O'Connor was quite right in making the distinction between internal Germany and the rest of Europe. In Germany, displaced persons are under the care of the Army, who has the responsibility of feeding and housing them. UNRRA does its work not as UNRRA but as Army personnel, and the voluntary agencies come in subject to UNRRA coordination, but directly under the Army, and therefore the entire matter is now an Army responsibility. People in the SHAEF zone are not to be repatriated against their will. There are many people in Germany today in that category -- Poles, Hungarians, etc. They are being treated like all other displaced persons in that area. When UNRRA signed the agreement with SHAEF, it was assumed that after the military period, UNRRA would take over as UNRRA. This is now complicated by the fact that UNRRA signed the agreement with SHAEF and SHAEF will soon be discontinued; so there will have to be renegotiations with the Allied Commission and the British, American



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Miss Owen announced that the Chairman of the Interim Committee had said that the Interim Committee will meet on July 9 at 3:30.

The meeting adjourned.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.

122 East 22 Street - Room 701

New York 10, New York

8/19/45 File

MINUTES

Committee on Displaced Persons

June 12, 1945

The following agencies were represented:

American Christian Committee for Refugees  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
American O RT Federation  
American Relief for Czechoslovakia  
Central Location Index  
Common Council for American Unity  
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HIAS-ICA Emigration Association  
Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees  
International Migration Service  
International Rescue and Relief Committee  
Labor League for Human Rights, AFL  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Refugee Service  
Refugee Relief Trustees  
Russian Children's Welfare Society  
Selfhelp of Emigres from Central Europe  
Tolstoy Foundation  
Ukrainian American Relief Committee  
Unitarian Service Committee  
United Lithuanian Relief Fund of America  
U. S. Committee for the Care of European Children  
War Relief Services - National Catholic Welfare Conference

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee on Displaced Persons of April 18, 1945, were approved as circulated. After a discussion of the value of condensation of full minutes of the Interim Committee for the Committee on Displaced Persons, a motion was made and voted to circulate the full minutes of the Interim Committee to the entire Committee on Displaced Persons. This motion was made by Mr. Muller and seconded by Mr. Weisman. It was moved and voted that the Committee on Displaced Persons should have a vice-chairman. Mr. Miles suggested that the Chairman of the Interim Committee should act as the Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Displaced Persons. Miss Jones observed that the Interim Committee had at present only an acting chairman and furthermore, that the acting chairman was at Philadelphia and might find it difficult to be present always. It was decided that Miss LaFollette, together with Miss Owen and one or two others of the Committee on Displaced Persons, exclusive of any members of the Interim Committee, get together to suggest officers of the Interim Committee and also possibly officers for the Committee on Displaced Persons.

Miss Etta Deutsch of the Central Location Index presented a request to the agencies to help the Index explore sources for contact with displaced persons. Miss Deutsch stated that it is possible that there are Council member agencies, not members of the Index, which have information concerning displaced persons which would be valuable to all concerned. All agencies are therefore asked to inform the Central Location Index of any contacts that they may have with displaced persons or persons who might know of the location of displaced persons. She stressed the necessity



and value of identifying information to accompany the name of an individual and spoke of the fortunate results often obtained from least expected sources and information.

Miss Jones, acting chairman of the Interim Committee, reported on the meeting of the Interim Committee with Earl Harrison upon his return from London on May 23, material having been mailed to all members of the Committee on Displaced Persons.

Miss Larned read suggestions by Dr. Chamberlain for correction of certain items of the recommendation given to Earl Harrison by the Interim Committee for discussion with the Intergovernmental Committee staff. A motion was made by Mr. Muller that the committee at the meeting today accept the memorandum of the Interim Committee formally and refer it back to the Interim Committee for editing and for the addition of Dr. Chamberlain's suggestions and any other suggestions that might be made by other members of the committee. The amended memorandum will then be submitted to Dr. Chamberlain for his approval and sent to the Intergovernmental Committee with a copy to UNRRA together with covering letter.

Miss Martha Biehle, American Representative of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, spoke to the meeting on the status of German and Austrian refugees in France. She said that the French Government had recently voted to ratify 1938 and 1939 conventions regarding German and Austrian refugees under procedure customary with reference to the Nansen passports. She said that, of course, the Nansen passport would no longer be issued to these people but that some new passport would take its place. The IGC has under consideration now such a passport. She further added that the French Government had in this action designated the IGC as the legal representative and protector for these people. Through an IGC proposal to Great Britain and the United States, Miss Biehle continued, Belgium and France have approved the undertaking of operations by IGC with reference to German and Austrian refugees in the area of relief, this to include maintenance, grants, revolving funds, re-training program, etc. IGC does not act as yet for any other groups in these two countries but expects that this is the first step. IGC asked for and has secured approval to operate with stateless persons in Portugal and in Spain. The Committee does not expect to set up a staff in those countries but will act through voluntary agencies there. These voluntary agencies will administer IGC funds. In general, the IGC works -- first, through the government representative within a given country; IGC also works, secondly, through indigenous agencies within a given country in preference to agencies which would have to move into that country; IGC would next work, thirdly, through voluntary agencies with funds in other countries and with operating agents within a given country; and, fourth, IGC would work with agencies which might have to send workers into a given country -- in this order. IGC, however, invites voluntary agencies to send in propositions and programs for work in another country and will fit these into the IGC and government representative plans wherever possible. The IGC also requests that the voluntary agencies should contact the government of the country where it wishes to work directly whenever this is feasible.

It was announced that another meeting of the Committee on Displaced Persons would take place very soon to hear Dr. Schwartz, who has just returned to this country, and Mr. O'Connor, who returned last week, speak on their observations.

Mr. Dubin gave a report on the Sub-Committee on Camps in place of Mr. Beck, the Chairman who was unable to be present. The report outlined work which has been done and proposals which are under way in regard to refugees at Fort Ontario, Oswego.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, New York 10, New York

June 7, 1945

TO: Committee on Displaced Persons

FROM: Interim Committee

RE: Discussions with Mr. Earl Harrison concerning recommendations which he took to London to the Intergovernmental Committee.

On May 23, a meeting of the Interim Committee of the Committee on Displaced Persons was held to discuss with Mr. Earl Harrison the recommendations of the Interim Committee which he had presented to the staff of the Intergovernmental Committee during his recent visit to London.

Mr. Harrison stated with reference to A.--Recommendations re plans - that the IGC Staff was in agreement on points 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. With reference to Point 7, Mr. Harrison said that there was limited agreement. Points 8, 9 and 10 likewise have the support of the IGC Staff.

With reference to B.-- Questions and recommendations re program- Mr. Harrison announced that under 10, IGC has promised to give bulletin service. They planned to build up public relations.

With regard to 2), Mr. Harrison stated that the IGC had \$5,000,000 to work with at the present time.

With regard to 3), Mr. Harrison said that the staff of the IGC is planning a Migration Department to handle this problem.

The IGC Staff is in complete agreement with point 4.

Mr. Harrison stated under 5), that the IGC is at the present time already working with the physical needs of displaced persons since UNRRA of course, is not as yet functioning in all areas. The IGC's main and final job however, is resettlement after it has been established that a person is not repatriable.

With regard to 6), Mr. Harrison stated that upon the establishment of the Migration Department and its staffing it would be clearer what the agencies could do to assist IGC in this matter.

Mr. Harrison said that the IGC Staff was in agreement on points 7, 8, 9 and 10.

With reference to C.--Authorities, Powers and Means which will be essential in order that IGC may be in a position to realize plans and program - Mr. Harrison stated that the IGC Staff is aware of the experience and value which private agencies may bring to the problem at hand.



*Haffer*

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street - Room 701  
New York 10, New York

June 8, 1945

TO: Committee on Displaced Persons  
FROM: Interim Committee

The memorandum sent you June 7, 1945, re: Discussions with Mr. Earl Harrison concerning recommendations which he took to London to the Intergovernmental Committee should have been accompanied by the enclosed.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, Inc.  
122 East 22 Street - Room 701  
New York 10, New York

March 23, 1945

TO: Earl Harrison

FROM: The Interim Committee of the Displaced Persons Committee of American Council of Voluntary Agencies

RE: Recommendations to the Intergovernmental Committee

In view of the imminence of your departure it has been impossible to secure recommendations which the Displaced Persons Committee of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service as a body might recommend for discussion by you with the Intergovernmental Committee. The Interim Committee of the Displaced Persons Committee has certain tentative recommendations which it is glad to suggest for this purpose and which will be submitted to the whole Committee with the hope that an approved group of recommendations for your consideration and discussion in London can be forwarded to you there.

The points suggested by the Interim Committee relate to principles and program which we feel are important for IGC consideration and action at this time:

A - Recommendations re Principles

1) That the IGC interpret its mandate as broadly as possible in defining its area of competence and coverage for those in demonstrated need.

2) That it be willing to redefine its scope if groups are later discovered who would not now be considered eligible for IGC aid as now defined.

3) That IGC should stand firmly upon the principle of meeting need of persons eligible for its aid regardless of the numbers of persons in such categories, with thoughtful insistence that responsible governments must find the resources necessary for the help required.

4) At the same time encouragement should be given to reducing the number of stateless persons as far as may be consonant with their personal well-being and to guard against a possible tendency on the part of displaced persons to place themselves in that status too hastily because of seeming immediate advantages which may in the long future prove disadvantageous. (See P 6)

5) Governments should be encouraged to accept for return, and grant permanent residence and such benefits as are thus due, to persons who were long-term residents of those countries before the war and its prelude of political upheaval. Preliminary material from the survey of refugees in Switzerland indicates the desire of a number, resident in France for a period as refugees, to return to countries of former residence rather than to their countries of origin.

6) The Committee welcomes the principle established by UNRRA and IGC that no displaced person shall be forced to return to a country of previous residence or nationality against his will, fearing racial, religious or political persecution. We would urge a forceful declaration of this principle by IGC. Since conditions in many countries to which repatriation may take place are currently greatly disturbed, we suggest consideration of a moratorium before IGC undertakes returning nationals to such countries. The situation of returning Lithuanians to Russia against their will is, as you know, one that is likely to create difficulty in the United States and has already stirred considerable feeling here. In establishing the time when repatriation may wisely take place, it may not be necessary



to await the existence of a "stable" government, but rather one established by the freely expressed wishes of the people of the country. Such a moratorium might serve to reduce an increasing number of stateless.

