

AMERICAN RED CROSS

Bureau of Supply
Office of the Chief
Room 632 a Bldg. A
Cabinet # 1417
Drawer # 2
American Red Cross

25 April 1945

Mr. Philip Ryan
American Red Cross
National Headquarters
Washington 13, D. C.

Dear Phil:

This is in reply to your memorandum of 21 April about the provision of certain supplies by the American Red Cross to the Yugoslav Red Cross, and will confirm our telephone conversation of this morning.

I have discussed this matter with Mr. Hendrickson, of our Bureau of Supply, and we see no objection to the provision of the supplemental supplies enumerated in your memorandum for the Yugoslav Red Cross, assuming that provision for shipment can be arranged under the plans which you indicate. As I told you, Mr. Hendrickson pointed out that to date it has not proved possible to move supplies inland to Belgrade from the Dalmatian Coast and that the Military has only been able to move supplies to the interior of Yugoslavia to a maximum distance of some 150 miles.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh R. Jackson
Deputy Director General

HRJ:ld

C O P Y

Memorandum to Mr. Hugh Jackson

April 21, 1945

In accordance with our telephone conversation, I am summarizing the request which has just come to us from the Yugoslav Red Cross through James B. Foley, the Deputy Director of Civilian War Relief for the Red Cross in the Mediterranean area, who has just returned from Belgrad to Naples.

Mr. Foley states that UNRRA is planning to meet the basic needs and that the request which he is submitting represents supplementary needs of the Yugoslav Red Cross. The list submitted includes the following items: 5,000 layettes, 2 ambulances; 5,000 sheets; 5,000 blankets; clothing, shoes and vitamin tablets for 350,000 children; 1,000 medical kits (these are standard kits developed by the American Junior Red Cross for use in children's institutions); 4,000 surgical gowns; 144 hair clippers; 20,000 tooth brushes; 100,000 tubes of toothpaste.

Mr. Foley states that he has visited all of the civilian hospitals and clinics in the Belgrad area, and also the reception and holding centres for refugee children. From his survey of the needs, he believes this request is moderate, and recommends favorable consideration.

We are in a position to furnish immediately most of the items requested, with the possible exception of the shoes, and we are favorably inclined toward meeting this request from our sister society, since it represents supplementary needs of the Yugoslav Red Cross, over and above the basic requirements of the country, which we assume are to be met by the Yugoslav Government and UNRRA. It is assumed that the Yugoslav Red Cross could make provision with its government for the allocation of the space necessary for the shipment of such supplies as we may be able to furnish.

It is my understanding that before giving us any comments on this proposal, you wish to discuss it with your representatives who have just returned from Yugoslavia. I shall look forward to a call from you on Tuesday next.

Philip E. Ryan

UNRRA INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: D. Weintraub **DATE** 30th May 1945

FROM: A. Cairns

SUBJECT: Red Cross Parcels in Switzerland

Following our conversation last night I got in touch with Miss Hodell this morning. She explained that the reason for Silverman's telephone message to you yesterday is that the Surplus Property Disposal Board may change its regulations to-day or to-morrow and that if it does the War Refugee Board will no longer be free to dispose of the packages to us. Accordingly, we have prepared for your signature the attached letter to O'Dwyer. I promised Miss Hodell that we would deliver it to her by hand this morning.

Attachment



(COPY)

(COPY)

AMERICAN RED CROSS

National Headquarters
Washington 13, D.C.

May 1, 1945

LC 8/4
File
Mr. Hendrickson
832

Mr. Hugh R. Jackson
Deputy Director General
United Nations Relief and
Rehabilitation Administration
1344 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jackson:

As Phil Ryan is engrossed in last minute preparation for his departure for the Philippines, he has asked that I acknowledge and thank you for your letter of April 25th regarding the provision of certain supplies by the American Red Cross for the Yugoslav Red Cross.