7) That IGC accept for immediate assistance those persons now clearly in the "stateless" category, for example, Spanish Loyalists in Portugal, France and other countries.

8) That Governments be encouraged to cooperate in the reunion of families who have been separated by political and war conditions.

9) That displaced persons obliged to wait repatriation or resettlement in other countries be permitted the right to work in the country of current residence wherever this can possibly be arranged. In the countries where work on the same basis as the country's nationals is not possible, the IGC should if possible provide special non-competitive work projects for the displaced in order that they may have constructive employment.

10) Cooperation with other international bodies concerned with population movements, such as the International Labor Office.

#### B - Questions and Recommendations re Program

1) The Interim Committee feels sure American agencies and those in other countries would welcome a more detailed definition by IGC of its own program as well as whatever summation or analysis of its general situation and principles as may now be possible. Agencies would also welcome definition of policy in the use of private agency assistance and cooperation that IGC now envisages.

2) The agencies would be glad to know what resources are now available to IGC, how much of its resources is available for relief and what needs it will include under "relief assistance."

3) How soon and how extensively will IGC initiate efforts to find new opportunities for resettlement? What has thus far been done toward this end?

4) We strongly recommend the early establishment by IGC of an information service regarding repatriation and resettlement possibilities in various parts of the world. Fullest possible information should be secured regarding political conditions, public attitudes, climate, important cultural aspects as well as the social, economic and labor conditions, understanding of which is vital to a wise choice by individuals or groups for the future. Such information should be frequently rechecked and circulated currently to agencies giving service to persons in the process of deciding their future movements.

5) At what point does IGC anticipate taking over responsibility for stateless persons from UNRRA?

6) In what way can agencies assist IGC to secure from various countries the information essential as basis for resettlement plans?

7) Agencies would welcome information as to current progress regarding some passport coverage for stateless persons similar to the Nansen passport in the period following the First World War.

8) The Interim Committee wishes to state its conviction that a rehabilitative program is essential for any group of persons awaiting repatriation or resettlement for a period of months or longer. While it is obviously difficult to build a constructive program for a future which is uncertain and sometimes unfore-



seeable, the very insecurity thus engendered creates the greater need for a thoughtful rehabilitative program which will place the individual in sounder physical, mental and vocational position at whatever time he can move to a permanent home. We regard a minimal policy of maintaining individuals in the condition in which they are rescued or liberated as inadequate since they have necessarily suffered physically, mentally and spiritually through years of displacement which require rebuilding in order to be ready for a constructive future. The cost of such rehabilitation, we believe, will be found less than cost of long-term assistance or permanent support for persons allowed to retrogress further.

Many displaced persons will be found to need psychiatric help. The provision of such professional assistance must be anticipated.

The provision of work opportunities either through national permission or through IGC assistance is one of the most constructive elements in a rehabilitative program.

9) In the selection and preparation of a group for resettlement, the Interim Committee urges that the greatest care should be taken to provide to the group the most factual knowledge of conditions to be met that can be presented with opportunity for full consideration of the adjustments entailed in meeting such conditions together with the most practical preparation for them.

10) Selection of IGC personnel -- The Committee would like to stress that in their estimation IGC representatives should, as far as possible, be persons possessed of background and knowledge of the laws of various countries affecting displaced persons and the way in which to handle the problems which such persons present, and that further it is essential that representatives of IGC should be persons of broad understanding and tolerance, without prejudices.

C - Authority, Powers and Means which will be Essential in Order that IGC may be in a position to realize Principles and Program

Neither the American Council of Voluntary Agencies nor most of its member agencies can, as operating agencies in the field of relief, concern themselves with the development of such authority. They are deeply concerned, however, that there be such adequate authority and will be glad to make their experience available, however, to the IGC and to those groups and individuals which are striving to implement it with essential power and means for its task. The stimulation of public interest in welfare and relief problems which results from the activities of operating welfare and relief agencies is an important factor in building the public understanding in many nations essential for vigorous action by the IGC.

MPS/DER  
5-14-45



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, New York

MINUTES

Interim Committee of Committee on Displaced Persons and Committee  
on Italy, May 7, 1945

Those present: American Friends Service Committee - Miss Margaret E. Jones  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Comm. - Mrs. Henrietta Buchman  
American Christian Committee for Refugees - Mr. Homer Edmiston  
Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees - Miss Martha H. Biehle  
International Migration Service - Miss Elizabeth W. Clark  
(substituting for Miss Larned)  
Unitarian Service Committee - Mr. Henry E. Muller  
War Relief Services-NCWC - Mr. George W. Miles  
Amer. Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign  
Service - Miss Charlotte Owen, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Reiss, Mr.  
Earl Martin

Miss Jones presided. Those present discussed possible services private agencies might sponsor for displaced non-Italians in Italy. Several agencies are already working or are planning to work on behalf of Italian refugees.

International Migration Service is sending a member of its field staff to Rome to work with the Italian branch of IMS. The latter's primary concern is to reunite separated Italian families.

The Unitarian Service Committee, in addition to the medical and nutrition program, which is a supplementary project with UNRRA, may provide teams of social workers to work with UNRRA in the displaced persons camps. The Committee expects to establish rehabilitation centers for children, both Italian and non-Italian. These centers will examine children and send those needing health care to tent villages at the seashore for three months. The Committee hopes to sponsor such a program for 300 children, 100 for each three months' period. An American director will be in charge and some personnel from the medical mission will be used in connection with the preliminary and final medical examinations. Additional personnel will be recruited in Italy. One feature will be giving each child as he leaves the village a toy kit supplied by American children. The total budget will be approximately \$35,000.

The American Christian Committee for Refugees is considering assigning their personnel to work with UNRRA - this personnel perhaps to be transferred from the Balkan Mission. They expect, therefore, that any work which they undertake will be primarily for the general relief of Italian civilians.

War Relief Services-NCWC will continue sending supplies via American Relief for Italy. Their personnel in Italy stands ready to assist the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees if the need arises. To date, some nine million pounds, including three million pounds of food, have been shipped to Italy from the various agencies forwarding supplies through American Relief for Italy. These relief goods are for anyone in the community who needs the assistance, including displaced persons in camps.



The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is adding to its personnel but is waiting for a final recommendation from Dr. Schwartz. They expect personnel to be assigned to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees.

The American Friends Service Committee is sponsoring a supply transport service for Italian civilians in Chieti province, where Italian engineers are supervising rebuilding devastated villages. The project has started with four English, one American, and one Italian, men, and two trucks and one command car.

In the discussion which followed, it was pointed out that the greatest immediate need in Italy is for supplies. Furthermore, it is difficult for the agencies to plan now for any specific additional supplementary project in Italy, because we do not have sufficient definite information. It was agreed, therefore, that we ask UNRRA, the IGCR, and the National Committee for the Distribution of Relief Supplies in Italy for recommendations as to specific projects private agencies might sponsor.

It was also pointed out in the discussion that the agencies are trying to determine their contribution in other areas in this overall relief picture. We understand the importance of concentrating on specific projects rather than to spread this work too widely, and it seems necessary to have a much more definite idea of need in a number of areas in which agencies are interested. We know that in each country concerned there are many nationals who are able to work in the reconstruction program. Their first need, however, is for food and for supplies. It is possible that eventually American personnel, too, will be needed. But until we know more definitely the relief areas and the extent of the technical help needed, we cannot satisfactorily plan any supplementary projects.



*to: Cooley*

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, Inc.  
122 East 22 Street - Room 701  
New York 10, New York

MINUTES

Committee on Camps and Committee on Displaced Persons

April 18, 1945, 3:30 p.m.

Dr. Leland Rex Robinson, presiding

The following agencies were represented:

American Christian Committee for Refugees  
American Friends Service Committee  
American ORT Federation  
Common Council for American Unity  
Hadassah  
Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society  
HIAS-ICA Emigration Association, Inc.  
Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees  
International Migration Service  
International Rescue and Relief Committee  
Labor League for Human Rights, AFL  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Refugee Service  
Polish War Relief  
Russian Children's Welfare Society  
Selfhelp of Emigres from Central Europe  
Tolstoy Foundation, Inc.  
Unitarian Service Committee  
U. S. Committee for the Care of European Children  
War Relief Services - National Catholic Welfare Conference

Mrs. Fanny Silberschein-Hirsch

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the last meeting had been circulated by mail. Dr. Robinson asked for corrections. Miss Owen reported that corrections had been sent in by Mr. Wiggins and otherwise. When we learn of any additional corrections the Committee might have, they will be mimeographed and sent out. Dr. Robinson added that the corrections Mr. Wiggins made are with reference to the work of the American Friends Service Committee. There being no other corrections, the minutes amended to include corrections were accepted.

REPORT OF GENEVA STUDY GROUP

Dr. Robinson called on Miss Ruth Larned in connection with a study in progress in refugee camps in Switzerland, and Miss Larned read a preliminary report.

In explanation, Miss Larned said: "This study was initiated by the Geneva Study Circle, a group of about seventeen agencies in Geneva interested in displaced persons and refugees. The group has a large program and will study the whole question. One section of the program is a collection of data in regard to the refugees in the camps. The Director of the Swiss branch of the International Migration Service took charge of that, and the report was brought over to this country. We had planned to conduct a similar project in camps in the Near East also, until we found out that UNRRA was going to take care of the registration, and we had to revise our plan. We received grants from the Intergovernmental Committee to draw up this report."

*Comm on DP*

*Report of Geneva Study Group*

*Spanish Refugee*

*Paul Anderson's Report - France*

*Rebun Map*



Our original idea was to study about 4 to 5,000 refugees, but the Swiss Government was so interested in it that they asked us to extend it, and it now includes about 10,000 refugees. It was done with the cooperation of many agencies in Switzerland. The interviewers were very carefully chosen from the refugees themselves, and they were allowed by the Swiss Government to leave the camp to conduct this. The report will go to the Intergovernmental Committee because the study was sponsored by them. The data is being put on business-machine cards. Mr. Malin promoted this plan when he was here.

"The report covers only 4,000 persons and is not anywhere nearly complete. It will cover all civilian refugees in Switzerland except those who can return to their own country after the complete liberation of Europe. 9,500 questionnaires were issued because only one questionnaire went to each family. Collaborators from among the refugees were appointed in each camp to help our delegate. Some 200 refugees were thus appointed and received circulars with instructions. Some 5% of the inmates of every camp refused to fill out the questionnaire because of mistrust. Two whole camps refused en bloc; we won over one and half of the other. Many refugees could not be questioned because we did not have a complete list of their names and addresses. Many refugees resented it as an interference in their personal affairs, but we overcame this early opposition. Many had filled out so many questionnaires that they no longer had any faith in them, but we explained our purpose and overcame their mistrust. The Swiss Government was a great help to us. The purpose of our inquiry was to tabulate the wishes and intentions of the refugees with regard to their own futures, but they depend on many political, economic and military factors. Therefore, the answers cannot be accurate. Many refugees who filled out the questionnaire in October and again now gave entirely different answers now. The answers are also influenced by the personality, mood, intelligence and experience of those questioned, and also by the way in which the inquirer formulates the answers he receives, as well as the way the answers are interpreted in the office in Geneva. Nevertheless, the answers are of great value to us. The project has also earned for us a staff of collaborators, who are willing to work with us again."

Miss Larned continued with the reading of the report, which brought out such facts as: "75% of the refugees questioned are in camps or homes; the others are independent refugees. 3,408 are Jews, 161 Protestants, 242 Roman Catholics, 75 Greek Orthodox, 1 Mohammedan, and the rest have no confession. 1,761 are without citizenship because of territorial cession of their land of origin, individual expulsion, racial and religious laws, withdrawal of passports, former nationality lost through application for citizenship elsewhere which they did not then acquire, etc. 20% are German, 20% Austrian, and 35% Polish. Almost half of them came from France, the others, in order, from Italy, Belgium, Germany, Austria, Hungary and Holland.

"861 refugees have no profession. 1,343 are skilled in a trade. Almost all young refugees are years behind in their schooling or professional training. 16 or 17-year old people often have barely a primary education.

"Many refugees hope to remain on the continent rather than immigrate overseas. Therefore, re-training in trades is very important. 23.6% want to return to their country of origin; 28.2% want to migrate to another part of Europe, mostly the country of former residence; 9.3% want to migrate to North America; 9.1% want to go to Palestine; 2.9% want to go to other overseas countries; 1.8% desire continued residence in Switzerland; and 5.1% are completely undecided about their future. Of 807 former Germans, only 169 wish to go back to Germany, 30% of these being Jewish. Of 778 Austrians, 218 want to return, 50% of whom are Jewish. Of 1,319 Poles, only 66 wanted to return to Poland -- primarily because most of the Poles now in Switzerland left Poland after the last war and have nothing to link them with Poland.

"The Swiss branch of the IMS was asked to organize a meeting at Montreux. We had 500 refugees present, as well as representatives of Government agencies, and the



entire group spent more than a day discussing the problems of the refugees. Everyone commented that this meeting was quite extra-ordinary."

Dr. Robinson expressed the thanks of the group to Miss Larned for the report. He said he was sure that the complete report later will no doubt be full of very interesting facts. He said that he hoped the complete report would be made available upon its completion.

#### THE SPANISH REFUGEE

Dr. Robinson introduced Miss Celine Neufville, who has been working for some time for the relief of Spanish Republican refugees -- since February, 1944. She recently came from the Dominican Republic, where she is the agent of Refugee Relief Trustees and where there are several hundreds of Spanish Republican refugees. She will go to Venezuela to facilitate their reception.

Miss Neufville said in part: "1400 to 1500 refugees were in the Dominican Republic when I came. The conditions were very bad because the country is small and the climate hard on Europeans. A great proportion of them were out of work. The only solution to the problem would be to get them settled in other countries.

"About that time, Venezuela really opened its doors to the refugees. The Venezuelan Legation in the Dominican Republic was instructed not to refuse any visas. I visited Venezuela and found that the people we had sent there looked very much better than when they had left. The work of the immigration office in Venezuela is very well organized. An employee meets the boat, and takes the people to Caracas, where rooms have been reserved for them in hotels. The Spanish colony of Republican ideology help their newly arrived countrymen very much. They have opened a large club for lectures, games, dances, etc. Medical care and special food to the young children is free of charge. Venezuela hopes that a large proportion of these Spaniards will stay, and although many of them will return to Spain after the fall of Franco, many of them will also probably remain in Venezuela because the Venezuelan Government is now trying to get their wives and children, who remained in Spain, to join them; the Venezuelan Government will pay for transportation. When I was in Venezuela about three weeks ago, I was asked to try to get all agencies interested in working in immigration and explain to them that the doors of Venezuela are open, and although they realize that it would be easier for Latin Americans to assimilate themselves, they will be glad to accept any other kinds of refugees also so long as they are craftsmen."

Dr. Robinson, in thanking Miss Neufville, remarked that it was very gratifying to see how very large this movement from the Dominican Republic to Venezuela has been. Miss Neufville added that they have sent about 600 refugees to Venezuela and the rest to Mexico and other South American countries. 900 were settled altogether. Dr. Robinson mentioned that the Government of Spain has recently issued a welcome to all those who left, but he did not think many would heed it.

Mrs. Silberschein-Hirsch asked whether the Venezuelan Government has changed its immigration laws with respect to the fact that up to the war, only non-Jews could immigrate to Venezuela.

Miss Neufville: "The first time I was in Venezuela, some months ago, I was told that there was a group of Jewish refugees who had been undesirable for reasons of their professions. On my second visit, I had the feeling that this had changed. So long as they are craftsmen rather than intellectuals, it does not matter if they are Jews. They will be delighted to accept Jewish children."

Dr. Robinson stated that he felt certain that the Council will want to get as much information as possible about this from Miss Neufville.



## PAUL ANDERSON'S REPORT

Dr. Robinson introduced Mr. Paul B. Anderson, Director for many years of the International YMCA, a resident of Paris for twenty years, and who has recently returned from France, where he was in his capacity of representative of American Relief for France, Chairman of the Council's Committee on France, and Director of the YMCA. Before he left, the Committee on Displaced Persons asked him, in his capacity of Chairman of the Committee on France of the Council, to inquire into some aspects of the displaced persons in France.

Mr. Anderson: "The first point I was asked to investigate is equality of treatment. There is, in principle, equality of treatment between French displaced persons and foreign displaced persons. My observations were that it was largely adhered to in France. In a discussion with the Chairman of COSOR, it was revealed that most of the members of the Resistance Movement had been foreigners and they were being assisted by COSOR just as the French members of the Resistance. Many institutions were established for foreigners in France -- homes for children, old people, ill people, etc. were sustained by French state funds just like French institutions. In 1940, the foreign children were evacuated like the French children and received the same allowance per day. There are, however, questions growing partly out of relationships between employer and employee, and the matter of claiming benefits of state aids. Foreigners are sometimes not registered for employment insurance. In the Ministry of PDR (Prisoners, Deportees and Refugees), however, and in the mairies (town halls) equality was given in principle."

"The second point is the position of foreign voluntary agencies in the French framework. This is contained in my report. The French framework with reference to foreigners who came to France during this war must be taken into consideration. France was in need of workers and typical contracts were entered into between the French firm and the individual in the country from which he came. Sometimes these contracts were not adhered to on the part of the firm or the individual. To help regulate this matter, the Government has turned to the Service Social aux Emigres, which is the International Migration Service in France, so that they may be a private agency that can see to it that these contracts are adhered to. Any foreigner in France who has any difficulty at all can come to the Service Social aux Emigres, and they will make an investigation through their representatives or through the Assurances Sociales of the mairie concerned. Those who came on a contract and those who did not are protected by the SSAE, and other private agencies can do the same thing. Under the French law, anybody can form a society, and therefore a large number of those societies have sprung up. They are always returning to the SSAE for advice or for an inquiry. The framework is as follows: the Ministry of Labor, the Town Halls, the IMS, and then the other private groups that spring up partly from the foreigners themselves."

"Third is the relationship of public and private agencies dealing with displaced persons, with reference to emergency aid as distinguished from the status of foreigners before the French law. Emergency aid may be necessary pending the investigation of the Town Hall. That comes under Entr'Aide Francaise. It does not deal with each individual case, but when a society dealing with any group has exhausted its resources, it can go to the Entr'Aide Francaise and ask for aid for a certain term for emergency service (depannage) to help them out of this emergency. They have a responsibility for the welfare of the people of the country before the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Labor. Any society can come to them, and they will investigate first whether the society is capable of doing this job and really needs the money. The society appeals to the Committee in their own Departement, and then that goes to Entr'Aide Francaise in Paris. The foreign and French societies are dealt with alike. The British-American Civilian Emergency Service, for instance, was set up, and when it ran out of money, turned to Entr'Aide Francaise and got the money they wanted."



"The fourth point regards the repatriation of prisoners of war, with which I had to deal in my capacity of liaison officer from the YMCA to SHAEF and Monsieur Frenay of the PDR. We are not concerned now with French, but with foreign prisoners of war. In the French Army, there are a certain number of foreigners, who are now prisoners of war. Their status, according to French law, is that they will return to France along with persons of French citizenship, to be demobilized. When they are demobilized, they return to the categories mentioned before. There are also Russians, Czechs, Poles, etc. in other Allied armies, who were in part brought into occupied France by the Germans and used for forced labor. As the Allied armies advance, they liberate those. The Poles, Czechs and British were taken up and reintegrated into their own armed forces insofar as they were physically capable. The others are now in France. They were brought into camps for purposes of mutual protection. At first, the situation in these camps was very unhappy because the French are very poor prison-keepers. Then, SHAEF Mission stepped in, and at the Ministry of PDR a special commission was set up for maintaining the welfare of the Allied prisoners of war in the French camps. I am a member of this commission, which is charged with doing what we can for the welfare of these persons in the camps. As to the Russians, there are many who felt themselves to be Lithuanians or Poles and did not want to go back to the Russian Army. It has not yet been cleared whether these will go back to Russia, or whether those who do not agree with Tito will go back to Yugoslavia. They are stateless people. The French Government has not changed its policy of recognizing the existence of the stateless person and their adherence to the Intergovernmental Committee. Reports were made on how much would be needed for the welfare of the Lithuanians, Russians, etc. This report on needy Russian children in France is typical of all of these groups. There are about 72 to 75,000 potentially stateless Russians, including those children who were born in France. They will be in need because they were weakened, they have to be provided with hot lunches in school, they should have two months in the country, they are sick, etc. There are 4,000 such children altogether, and for a ten months' period, a minimum of 27,600,000 francs will be needed. The Russian agencies in France will have to raise this money, and will return to the IGC if they cannot.