We note that you have discussed this matter with Mr. Hendrickson in your Bureau of Supply and that you see no objection to our undertaking the provision of those supplemental supplies which we have enumerated to you for the Yugoslav Red Cross, provided that adequate arrangements can be made for the shipment and transportation of these supplies in Yugoslavia. We are therefore proceeding on the requisition of the supplies requested by the Yugoslav Red Cross and will be glad to advise you further when these supplies go forward as to the arrangements that have been made for their transportation and distribution.

Sincerely yours,

/s/

G. R. More
Deputy Director
Civilian Relief
Insular and Foreign Operations

Copy of correspondence sent
to *Borders*
Bornell
West
Sollins
Hyers
Gold
Caeris
McClellan

8/4

LC 8

(C O P Y)

(C O P Y)

UNITED NATIONS
RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

1344 Connecticut Avenue
Washington 25, D. C.

25 April 1945

Mr. Philip Ryan
American Red Cross
National Headquarters
Washington 13, D. C.

Dear Phil:

This is in reply to your memorandum of 21 April about the provision of certain supplies by the American Red Cross to the Yugoslav Red Cross, and will confirm our telephone conversation of this morning.

I have discussed this matter with Mr. Hendrickson, of our Bureau of Supply, and we see no objection to the provision of the supplemental supplies enumerated in your memorandum for the Yugoslav Red Cross, assuming that provision for shipment can be arranged under the plans which you indicate. As I told you, Mr. Hendrickson pointed out that to date it has not proved possible to move supplies inland to Belgrade from the Dalmatian Coast and that the Military has only been able to move supplies to the interior of Yugoslavia to a maximum distance of some 150 miles.

Sincerely yours,

Hugh R. Jackson
Deputy Director General

HRJ:ld

CC: Hendrickson
Van Hynning

(COPY)

(COPY)

Memorandum to Mr. Hugh Jackson

April 21, 1945

In accordance with our telephone conversation, I am summarizing the request which has just come to us from the Yugoslav Red Cross through James B. Foley, the Deputy Director of Civilian War Relief for the Red Cross in the Mediterranean area, who has just returned from Belgrad to Naples.

Mr. Foley states that UNRRA is planning to meet the basic needs and that the request which he is submitting represents supplementary needs of the Yugoslav Red Cross. The list submitted includes the following items: 5,000 layettes; 2 ambulances; 5,000 sheets; 5,000 blankets; clothing, shoes and vitamin tablets for 350,000 children; 1,000 medical kits (these are standard kits developed by the American Junior Red Cross for use in children's institutions); 4,000 surgical gowns; 144 hair clippers; 20,000 tooth brushes; 100,000 tubes of toothpaste.

Mr. Foley states that he has visited all of the civilian hospitals and clinics in the Belgrad area, and also the reception and holding centres for refugee children. From his survey of the needs, he believes this request is moderate, and recommends favorable consideration.

We are in a position to furnish immediately most of the items requested, with the possible exception of the shoes, and we are favorably inclined toward meeting this request from our sister society, since it represents supplementary needs of the Yugoslav Red Cross, over and above the basic requirements of the country, which we assume are to be met by the Yugoslav Government and UNRRA. It is assumed that the Yugoslav Red Cross could make provision with its government for the allocation of the space necessary for the shipment of such supplies as we may be able to furnish.

It is my understanding that before giving us any comments on this proposal, you wish to discuss it with your representatives who have just returned from Yugoslavia. I shall look forward to a call from you on Tuesday next.