"As to resettlement plans for foreigners in France, those in the Army have been dealt with. Regarding civilians who were deported to Germany by the Germans, HICEM made an investigation and report. It is a report of the visit by the HICEM representative in France to authorities in France. It is not entirely reassuring, but it does give a statement." Mr. Anderson could not find the report in question.

Dr. Robinson thanked Mr. Anderson and asked for questions.

Mr. Weisman: "We learned at the last meeting of this Committee that the Italian Government has offered permanent citizenship and residence to those who came to Italy during the last year. Could we approach the French Government to make a similar arrangement for those who are still in France? The French Government also used to be willing to give those people citizenship. A number of our friends who are still in Europe had to flee to France because of religious reasons or political convictions, and many were dumped to France by the Hitler Government. They were discriminated against by the Vichy Government. This discrimination has now ceased, but their property has been put under sequestre again because they are considered as Germans."

Mr. Anderson: "I know of such cases, and my impression is that since the Vichy decrees are no longer en force, it is simply a matter of who is the owner and how to return it to him."

Mr. Weisman: "First they were deprived of their property because they were Jewish, and now because they are Germans."



Miss Biehle: "As to Mr. Weisman's first point with regard to naturalization of refugees in Italy, the Italian Government has agreed to naturalize refugees who have lived in Italy for four years and not those who came recently. The IGC will attempt to make such arrangements in other countries also."

Question: How does the French Government feel about the considerable numbers who were deported into France from Poland and other regions?

Mr. Anderson: "After this war, there will be a need for foreign labor in France, and they are a potential group of laborers."

Dr. Robinson postponed the other items on the agenda for another meeting in a week or two. If it seems necessary to elect a Vice-Chairman and a Secretary, this, the report of the Interim Committee, and the report of the Camp Committee will be discussed at some date in the near future.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

4-24-45



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE  
122 East 22 Street - Room 701  
New York 10, New York

Committee on Displaced Persons  
December 13, 1944

MINUTES OF MEETING

PRESENT:

The following agencies were represented:

American Christian Committee for Refugees  
American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
American ORT Federation  
American Relief for Czechoslovakia  
Hadassah  
HIAS-ICA Emigration Association  
Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees  
International Migration Service  
International Rescue and Relief Committee  
Labor League for Human Rights, A.F.L.  
National Council of Jewish Women  
National Refugee Service  
Polish War Relief  
Refugee Relief Trustees  
Russian Children's Welfare Society  
Selfhelp for Emigres from Central Europe  
Tolstoy Foundation  
\* Unitarian Service Committee  
\* World Student Service Fund  
YWCA, National Board                      \* War Relief Services, N.C.W.C.

PRESIDING: Dr. Leland Rex Robinson, Chairman of the Committee on Displaced Persons.

MINUTES: The minutes of the previous meeting having been circulated by mail to all members, were not read; there being no corrections or additions, they were accepted.

SUB-COMMITTEES: The Chairman reported that the Sub-Committee on Camps had held three meetings since the last meeting of the Committee and that the Interim Committee had also met three times in the period. He said that Mrs. Schauffler had been elected Chairman of the Interim Committee to serve with Mr. Sobel and Mr. O'Connor, exofficio members being Miss Larned and himself and Miss Owen as staff representative.

CAMP: Mr. Beck, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Camps, reported briefly three sessions of the group attended by representatives of 12-13 agencies. The Committee first gave consideration to the emergency refugee shelter at Fort Ontario from the standpoint of standards of operation as compared with those in other emergency camps of the world and with particular references to the effect on individual lives. As a result of this study, Mr. Beck said the Sub-Committee had prepared a resolution which it had submitted to the Interim Committee for referral to the Committee on Displaced Persons as a whole. He reported that at the third session a report had been given on the Mexican Refugee Camp by Miss Egan of the N.T.L. Catholic Welfare Conference and by two volunteers of the Haverford College International



Unit, who had done five months' field work in the Camp. Mr. Beck said that the Sub-Committee is concerned, among other questions, with that regarding the status of refugees under immigration or emigration regulations; the relationship of residents to the management; and the programs in camps. He offered to make minutes of the Sub-Committee available to members of the Displaced Persons Committee.

INTERIM: Mrs. Schauffler, Chairman of the Interim Committee, presented the Committee report. The resolution as drawn up by the Sub-Committee on Camps had been approved and was now before the Committee for action and referral to the Council. It was hoped that with the Council's backing it might be presented or discussed with the proper authorities in Washington.

Considerable discussion of the resolution followed and included difficulties presented by immigration laws and procedure in their effect on finding a way to permit application for admission to the United States for permanent residence. The resolution's wording "refugees who cannot return to their former homes" was changed to read, " \* \* \* who cannot return to their former homes because of moral and legal impossibilities."

The question was raised as to whether people who are not now homeless might be made so by a change in borders, and Mr. Beck cited the attitude of the majority of the residents of the Mexican Camp as an example, who are willing to return to their homeland if the section occupied by Russia were to be restored to Poland but not if it becomes part of Russia.

Dr. Joy, speaking on behalf of passage of the resolution, reported an interview with Mr. Travers of the Visa Division of the State Department, who said that he knew nothing about the disposition to be made of the Oswego Camp residents but assumed that the Executive Order under which they came precluded the possibility of their remaining in the United States. It was recognized that the final solution and disposition of this group would involve several departments of the government and that there might not be agreement between them.

Mr. Beck emphasized the fact that the camp residents do not know what their status is and are disturbed by this insecurity. It is difficult for them to just "sit out the duration." Many of them, he said, could have done that where they were -- in Southern Italy and might have returned to their homelands after the war. He added that there had not been a clear interpretation at the time of selection as to what the situation would ultimately be for them. This true of those at Fort Ontario as well as in the Mexican Camp. It was true that the refugees had signed a statement to the effect that they were coming only for temporary refuge and understood they could not remain after the war, but they have been signing statements so often in the last seven or eight years that it is natural that they depended upon the human attitude of the people of the United States.

Miss LaFollette asked whether or not the Committee had made any inquiry as to the status of these people in relation to our immigration laws. Mr. Beck said that an interpretation of their status was just what was needed. Miss LaFollette said she understood that they were brought here as more or less interned and could not apply for visas. Dr. Joy explained in answer that they are not here under our immigration laws, but under an Executive Order, which indicated that they were to leave the country. To apply for immigration visas which would enable them to live here permanently, they must leave the country and make such application from a foreign country. This is the law.

Mr. Henry Muller stated that refugees in Switzerland can now apply for immigration to the United States. He thought that refugees brought to the United States should have the same right as refugees in other parts of the world, and



that our resolution should make this point clear to the authorities in Washington. He referred to the situation at Fort Ontario as being pretty tense at the moment; that the refugees were rather dissatisfied with conditions there. The reason for this atmosphere, he felt, was largely the fact that they do not know what will happen to them in the future; that if they knew that they had to stay there only for a limited period of time, they would gladly bear all hardships. Therefore, he felt that there was an urgent need that this Committee do something for them and he heartily endorsed that this resolution be recommended to the Council by this Committee.

Dr. Robinson asked Mr. Muller whether he wished to put his recommendation into the form of a motion. Mr. Muller did so and the motion was seconded.

Mr. Miles suggested that a small Committee be appointed to go to Washington and find out who is responsible for planning for the future of this group and what is their legal status, and report back to this Committee. He felt that we would all want these people to have the same rights as refugees in other parts of the world, but he pointed out that every step we take should be one in the right direction. Therefore, all the facts should be secured first. Dr. Robinson replied it was his understanding that our Committee on Camps had a good deal of information. The matter would not have been submitted to us if this had not been done.

Mr. Beck wished to emphasize that the administration of the camp had been most liberal; that the Director, Mr. Smart, was a very fine person and had striven to give the residents much freedom and part in the conduct of the camps -- perhaps he had been too liberal at the outset and before the residents were ready for this responsibility. This situation would arise in any camp anywhere in the world. The administration could not have prevented these problems.

Dr. Chamberlain pointed out that refugees in Switzerland had every right to make application for visas but that it was not an analogous situation. He stated that there were very serious legal difficulties involved in find a solution for this group; to get permission for persons in this country to make application for a visa is something we have been working for for many years and never succeeded in getting. The important point is that there is no way in the statute under which a person, whether in camp or not, can apply for entry into the United States. He suggested, therefore, that a group from this Committee go to Washington informally to investigate the situation. Dr. Chamberlain felt that the use of the phrase "to make representations to the government" was unwise; that the resolution might better read, "to explore the situation with the government."

Mr. Asofsky replied that the members of the Committee on Camps took this into consideration. There are people here who are visitors but they are permitted to apply for pre-examination of their papers and then were allowed to go to Canada to apply for their visas. He suggested that we request that those who have very near relatives in the United States or who took steps toward immigration before, if their papers are found satisfactory, be permitted to go to Canada to apply for a visa.

Mrs. Schauffler said she thought that the Committee on Camps wanted just that informal exploration of the problem which Dr. Chamberlain had suggested but with the full blessing of the Council.

Mr. Asofsky elaborated this point, saying that such exploration would carry out the spirit of the resolution.



Dr. Robinson said there was a motion on the floor and asked if there was further discussion.

Mr. Beck stated that the Sub-Committee on Camps had carefully considered the wording but that it did not have the right to make any representation, formal or informal; and that even the Committee on Displaced Persons probably would not make any without the approval of the Council.

The suggestion was made that "exploration" be substituted for "representation," and Dr. Chamberlain approved of this, adding that the matter should be gone into more fully before a resolution was presented to the Council.

It was reported that Mr. Asofsky and another member of the Committee had had a conference with a representative of the War Relocation Authority last summer, in which it was suggested that the WRA would welcome action by interested agencies. It was Mr. Asofsky's opinion that if the Council approached the authorities in Washington, it could accomplish much more than a Sub-Committee on Camps.

Dr. Robinson asked for Dr. Chamberlain's reaction to the Committee on Displaced Persons' asking the Council whether it would endorse a further exploration of this problem by Mr. Beck and his colleagues, acting for the Council, but acting only to inquire what could be done by voluntary agencies. Mr. Beck could then come to the Council at the next meeting and bring the findings of his Committee. Dr. Chamberlain approved of that, especially that the Committee should come before the Council with as much more information as a result of exploration.