/s/ Philip E. Ryan

Philip E. Ryan

(UNRRA mail control number -- 24115)

23 October 1944

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

TO: Bureau, Division, and Office Chiefs

FROM: P. W. Kus, Deputy Director General in Charge
of the Secretariat

SUBJECT: Relationships Between the American Red Cross and
the American Relief Administration, 1919 - 1923

This digest of the history of the relationships between the American Red Cross and the American Relief Administration, 1919 - 1923, may have pertinence to the relationships between the American Red Cross and UNRRA today. It is based on the documents in the files of the American Red Cross in Washington, on American Food in the World War and Reconstruction Period by Frank M. Surface and Raymond L. Bland, Stanford University Press, 1931, and on papers in the American Relief Administration Bulletin. Copies of the Red Cross manuscripts and references to the printed materials are all available in the historian's office, should anyone be interested in them.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE AMERICAN RED CROSS AND THE
AMERICAN RELIEF ADMINISTRATION, 1919 - 1923

I. GENERAL POLICY

The relationships between the American Red Cross and the American Relief Administration were cordial, cooperative, and complementary from the beginning of the official Relief Administration. The Red Cross, realizing that it was unprepared to undertake the feeding of the starving multitudes of northern and eastern Europe, welcomed Herbert Hoover's plans to do this work as a governmental operation.

The American Relief Administration was established by Executive Order on 24 February 1919 with a Congressional appropriation of \$100,000,000. Hoover became the Director-General, and the Food Administration Grain Corporation became its commercial and fiscal agent. It organized a relief program amounting to more than \$363,000,000 during the Armistice period and went into liquidation at the expiration of its funds on 30 June 1919. There was no cessation, however, in the relief needs of Europe. To provide food for the destitute children, Hoover set up at once a private charitable organization which retained the name, equipment, and much of the personnel of the American Relief Administration and continued in operation throughout the Reconstruction period. This organization was known as the American Relief Administration European Children's Fund and was incorporated under the laws of New York state. It, in turn, set up the American Relief Administration Warehouses in 1920 and the American Relief Administration Russian Unit in 1921. These agencies were considered branches of the American Relief Administration European Children's Fund, although their financial arrangements were accounted for individually. All three were usually referred to simply as "A.R.A.", both by the Administration in its bulletins and correspondence and by individuals and organizations dealing with them, such as the American Red Cross.

As the Relief Administration passed from an official to an unofficial organization, no changes are evident in its working relationships with the American Red Cross. The first directive of the Red Cross to its field workers on 8 April 1919 established principles of cooperation between the two agencies which subordinated concerns for rank and organizational pride to the need for efficiency and harmony and which continued to the end of the Relief Administration in July 1923. Planning was coordinated by the top authorities of the two agencies. The Red Cross allowed its field personnel to operate under the direction of the Relief Administration to the satisfaction of all concerned. As Robert Olds, European Commissioner of the Red Cross, wrote to Livingston Farrand, Chairman of the Central Committee in Washington, on 30 April 1921, "The attitude of the A.R.A. people is apparently all that we could possibly desire." Some minor frictions arose, of course. There were difficulties over accounting and

hurt feelings about oversights in publicity. The American Relief Administration food drafts and the Russian revolving fund caused periods of misunderstanding, but these were all incidental to a great mutual desire among the personnel of both organizations to work together effectively in the common cause.

The work of the Red Cross in Europe after the founding of the American Relief Administration was largely complementary to it, being confined to special medical services in supplement to the great feeding programs of the Relief Administration or to general relief services in specific areas where the Relief Administration was not operating on an extensive scale. During the Armistice period, however, the Red Cross also contributed large amounts of clothing as well as medical supplies to the relief of northern and eastern Europe,

II. SUPPLY

A. Finance and Purchasing

1. The total funds expended by the Red Cross toward the work of the Relief Administration was \$7,258,553.10 (\$1,741,740 during the Armistice period - \$5,516,813.10 during the Reconstruction period). The greater part of these funds was used for the children's relief program of the Relief Administration and for medical supplies and services. In general, Red Cross officers were available in areas where Red Cross goods were distributed, but this was not always the case, e.g. Russia, and sometimes the situation was reversed, as in Montenegro, where the Relief Administration turned over its goods to the Red Cross for distribution.

The greater part of these funds represents goods purchased by the Red Cross and donated to the Relief Administration. There were also occasional outright gifts of money, where the participation of the Red Cross in distribution was purely incidental to the donation, as in the case of funds given to the Relief Administration for relief of famine in Armenia and for assistance to the future "Nansen" refugees in Constantinople.

B. Shipping

The Relief Administration was in charge of ocean shipping for all goods donated by the Red Cross. The total costs of shipping were, however, divided in the following ways:

1. Red Cross paid freight charges to the New York office of the Relief Administration.
2. The Relief Administration or the Red Cross paid ocean freight and European charges for goods shipped from the United States. The Relief Administration paid a total of \$369,404.95 for the shipment of Red Cross goods in the Armistice period.
3. The Red Cross paid for the shipment of goods already in Europe when it was necessary to transfer them to another point.
4. Relief Administration shipping facilities were available throughout for the transportation of Red Cross goods, whether the Relief Administration was financially responsible or not.

C. Division of Functions

1. Methods

The main methods for the four steps involved in the transactions - financing, procurement, shipping, distributing - fell into one of the following patterns. There was great flexibility, although the first order seems to have been the most common, particularly in the children's relief program in Central Europe:

- a. The Red Cross financed, procured, and assisted the Relief Administration in distribution. The Relief Administration paid at least part of the freighting expense, sometimes all.
- b. The Red Cross financed, paid part freight and distributed, while the Relief Administration procured and paid part freight. This was the method used in Czechoslovakia and Greece.
- c. The Red Cross financed, while the Relief Administration distributed, and both shared the task of procurement and the freighting charges. This was the system used for Russian relief.
- d. Requisitions on Relief Administration food supplies from Red Cross field representatives were sent to the Paris headquarters of the Red Cross, which notified the London headquarters

of the Relief Administration. Relief Administration field representatives were then directed to turn over the supplies to Red Cross field workers, and the Red Cross in Paris was billed monthly.

2. Children's Relief Program

The most integrated achievement in the field came in the children's relief program. This was primarily a feeding program undertaken by the American Relief Administration in the Armistice period and continued into the Reconstruction period as late as June 1922. It was supplemented by medical and sanitation services supplied by the Red Cross and carried out chiefly in Central Europe and notably in Poland.

III. SPECIAL SITUATIONS

A. Food Drafts

The Relief Administration Food Draft plan was launched in January 1920 and was continued through the last of April in 1921. By this system, people in the United States purchased drafts good for food packages which were delivered by the Relief Administration in Europe from its warehouses there to the people to whom the drafts were endorsed. This operation should never have concerned the Red Cross, had it not been that a misguided public sent to the Red Cross requests for food drafts unsupported by the necessary funds. Neither the Red Cross nor the Relief Administration had funds with which to fill such appeals. The Red Cross finally disposed of this unwieldy problem by forwarding all such requests to its Paris office for investigation and relief on an individual basis.

B. The European Relief Council

The European Relief Council was a group of charitable relief organizations which banded together in the manner of the Community Chest for the purpose of raising one large fund for European aid. The drive was launched on 19 December 1920 and continued until 1 April 1921. Here, the Red Cross broke with its usual precedent of conducting independent fund-raising campaigns to ally itself with the Relief Administration, the Friends Service Committee, the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, the Y.W.C.A., the Y.M.C.A., the Federal Council of Churches, the Knights of Columbus and the National Catholic Welfare Council.

It was recognized at the time of the organization of the Council that the cooperation of Hoover and Farrand of the Red Cross was the keystone of the drive's success. The Red Cross contributed generously to the funds raised by the drive, donating \$5,000,000 altogether, allowing its local chapters to contribute their surplus funds, earmarking for the drive all gifts received for European relief between 1 December 1920 and 28 February 1921, and contributing \$100,000 toward the liquidation of the drive. The only step which the Red Cross was not willing to take was to use the Junior Red Cross News for fund-raising propaganda, since the News was not used for such purposes even for Red Cross drives and was an educational publication for classrooms throughout the country. The Red Cross was also careful to keep its domestic drive separate from the campaign for the Council.