Mr. Beck, however, did not see how the exploration could be carried out without the parent body knowing that this was going on and taking the responsibility for it. Dr. Chamberlain thought Mr. Beck should go to Washington for the Committee on Displaced Persons, knowing that the Council had been informed of this. Perhaps he could get a proposal and come back with it. Mr. Sobel said he did not think it made any difference either way as long as someone goes to Washington and finds out more about the situation.

Dr. Robinson called for a vote on the motion, saying that if the Council would give the "green light" this evening, Mr. Beck and his colleagues could identify themselves as representing the Council. That seemed to be the consensus of opinion. The Committee on Displaced Persons will call it to the attention of the Council and when and if Mr. Beck has a recommendation to make, he can make it directly to the Council.

Dr. Joy said he thought that the statement was well worded as it was and could be adopted as it stands because it means that if the Council approves of it, we make representation to the proper authorities on behalf of the refugees and offer the assistance of the voluntary agencies.

Mr. Miles opposed the statement as it stands, expressing fear that we would stir up the opposition, which is well known and which, he believes, is prepared to take a strong stand.

Dr. Robinson asked Mr. Muller, who made the motion, whether he wished to withdraw it in view of the discussion. Mr. Muller said he did not want to withdraw the motion since he noticed that the representatives of the Committee on Camps were silent on this, too. He declared that the Sub-Committee on Camps which has explored as much as it could should now have a certain opinion on the subject and should be able to say what kind of solution it recommends.



Mrs. Schauffler added that it was, of course, the intent of the Sub-Committee on Camps to avoid any publicity and to do only informal exploration.

Mr. Beck broke the problem down into two parts: 1. the conviction of the members of the Sub-Committee on Camps that there should be a clarification of further possibilities; and 2. the process in which they attempt to find out what to do about these convictions. He wished to know whether the Committee agreed with their general convictions submitted in the resolution.

Mr. Asofsky called attention to the fact that unless the Council does take steps, other groups will do so, which will be harmful. There is a very strong and popular group which wanted to go to Washington and which Mr. Asofsky prevented from doing so by telling them that the Council planned to take early action.

Dr. Robinson called the vote on the resolution without any of the suggested amendments. There were two negative votes -- Mr. Miles and Miss Larned. Miss LaFollette wished the fact that she did not vote recorded. Similarly, Miss Grossman did not vote.

The resolution was approved.

OTHER BUSINESS: Mrs. Schauffler, Chairman of the Interim Committee, outlined the function of the committee, explaining that the group intends to be the servant of the Committee on Displaced Persons, to sift and prepare material which should properly come before the Committee on Displaced Persons, and to receive instructions from that Committee.

She reported that prior to his leaving for France, the Interim Committee had met with Mr. Paul Anderson, asking him to make inquiries regarding policies in the handling of the problem of displaced persons.

Mrs. Schauffler presented the Interim Committee recommendation regarding the financing of projects for displaced Russians as follows: "The Committee advises the Sub-Committee on Displaced Russians to prepare a project and budget based on requests from their corresponding relief agencies in Europe; to secure adequate supporting information concerning the place of such a relief project among the general relief projects of the governments, UNRRA, Intergovernmental Committee, and private relief agencies; to present such a project to the Interim Committee, which would forward it to the proper agency with its recommendation."

Further, it was agreed by the Interim Committee that no positive action could be taken lacking more concrete information than is now available and the committee recommended that action be postponed until Mr. Anderson, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Displaced Russians, returns from France, it being understood that he will secure clarification of services and relief available for Displaced Russians.

FIELD OF DISPLACED PERSONS COMMITTEE: Mrs. Schauffler, in behalf of the Interim Committee, proposed the following as the field of the Displaced Persons Committee, and by general consent it was adopted:

1. The concern of the Committee on Displaced Persons is with those who have been displaced from their homes across national boundaries by reason of this war or by the acute political situation which gave rise to this war.
2. The term "displaced persons" embraces stateless persons and those suffering from political, religious, or racial prejudice resulting in displacement because of the political situation in the territory of their citizenship or



residence.

3. The task of the voluntary agencies begins where public agencies, who carry first responsibility, leave off, namely governments, UNRRA, Intergovernmental Committee.
4. We would facilitate their carrying out their responsibilities.
5. Our program would cover supplementary service only and for a limited period.

Mrs. Schaufler expressed her belief that the function of the voluntary agency is one of supplementation of services rendered by governmental and inter-governmental agencies and to facilitate their work and take up where they leave off as well as to initiate programs which supplement the activities of governmental bodies. She voiced a need to pool all information from the agencies and to proceed with a plan for mutual consultation. She felt that later there may be the necessity for a systematic and periodic collection of information.

Dr. Robinson asked the members of the Displaced Persons Committee to give consideration to the several proposals and suggested that members send proposals and criticisms to Miss Owen of the Council prior to the next meeting of the Committee, at which time the suggestions will be discussed in detail.

The Chairman then read the following remarks by Mr. James Brunot of the President's War Relief Control Board: "The Board has suggested to the American Council of Voluntary Agencies that, through its appropriate committee, some recommendation be made for coordinating services for refugees in liberated areas. It is our belief that a difficult situation may arise if there is not a clear understanding as to the relationship between the programs of agencies dealing with refugees in general and those dealing with refugees of particular nationalities. \* \* \* Right now the one that is foremost in my mind is the question of how the various agencies interested in various groups of displaced persons will fit themselves together; whether each agency that is interested in displaced persons of a particular nationality will, itself, attempt to provide service in each of the countries where persons of that nationality may be. Whether these agencies (in addition to the agencies which have for some time been dealing with refugees as such) will be the instruments for providing the supplementary services which I am sure American agencies are going to have to provide in that connection is a question to which I hope the Council will give earnest consideration. It is an important problem and I suspect it is going to be a difficult problem and again it may be a problem which will involve different solutions in different areas; different solutions with different groups within the same area."

Miss Owen suggested a joint meeting of the Committee on Italy with the Committee on Displaced Persons, in accordance with that paragraph in Mr. Brunot's letter referring to cooperation between those agencies dealing with displaced persons in general and those dealing with displaced persons in a particular area, and Dr. Robinson asked that such a meeting be called with the approval of the groups affected. The meeting was adjourned.



Displaced Persons

Nov 44

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, New York City

Quote from letter of November 15, 1944

Signed - James Brunot, President's War Relief Control Board

"The Board has suggested to the American Council of Voluntary Agencies that, through its appropriate committee, some recommendation be made for coordinating services for refugees in liberated areas. It is our belief that a difficult situation may arise if there is not a clear understanding as to the relationship between the programs of agencies dealing with refugees in general and those dealing with refugees of particular nationalities."

Excerpt from Mr. James Brunot's speech at the American Council meeting of November 8, 1944.

"Right now the one that is foremost in my mind is the question of how the various agencies interested in various groups of displaced persons will fit themselves together; whether each agency that is interested in displaced persons of a particular nationality will, itself, have to attempt to provide service in each of the countries where persons of that nationality may be. Whether these agencies (in addition to the agencies which have for some time been dealing with refugees as such) will be the instruments for providing the supplementary services which I am sure American agencies are going to have to provide in that connection is a question to which I hope the Council will give earnest consideration. It is an important problem and I suspect it is going to be a difficult problem and again it may be a problem which will involve different solutions in different areas; different solutions with different groups within the same area.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE  
122 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET  
NEW YORK 10, N. Y.  
ORCHARD 4-2786

JOSEPH P. CHAMBERLAIN  
CHAIRMAN

May 22, 1944

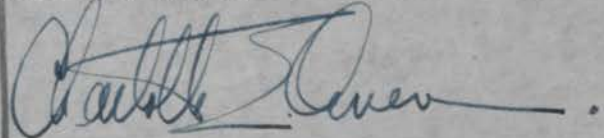
CLARENCE KING  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Mr. Harry Greenstein  
Welfare Division - UNRRA  
Ninth Floor Dupont Circle Building  
1344 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Greenstein:

At the suggestion of Dr. Leland Rex Robinson, Chairman of the Committee on Displaced Persons of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies, we have sent to you under separate cover a copy of the Report ~~to~~ of the Committee on Displaced Persons. We also enclosed a copy of this Report for Mr. Clarence Pierce.

Sincerely yours,



Charlotte E. Owen  
Assistant Executive Secretary

CEO:rr



UNRRA

Form No. AD-2

(20 June 1944)

ROUTE SLIP

*Lowell T. Berg*

Date

*Nov 29*

To

*Thomas M. Cooley #*

Room No.

~~1105~~  
*1105*

☐

Approval

☐

Comment

☐

Prepare Reply

☐

Necessary Action

☒

Note and Return

☐

Note and File

☐

Investigate

☐

Signature

☐

See Me

☐

As Requested

☐

For your  
information

☐

Per telephone  
conversation

REMARKS

*Have you  
seen this?  
Please return.  
Thanks  
TMC #*

From

*Lowell T. Berg*

Room No.

*1105*



Return to New Welfare Division

May 1, 1944

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE  
122 East 22nd Street, New York 10, New York

Report to the Committee on Displaced Persons

by its Sub-Committee on Charting of Services

Edward Kinney ) - National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services  
Edward O'Connor)  
Marjorie Page Schauffler - American Friends Service Committee  
Cecilia Razovsky Davidson - International Rescue and Relief Committee, Ex-officio  
Ruth Larned - International Migration Service, Chairman

Report on services currently rendered by member agencies of the Council to meet the needs of displaced persons.

Limitations Set. It should be emphasized at the outset that since this is a report on services to a special group, it does not cover the comprehensive programs of member agencies which are doing valuable work in war-stricken Europe, Africa and Asia; nor has it included in its charting the extensive work done in the Western Hemisphere to adjust, rehabilitate and settle the many refugees who have been uprooted in the past five to ten years and have found their way to this side of the Atlantic. Many of these have not yet found satisfactory adjustment or equal opportunity for work, and therefore, need and are receiving service and financial aid given by member agencies and others. The Committee has confined its charting mainly to areas in Europe and Asia where there are large numbers of persons who must be repatriated or resettled after the war. It has, however, included in its charting one or two colonies or groups not permanently settled in the Western Hemisphere.

It has further limited this report to currently active work, leaving to a supplementary report those services which can be made immediately available as countries are liberated or when the war ends.