The drive was conducted by state committees, consisting of a representative from each of the organizations making up the Council. At its conclusion \$28,750,000 had been gathered. The funds donated by the Red Cross were returned to it for distribution and an additional \$5,000,000 was turned over to the Red Cross, part of this latter to be used for medical relief in cooperation with the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. A similar policy was followed by the Relief Administration, which distributed its own contribution and \$12,600,000 of the drive donations, part of the latter in cooperation with the Friends Service Committee.

C. The Program for Russian Relief, 1921 - 1923

The American Friends had already been operating in Russia at the time that the Relief Administration went in, but they had been told that no other relief groups would be allowed to enter. In July 1921, however, Maxim Gorky, realizing that Russia could not hope to deal alone with the catastrophes of the famine period, sent his famous appeal for help to Hoover and the Relief Administration. Hoover replied that he would be glad to give aid but only with the backing of the Soviet Government. On 20 August 1921 the Riga Agreement was signed, and on 1 September the first distributions began, a sequence which must have established some kind of record for time-saving in this type of operation.

On 24 August the members of the European Relief Council were called together in Washington and, in accordance with President Harding's recommendation to Hoover a few days earlier, agreed to work together through the Relief Administration in Russia, under the terms of the Riga Agreement, to raise funds individually, to appoint representatives to Moscow headquarters if

they decided to send personnel, and to submit to the authority of the Relief Administration in matters of personnel and negotiations with the Soviet authority. The Red Cross representative at this meeting reported that the consensus of all present was that the American contribution to Russian relief should be made by a united front, both for the sake of efficiency and for making a good impression in Russia; for this reason, they welcomed the Relief Administration as the coordinating agency.

The Red Cross and the Relief Administration arrived by trial and error method at an agreement for the financing and furnishing of medical and hospital supplies for the relief of Russia. The following arrangements were finally set up:

1. The Red Cross established a revolving fund of \$200,000 with the Relief Administration for the purchase of medical and hospital supplies. As the fund was depleted, it was replenished by the Red Cross upon presentation of account by the Relief Administration. This accounting was bi-monthly.
2. The Red Cross was responsible for all purchase of drugs and medicines; the Relief Administration was responsible for purchase of all other hospital supplies, such as blankets, textiles, clothing, etc.
3. No Red Cross personnel operated in Russia.
4. No European supplies were contributed by the Red Cross.
5. The Red Cross financed and transported its supplies to the Relief Administration in New York; the Relief Administration transported goods to Russia and billed the Red Cross; the Relief Administration was responsible for all costs incurred once the goods had reached Russia.

The Red Cross contributed generously to Russian relief and went over its top of \$3,000,000, but it held rigidly to its decision concerning the type of supplies which were to be purchased from these funds. All purchases made out of the revolving fund had to be approved by the Red Cross, whether they were transactions of the Relief Administration or the Red Cross.

Should we have kept in our file this
Mr. Weintraub has read.
J. Page
UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

11 December 1944

Confidential

To: Mr. Roy Hendrickson
Acting Director General
From: William S. B. Lacy *WBSL*
Subject: Meeting with Mr. Philip Ryan of the American Red Cross

Mr. Philip Ryan, Director of Civilian Relief, Insular and Foreign Operations, American Red Cross, called at my office today at 2:45 p.m.; at his request I asked Mr. John Gregg to be present.

Mr. Ryan wished to notify us officially of the maturity of their plans to send urgently needed medical supplies to liberated Poland. Mr. Ryan had previously informed us of the genesis of this undertaking. (See copy of Mr. Jackson's memorandum to Governor Lehman, 11 September, attached.)

Mr. Ryan said that their present plans contemplated an approach to the operation in two parts - (a) The transportation by Russian military authorities of about \$50,000 value of medical supplies to Lublin. These supplies are to be replaced by the American Red Cross at some later date. (b) The shipment, probably to Murmansk, of somewhat larger budget of medical supplies as well as a small consignment of clothing. The Russian authorities will undertake to unload, warehouse and transport these supplies to Lublin or such other point as the Lublin Committee may specify.

Questions from Mr. Gregg and me elicited the following information from Mr. Ryan:

- (a) The American Red Cross has in mind the shipment by way of Murmansk of something in the magnitude of 60 or 65 tons.
- (b) ARC is sending only two of their own officials to Poland at the present time and their group will probably at no time exceed 5 or 6. Dr. Bauer, Rockefeller Foundation, is scheduled to leave the U.S. for Poland by the end of this month. He has not yet secured his visas and his route is undecided.
- (c) ARC is apparently taking a comparatively easy line on the matter of supervision of distribution. They have asked for and received assurances from the Polish Committee that the latter will afford them full opportunity to examine into the distribution of ARC supplies; Mr. Ryan thought that such supervision would probably take place in most cases after the fact.

At our request Mr. Ryan agreed to inform us when their supplies begin to come into Poland and also to supply us as soon as possible with the complete list of what the Russian authorities are sending to Poland on the replacement basis and what ARC proposes to send from the U.S.

Mr. Gregg indicated to Mr. Ryan that we were aware of the precedent-making aspect of the ARC operation, particularly in respect of the supervision of distribution. Mr. Ryan indicated that they had been unable to secure any greater degree of supervision than they had although their efforts had extended over some three years.

I expressed to Mr. Ryan our appreciation of his keeping us informed and he assured me that he would continue to do so.

cc: Mr. Feller
Mr. Menshikov
Mr. Gregg

11 September 1944

URGENT AND CONFIDENTIAL

To: Governor Herbert H. Lehman
Director General

From: Hugh R. Jackson

Mr. Philip Ryan of the Red Cross called this morning to seek our views on the following question: the Red Cross has received a message through Ambassador Harrison stating that the Polish Red Cross requests the American Red Cross to send urgently needed medical supplies for the sick and wounded in the liberated territory of Poland. The request was put to Harrison by a representative of the Polish National Committee for Liberation, presumably on behalf of the present representative of the Polish Red Cross in the Lublin area. Harrison has recommended that the American Red Cross comply. The telegram was, of course, forwarded to the Red Cross through the State Department and there is no indication that the Department has expressed any view to the Red Cross contrary to that taken by the Ambassador. If the Red Cross accedes to the request they would probably request the Soviet Red Cross to release some of the medical supplies sent to them by the American Red Cross on a promise of subsequent replacement. They would further state that they would send a small mission subsequently to observe the use and distribution of these medical supplies. Mr. Ryan states that this would probably be done by sending the American Red Cross representative now in Moscow.

Mr. Ryan inquired as to the present status of our negotiations with the Russians concerning Eastern Europe and wished our view as to whether an acceptance by the Red Cross of this request would prejudice pending arrangements. I told him frankly of the present status of our discussions with the U.S.S.R. and that we hoped to clarify the matter somewhat and complete the decisions at Moscow. He expressed the tentative opinion that since it was fixed that we are going to Moscow for discussions any action by the Red Cross at this time would not prejudice such arrangements. I told him that I would discuss the matter with the Director General and let him have our views this afternoon or tomorrow.

cc. Salter
Corson
Feller

CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. George S. Mooney
Executive Secretary
ERO - UNRRA
LONDON

Dear Mr. Mooney:

I am enclosing a memorandum of conversation
with Mr. Philip Ryan of the American Red Cross.
I think Governor Lehman, as well as Messrs.
Jackson, Caustin and Corson, would be interested.

Sincerely yours,

FOR THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

William S. B. Lacy
Acting Deputy Director General
Regional Liaison

Enclosure

WSBL:ld
11 Dec 44