Although the member agencies of the Council are at present playing a large part in the relief and rehabilitation of those who have been displaced within the borders of their own country, and undoubtedly will extend those services in the post-war period, it is assumed that indigenous official and voluntary agencies in each war-stricken country will assume primary responsibility for them, and that they may return to their



home communities with less difficulty than those who must establish their rights to cross frontiers or who suffer special disabilities as foreigners while awaiting repatriation or resettlement. Therefore, the Committee has confined its report to dislocated persons who are in a country other than their own or who have no claims on any government.

The Committee has attempted to describe services as precisely as possible, and to indicate several types of working relationships with other member agencies or with foreign agencies. The services are listed under countries grouped under two general headings:

United Nations, Neutral or Liberated Countries in: -

- a) Europe - England, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, U.S.S.R.
- b) Africa - Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Kenya, Tanganyika, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, South Africa.
- c) Asia - Turkey, Syria, Palestine, Iraq, Iran, Aden, China (Chungking)
- d) Western Hemisphere - Mexico (Leon) and B.W.I. (Jamaica)

Nazi-Occupied or Satellite Countries

Europe - Denmark, Belgium, Netherlands, France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, Hungary, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Greece.

Asia - Shanghai

The Services are described in the following terms:

1. Relief - Supplementary or Entire

- a. Soup Kitchens
- b. Milk Stations
- c. Package Service
- d. Food Centers
- e. Stocks of food, clothing, medical supplies, etc.
- f. Individual needs for maintenance clothing, medical or dental care, flight, temporary housing

2. Work Relief or Maintenance Projects

- a. Gardens
- b. Poultry Raising
- c. Sanitary Services
- d. New Industries
- e. Provision of occupational supplies

3. Health Centers: - (Clinics, Dispensaries)

- a. Medical - Care and Supplies
- b. Dental - Care and Supplies

Note: When expense of medical and dental care is met for an individual, it is included under Relief (Individual) 1-f.

4. Hygiene and Sanitary Services

- a. Preventive of epidemics
- b. Bath Houses
- c. Fumigation units



5. Day Care Centers for:

- |             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| a. Children | c. Convalescents |
| b. Aged     | d. Disabled      |

6. Children's Services

- |                                 |                       |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| a. Reception and Temporary care | c. Institutional care |
| b. Foster home placement        |                       |

7. Hostels

- a. General
- b. Convalescents

8. Temporary Housing (Congregate)

Note: Temporary Housing found or provided for individuals is included under Relief (Individual) 1-f.

9. Employment Service (Specialized and not in connection with Individual Relief Work)

- a. In community
- b. In camps

10. Vocational Service

11. Consumer and Producer Cooperatives

12. Loan Associations (free)

13. Recreational and Morale-Building Activities (group)

- a. In community
- b. In camps

14. Educational Programs

- a. In community
- b. In camps

15. Counseling (Practical or Spiritual)

- a. In community
- b. In camps

16. Migration Services

- a. Advice and help on securing documents; passports, visas, exit and residence permits, etc.
- b. Transportation and baggage
- c. Financial Assistance given for expenses incident to travel, or maintenance pending departure or en route
- d. International Correspondence on Migration plans.

17. Transmission of Funds on behalf of relatives and friends

18. Inquiry and Location Service for missing relatives



19. Case Work  
a. International  
b. Local

Note: Indicates more than is implied in international correspondence on migration technicalities (16-D) or inquiry for relatives with whom contact has been lost (18) advisory and informational service (15). See note\* below for definition of Case Work as used for purposes of this report.

20. War Prisoners, Work With

21. Representation of Stateless or Special Groups of foreign displaced persons to Government Authorities

\*Note: Case Work implies personnel equipped with skills acquired through professional study and practice in helping people who are in trouble. As differentiated from service covered by the term counseling, it is needed in situations where the causes of the difficulty of the possible far-reaching effects of a hastily conceived plan of action need to be identified and considered with the person involved if adjustment of the problem or sound planning is to be expected. In international case work, such work needs to be done in two or more countries and the planning integrated.

Functioning Relationships with Other Agencies

Member agencies have in some areas worked out joint financial responsibility for one office which serves several agencies. In some instances, there is a staff representing several agencies. In other instances relief funds are supplied for a particular category of persons known to one member agency, but the servicing is done by another member agency already in the area where it is to be distributed.

In many instances programs are carried by foreign agencies closely associated through long contact or organizational ties to member agencies. This work is sometimes financed in whole or in part by a member agency; sometimes it is planned and supervised without financial assistance. In some instances consultative service is given by member agencies through field visitation.



The Committee has attempted to identify these varying forms of relationship, believing that the use of agencies or committees indigenous to the foreign country to which American Agencies can contribute both financial help and physical vitality in this difficult time is in keeping with our common objective not to establish purely American work where local and national agencies in foreign countries can carry on or resume their work with some help.

In many occupied areas work which was existent before the war is being continued, either on funds left in the country by member agencies at the time of forced withdrawal, or else "on credit" of American agencies.

These various types of relationship are indicated in the summary of the charting by the capital letter preceding the type of relationship described below.

#### Associated Relationships

- A. Where work is carried by an associated agency but is planned, supervised and financed (in whole or in part) by a member agency.
- B. Where work is carried by an associated agency with funds supplied and controlled by a member agency but without planning and supervision of the work through its own personnel.

A member agency frequently avails itself of the services of another member agency in areas where it does not have an office of its own or for specialized services which another agency may be equipped to give.

Where an office is financed and/or staffed by two or more member agencies it is listed as a joint undertaking, indicated by (J).



The member agencies which have signified to the Committee that they have programs serving dislocated persons in considerable number are:

American Committee for Christian Refugees  
American Friends Service Committee  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
Congregational Christian Service Committee  
HIAS (Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society)  
International Migration Service  
International Rescue and Relief Committee  
National Catholic Welfare Conference - War Relief Services  
OET (Organization for Rehabilitation through Training)  
Unitarian Service Committee  
Young Women's Christian Association  
Young Men's Christian Association  
Hadassah



CHARTING OF SERVICES TO DISPLACED PERSONS  
BY COUNTRIES. INDICATING TYPES OF SERVICE GIVEN BY MEMBER AGENCIES

In United Nations, Neutral or Liberated Countries

a.) Europe

ENGLAND

Relief to individuals	N.C.W.C. C.C.S.C. A.C.C.R. (A)* J. D. C. (B)** U. S. C. (A)*
Health Centres in both community and camps)	
Children's Services )	N.C.W.C.
Temporary Housing )	
Employment Service )	
Counseling	N.C.W.C. C.C.S.C.
Hostels )	A.C.C.R. (A)*
Educational Programs in community and camps)	
Migration Services	H.I.A.S. (A)* U. S. C. (A)*

Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S. - War Relief Services, National Catholic Welfare Conference  
C.C.S.C. - Congregational Christian Service Committee  
A.C.C.R. - American Committee for Christian Refugees  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
H.I.A.S. - Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society

\*(A) Where work is carried by an associated agency but is planned, supervised and financed, (in whole or in part) by a member agency.

\*\* (B) Where work is carried by an associated agency with funds supplied and controlled by a member agency but without planning and supervision of the work through its own personnel.



Europe

PORTUGAL

Relief to individuals

A.F.S.C.  
H.I.A.S.  
J. D. C.  
W.R.S.-N.C.W.C.  
U. S. C. (CCSC Provides one staff member)

Note: I.R.R.C. provides funds for evacuation expenses of refugees known to them through U. S. C.

Children's Services

A.F.S.C. In re selection and moving convoys of children to U. S.  
J. D. C. Reception and temporary care of child refugees

Recreational Program

A.F.S.C.  
J. D. C.  
U. S. C.

Migration Services  
a, b, c, d.

A.F.S.C.  
H.I.A.S. Individuals as differentiated from J. D. C.  
J. D. C. Group and large-scale movement and relief to refugees  
W.R.S.-N.C.W.C.  
U. S. C.

Transmission of funds on behalf of relatives or friends

A.F.S.C.  
H.I.A.S.

Inquiry Service

A.F.S.C.  
H.I.A.S.  
J. D. C.  
U. S. C.

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.	- National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services
A.F.S.C.	- American Friends Service Committee
H.I.A.S.	- Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society
J. D. C.	- Joint Distribution Committee
U. S. C.	- Unitarian Service Committee
C.C.S.C.	- Congregational Christian Service Committee
I.R.R.C.	- International Rescue and Relief Committee



Europe

PORTUGAL (Con't.)

Case Work  
a and b

A.F.S.C.  
U. S. C.  
H.I.A.S.

Representation of Stateless or Special  
Groups of foreign dislocated persons to  
Government Authorities

J. D. C.  
H.I.A.S.

Note: These services cover several areas in Portugal.

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:  
A.F.S.C. - American Friends Service Committee  
U. S. C. - Unitarian Service Committee  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
H.I.A.S. - Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society



a.) Europe

SPAIN

Relief	
Package Service	A.F.S.C., J.D.C., N.C.W.C. (Jointly)
Individual Needs	
Madrid:	A.F.S.C., H.I.A.S., J.D.C. (Jointly) N.C.W.C., U.S.C. )
Barcelona:	J. D. C. H.I.A.S.
Children's Services	A.F.S.C.)(Jointly) Selection and arrangements J. D. C.) for children proceeding to the U. S.
Counseling Service in community and camps )	A.F.S.C., H.I.A.S., J.D.C., N.C.W.C., U.S.C.
Migration Services )	(Jointly)
Representation of Stateless to Officials* )	
<p>*Note: The refugees in Spain who had no government to act for their protection, could not have remained even in temporary status without assumption of responsibility on the part of private agencies.</p>	
Transmission of Funds	A.F.S.C. H.I.A.S. I.R.R.C.
Inquiry Service	A.F.S.C., H.I.A.S., N.C.W.C., U.S.C. (Jointly)

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.	- National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services
A.F.S.C.	- American Friends Service Committee
J. D. C.	- Joint Distribution Committee
H.I.A.S.	- Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society
U. S. C.	- Unitarian Service Committee
I.R.R.C.	- International Rescue and Relief Committee



a.) Europe

SWITZERLAND

Relief

Individual Needs

A.F.S.C.  
I.R.R.C.  
U. S. C.  
J. D. C. (A)\*  
A.C.C.R. (B)\*\*  
C.C.S.C. (B)\*\*  
N.C.W.C. (A)\*

Work Relief and Maintenance

Projects

Organization of New  
Industries

O. R. T.  
A.C.C.R. (B)\*\*  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

Day Care Centers

for Children, Aged,  
Convalescents

J. D. C. (A)\*

Children's Services

Colonies

Reception, care and place-  
ment of child refugees

J. D. C. (A)\*

I. M. S.

Hostels

A.F.S.C., I.R.R.C., U.S.C. (Jointly)  
J. D. C. (A)\*  
A.C.C.R. (B)\*\*  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

Vocational Service

I.R.R.C.  
O. R. T.  
J. D. C. (A)\*  
A.C.C.R. (B)\*\*  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.- National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services  
A.F.S.C. - American Friends Service Committee  
I.R.R.C. - International Rescue and Relief Committee  
U. S. C. - Unitarian Service Committee  
A.C.C.R. - American Committee for Christian Refugees  
C.C.S.C. - Congregational Christian Service Committee  
O. R. T. - Organization for Rehabilitation through training  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
I. M. S. - International Migration Service  
Y.M.C.A. - Young Men's Christian Association

(A)\* Where work is carried by an associated agency, but is planned, supervised and financed (in whole or in part) by a member agency.

(B)\*\* Where work is carried by an associated agency with funds supplied and controlled by a member agency but without planning and supervision of the work through its own personnel.



a.) Europe

SWITZERLAND (Con't.)

Recreational Program  
In Community and Camps

J. D. C. (A)\*  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

In Camps only

O. R. T.  
U. S. C.

Educational Programs  
In Camps

O. R. T.  
U. S. C.  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*  
C.C.S.C. (B)\*\*  
J. D. C. (A)\*  
N.C.W.C. (A)\*

Counseling

A.F.S.C.  
I. M. S.  
I.R.R.C.  
U. S. C.  
J. D. C. (A)\*  
A.C.C.R. (B)\*\*  
C.C.S.C. (B)\*\*

Migration Services

A.F.S.C.  
H.I.A.S.  
I. M. S. (with exception of relief)  
I.R.R.C.  
U. S. C.  
J. D. C. (A)\*  
A.C.C.R. (B)\*\*

Note: Although migration from Switzerland is not possible at the present time, the agencies listed above are equipped to give advice and are currently cooperating on documentation of refugees in camps as essential to adequate post-war service. The I.M.S. is giving leadership to a special project which would aim to classify and analyze the data to make it useful to both private and official agencies. The project has the approval of the Swiss Government.

Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.-National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services  
J. D. C. -Joint Distribution Committee  
O. R. T. -Organization for Rehabilitation through training  
U. S. C. -Unitarian Service Committee  
C.C.S.C. -Congregational Christian Service Committee  
A.F.S.C. -American Friends Service Committee  
I. M. S. -International Migration Service  
I.R.R.C. -International Rescue and Relief Committee  
A.C.C.R. -American Committee for Christian Refugees  
H.I.A.S. -Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society  
Y.M.C.A. -Young Men's Christian Association

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a.) Europe

SWITZERLAND (Con't.)

Transmission of Funds	A.F.S.C. H.I.A.S. By Special License I. M. S. " " " I.R.R.C.
Inquiry Service	A.F.S.C. H.I.A.S. I. M. S. I.R.R.C. J. D. C. U. S. C. A.C.C.R. (B)**
Case Work Local and International (to the extent possible)	A.F.S.C. I. M. S. H.I.A.S.
Work with War Prisoners	N.C.W.C. Y.M.C.A. (A)*

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.	- National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services
A.F.S.C.	- American Friends Service Committee
H.I.A.S.	- Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society
I. M. S.	- International Migration Service
I.R.R.C.	- International Rescue and Relief Committee
J. D. C.	- Joint Distribution Committee
U. S. C.	- Unitarian Service Committee
A.C.C.R.	- American Committee for Christian Refugees
Y.M.C.A.	- Young Men's Christian Association

(B)\*\* Where work is carried by an associated agency with funds supplied and controlled by a member agency but without planning and supervision of the work through its own personnel.

(A)\* Where work is carried by an associated agency, but is planned, supervised and financed (in whole or in part) by a member agency.



Europe

SWEDEN

Relief	
Individual Needs	I.R.R.C. J. D. C. (A)*
Health Services	
Vocational Services	J. D. C. (A)*
Loan Association	
Counseling	
In Community	I.R.R.C.
Migration Service	H.I.A.S. I.R.R.C.
Inquiry Service	H.I.A.S.
Transmission of Funds	A.F.S.C. I.R.R.C.

U.S.S.R.

Relief	H.I.A.S.
Package Service	J. D. C.
General	J. D. C. (through Russian Red Cross)

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:  
I.R.R.C. - International Rescue and Relief Committee  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
H.I.A.S. - Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society  
A.F.S.C. - American Friends Service Committee

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b.) Africa

MOROCCO. ALGERIA. TUNISIA

Relief	
Individual Needs	A.F.S.C. J. D. C.
Work Relief and Maintenance Projects	
Organization of New Industries	O. R. T.
Provision of occupational supplies	A.F.S.C. O. R. T.
Health Services	
In Community	N.C.W.C. J. D. C. (A)*
Hygiene and Sanitation Service	N.C.W.C. J. D. C. (A)*
Day Care Centers	N.C.W.C.
Children's Services	N.C.W.C. J. D. C. (A)*
Hostels	
General and convalescents	A.F.S.C.
Employment Services	
In Community and Camps	A.F.S.C. J. D. C. (A)*
Loan Associations	J. D. C. (A)*

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.	- National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services
A.F.S.C.	- American Friends Service Committee
J. D. C.	- Joint Distribution Committee
O. R. T.	- Organization for Rehabilitation through Training
H.I.A.S.	- Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society

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b.) Africa

MOROCCO, ALGERIA, TUNISIA (con't.)

Vocational Service	N.C.W.C. J. D. C. (A)* O. R. T. (A)*
Recreational Programs) Educational Programs	N.C.W.C. J. D. C. (A)*
Counseling	A.F.S.C. I. M. S. J. D. C.
Migration Services	A.F.S.C. H.I.A.S. I. M. S. (with exception of relief) J. D. C.
Transmission of Funds (Individual)	A.F.S.C. H.I.A.S.
Inquiry Service	A.F.S.C. H.I.A.S. I. M. S. J. D. C.
Case Work Local and International	I. M. S.
Work with War Prisoners	N.C.W.C. Y.W.C.A.
Representation of Stateless to Officials	A.F.S.C. H.I.A.S.

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Footnote:      Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.	- National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services
A.F.S.C.	- American Friends Service Committee
I. M. S.	- International Migration Service
J. D. C.	- Joint Distribution Committee
H.I.A.S.	- Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society
Y.W.C.A.	- Young Women's Christian Association

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b.) Africa

EGYPT

Recreational Programs  
In Community and Camps

N.C.W.C.  
Y.M.C.A.

In Camps only

A.F.S.C.

Educational Programs     )  
Counseling in Camps Only)

A.F.S.C.

NORTHERN AND SOUTHERN RHODESIA, SOUTH AFRICA

Recreational Programs  
In Community and Camps

N.C.W.C.  
Y.M.C.A.     (A)\*

Vocational Service

O. R. T.     (A)\*  
Y.M.C.A.     (A)\*

Relief (Island of Mauritius)

J. D. C.     (B)\*\*

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Footnote:     Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S. - National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services  
A.F.S.C.         - American Friends Service Committee  
O. R. T.         - Organization for Rehabilitation through Training  
J. D. C.         - Joint Distribution Committee  
Y.M.C.A.         - Young Men's Christian Association

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c.) Asia

TURKEY

Relief		
Individual needs	Y.W.C.A. I.R.R.C. J. D. C.	(A)*
Recreational Programs In camps	U.W.C.A.	
<u>In Smyrna</u>		
Counseling In camps	Y.W.C.A.	
Migration Service	I.R.R.C. J. D. C.	(A)*

SYRIA

Vocational Service	Y.W.C.A. Y.M.C.A.	(A)*
Recreational Programs	Y.W.C.A. Y.M.C.A.	(A)*
Counseling Community and Camps	Y.W.C.A. Y.M.C.A.	(A)*

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:  
Y.W.C.A. - Young Women's Christian Association  
I.R.R.C. - International Rescue and Relief Committee  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
Y.M.C.A. - Young Men's Christian Association

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c.) Asia

PALESTINE

Relief	J. D. C.
Stocks of Food, clothing, medical supplies	N.C.W.C.
	Hadassah
	Y.M.C.A. (A)*
Work Relief or Maintenance Projects	
Gardens, Poultry raising, New Industries,	Hadassah
Provision of occupational supplies	
Hygiene and Sanitary Services	
Preventive of epidemics, Bath Houses	Hadassah
Day Care Centres for Convalescents	Hadassah
Children's Services	
Reception and temporary care	Hadassah
Institutional care	
Temporary Housing )	
Employment Service (community and camps) )	
Vocational Service )	
Loan Associations (free) )	Hadassah
Recreational and Morale-Building Activities )	
(Community and camps) )	
Case Work (International and Local) )	
Counseling (community and camps) )	
Representation of Stateless or Special )	
Groups to Government Authorities )	
Educational Programs	
In community	J. D. C.
	H.I.A.S.
In community and camps	Hadassah
Migration Services	
Advice and help in securing documents	
International correspondence on Migration Plans	Hadassah

IRAN AND IRAQ

Relief	J. D. C.
Recreational Programs (Community and Camps)	N.C.W.C.
	Y.M.C.A. (A)*

ADEN

Relief )	
Hygiene and Sanitation Service )	J. D. C.
Migration Service )	

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee

N.C.W.C. - W.R.S. - National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services

H.I.A.S. - Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

Y.M.C.A. - Young Men's Christian Association

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c.) Asia

CHINA

CHUNGKING

Relief	
Individual needs	N.C.W.C.
Work Relief, Health Centers, Hostels)	
Vocational Services, Morale-Building )	Y.M.C.A. (A)*
Activities, Work with War Prisoners)	

SHANGHAI

Relief	
Soup kitchens	A.C.C.R.--Jointly with J.D.C.
To individuals	J. D. C. (A)* on credit of JDC
Counseling	A.C.C.R. (A)*
	J. D. C. (A)*
Vocational Service	O. R. T. (A)* on credit of ORT
Migration Service	H.I.A.S.
Work Relief )	
Health Centers )	
Hostels )	Y.M.C.A. (A)*
Vocational Service )	
Recreation and Morale Building )	

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Footnote:      Agencies referred to by letter:

Y.M.C.A.	- Young Men's Christian Association
J. D. C.	- Joint Distribution Committee
N.C.W.C.-W.R.S.	- National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services.
A.C.C.R.	- American Committee for Christian Refugees
O. R. T.	- Organization for Rehabilitation through Training
H.I.A.S.	- Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society

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d.) Western Hemisphere

MEXICO Leon (Polish Refugee Camp)

Educational Programs  
Recreational Programs

N.C.W.C.

BRITISH WEST INDIES

JAMAICA

Relief

J. D. C. (A)\*

Counseling

J. D. C. (A)\*

Work with War Prisoners (Civil)

Y.M.C.A.

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

N.C.W.C.-W.R.S. - National Catholic Welfare Conference, War Relief Services  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
Y.M.C.A. - Young Men's Christian Association

(A)\* Where work is carried by an associated agency, but is planned, supervised and financed (in whole or in part) by a member agency.



Axis, Occupied and Satellite Countries

Note: These countries are listed because Member Agencies had set up services for displaced persons in these areas before the entry of the United States into the war made it necessary for them to withdraw. It is known even though there is no communication with former associates that these services have been carried on in two ways:

- (1) By staff members who remained because they were citizens of the particular country and they found the way to carry them on, or,
- (2) Because member agencies before they withdrew were able to establish credit on which trusted associated agencies indigenous to the particular country could draw.

As countries are liberated or occupied by the United Nations armies, these services can be augmented and strengthened without loss of time in organizing.

In other countries of this group, services were discontinued for the duration, but the agencies expect to resume them, and it is hoped will find Committee and Staff members who will have survived the war and be able to reorganize their work if supplemented by funds and assistance from more fortunate countries. However, this will be charted in a separate report together with new projects already planned and budgeted by the Member Agencies.



Axis Countries (con't.)

FRANCE, including Paris, Lyon, Marseilles and scattered refugee camps.

Relief

Soup Kitchens

A.F.S.C. (A)\* On credit  
O.R. T. (A)\* " "  
J. D. C. (A)\*

Individual Needs

A.F.S.C. (A)\* " "  
J. D. C. (A)\* " "  
A.C.C.R. (B)\*\* " "  
I.R.R.C.) Funds provided for IMS  
U.S.C. ) to administer to a  
special group.  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

Work Relief

Gardens

A.F.S.C. (A)\*  
O. R. T. (A)\*  
U. S. C. (A)\*  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

Poultry Raising

A.F.S.C.  
O. T. T.  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

New Industries

I.R.R.C. (A)\*  
A.F.S.C. (A)\*  
U. S. C. (A)\*

Health Centers

J. D. C. (A)\*  
U. S. C. (A)\*  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

Day Care Centers

For children, aged and convalescents J. D. C. (A)\*

Children's Services

A.F.S.C. (A)\*  
J. D. C. (A)\*

Hostels

J. D. C. (A)\*  
Y.M.C.A. (A)\*

Footnote:

Agencies referred to by letter:

- A.F.S.C. - American Friends Service Committee
- O. R. T. - Organization for Rehabilitation through Training
- J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee
- A.C.C.R. - American Committee for Christian Refugees
- I.R.R.C. - International Rescue and Relief Committee
- U. S. C. - Unitarian Service Committee
- Y.M.C.A. - Young Men's Christian Association

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Axis Countries (Con't.)

FRANCE (Con't.)

Vocational Services	O. R. T. (A)* Y.M.C.A. (A)*
Loan Associations	J. D. C. (A)*
Recreational Programs	A.F.S.C. (A)* Y.M.C.A. (A)*
Educational Programs In Communities	O. R. T. (A)* U. S. C. (A)*
In Communities and Camps	Y.M.C.A. (A)*
In Camps only	A.F.S.C. (A)* J. D. C. (A)*
Counseling	I.M.S. (Paris, Lyon, Marseilles) A.F.S.C. (A)* J. D. C. (A)* Y.M.C.A. (A)*
Migration Services	I. M. S. (with exception of relief) (Paris, Lyon, Marseilles) H.I.A.S.
With exception of international correspondence	I.R.R.C. (A)* U. S. C. (A)*

Note: Although no migration is possible at the moment, the dossiers on all the refugees whose migration plans were arrested, are in the files of the agencies and services incidental to a temporary and illegal status within a foreign country are constantly offered. It seemed well, therefore, to list the agencies equipped to give these incidental services as well as to resume full service at earliest opportunity.

Inquiry Service	I. M. S. for the International Committee of the Red Cross
Case Work Local International (suspended)	I. M. S.
Work with War and Civil Prisoners	Y.M.C.A.

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:  
O. R. T. - Organization for Rehabilitation through Training  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
A.F.S.C. - American Friends Service Committee  
U. S. C. - Unitarian Service Committee  
I. M. S. - International Migration Service  
I.R.R.C. - International Rescue and Relief Committee  
H.I.A.S. - Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society  
Y.M.C.A. - Young Men's Christian Association

(A)\* Where work is carried by an associated agency but is planned, supervised and financed (In whole or in part) by a member agency.



Occupied Countries (continued)

DENMARK

Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit

BELGIUM

Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit

NETHERLANDS

Package Service	J. D. C.
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit

GERMANY

Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Work with War and Civil Prisoners	Y.M.C.A.

AUSTRIA

Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit

POLAND

Package Service	J. D. C.
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Vocational	O. R. T. (A)* on credit
Work with War Prisoners	Y.M.C.A.

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:  
J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
O. R. T. - Organization for Rehabilitation through Training  
Y.M.C.A. - Young Men's Christian Association

(A)\* Where work is carried by an associated agency, but is planned, supervised and financed (in whole or in part) by a member agency.



Occupied Countries (continued)

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Package Service	J. D. C.
Counseling	J. D. C.
Work Relief )	
Recreational Programs )	O. R. T. (A)* on credit
Educational Programs )	

ITALY

Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
	I.R.R.C. (A)* on credit
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
	I.R.R.C. (A)* on credit

GREECE

Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit

BULGARIA

Migration Service	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Vocational Service	O. R. T. (A)* on credit

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:

J. D. C. - Joint Distribution Committee

O. R. T. - Organization for Rehabilitation through Training

I.R.R.C. - International Rescue and Relief Committee

(A)\* Where work is carried by an associated agency, but is planned, supervised and financed (in whole or in part) by a member agency.



Occupied Countries (continued)

RUMANIA

Work Relief	}	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Provision of Occupational Supplies		
Relief		
Food Stocks		
Counseling	}	
Vocational Service		O. R. T. (A)* on credit
Migration Service to groups		J. D. C. (A)* on credit

YUGOSLAVIA

Package Service	J. D. C.
Relief	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Migration Service	J. D. C. (A)* on credit

ALBANIA

Relief	}	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling		

HUNGARY

Relief	)	J. D. C. (A)* on credit
Counseling		
Vocational Service		J. D. C. (A)* on credit O. R. T. (A)* on credit
Migration Service For groups		J. D. C. (A)* on credit

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Footnote: Agencies referred to by letter:  
J.D.C. - Joint Distribution Committee  
O.R.T. - Organization for Rehabilitation through Training

(A)\* Where work is carried by an associated agency, but is planned, supervised and financed (in whole or in part) by a member agency.



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.

*To provide a means for consultation, coordination and planning so that relief and reconstruction programs may be carried on in the most effective way.*

122 EAST TWENTY-SECOND STREET

NEW YORK 10, N. Y.

ORCHARD 4-2786

March 20, 1945

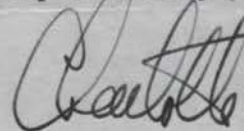
W- Mr. Max Silverstein  
UNRRA - Welfare Division  
1109 Dupont Circle Building  
1344 Connecticut Avenue  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Max:

Thank you very much for your letter about Dr. Neville Goodman.

We have had him in mind and had hoped to ask him to address a meeting of the Committee on Displaced Persons early in April. I regret that it will probably not be possible to make use of him while he is here in New York, March 23-28. <sup>However,</sup> Anything can happen and even before you get this letter I may have telephoned Miss Sawyer in an attempt to slate him for a meeting.

Very sincerely yours,



Charlotte E. Owen  
Executive Director

CEO/rr

14913

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FLORENCE M. DIESKOW, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



17 March 1945

Miss Charlotte Owen  
122 E. 22 St.  
New York 10, N. Y.

Dear Charlotte:

I have been informed that Dr. Neville Goodman, now at the Washington office, is going to be in New York from 23 March through the 28th. He is a crackerjack speaker, is Deputy Director of the Health Division in the European Regional Office, has done a lot of work on the health aspects of the Displaced Persons program, and has spent a considerable time in Sweden recently and knows the situation there with regard to relief and rehabilitation plans for Europe.

I thought that perhaps you might want to make use of him while he is in New York. He can be contacted by writing to Miss Olive L. Sawyer, Office of Public Information, at UNRRA headquarters.

Sincerely yours,

Max Silverstein

SILVERSTEIN:src



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF VOLUNTARY AGENCIES FOR FOREIGN SERVICE, INC.  
122 East 22 Street, Room 701 - New York 10, New York

RESOLUTION REGARDING DISPLACED PERSONS

For Transmittal to Mr. Earl G. Harrison, Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, and Mr. William L. Clayton, Assistant Secretary of State, United States Department of State, - unanimously voted by the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, Inc. in a meeting held on July 18, 1945.

BE IT RESOLVED

That it is the sense of the Council that no person under the jurisdiction of the United States, or of its military forces, should be obliged to return to his country of nationality or former residence, in case he has reason for believing that on his return he will be subjected to oppression or discrimination because of race, religion, political views or activities.

Funds given to the UNRRA for repatriation should not be used to repatriate such persons against their will.

Any such compulsory return would be contrary to the principles of the freedom of the individual and of humanity and to the sentiment of our people.

The Council trusts that the United States will follow to the full the implications of this policy, both in its domestic regulations and in the administration of territories under its control or the control of the military forces, and that it will seek the cooperation of other United Nations in making effective this policy.

The UNRRA and the IGO, each within its respective jurisdiction, should make provision for the support of such persons on the same terms as other displaced persons or refugees under their respective jurisdictions.

7/25/45