

M017.8/A

Publicity - Public Information

7/6/1947

-Filmed

PLEASE RETAIN  
ORIGINAL ORDER

UN ARCHIVES

SERIES S-0400

BOX 6

FILE 19

ACC. PAG -4/3.0.11.0.0



HEADQUARTERS DP OPERATIONS UNRRA

---

7 June, 1947

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE STAFF :

---

The attention of all members of the Staff is drawn to the following cable received from the Director-General, UNRRA, Washington :

" FOR ACTING CHIEF DP OPERATIONS FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL

- " 1. AM FULLY AWARE THAT IN THE FACE OF THE CONSISTENT DIFFICULTIES AND SET BACKS ENCOUNTERED IN RECENT MONTHS BY THE WHOLE STAFF OF THE DP OPERATIONS THAT THE VICIOUS ATTACKS RECENTLY LAUNCHED IN THE AMERICAN AND BRITISH PRESS AGAINST THE DP OPERATIONS DO NOT MAKE THINGS EASIER OR MORE AGREEABLE
2. THE STATEMENTS TO WHICH I REFER HAVE BEEN TOTALLY UNJUST AND WITHOUT LEGITIMATE FOUNDATION AND HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED BY UNSCRUPULOUS POLITICAL ELEMENTS. FOR THIS REASON I HAVE TODAY SEEN FIT TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH I RELEASED A STATEMENT INTENDED TO COUNTER ANY MISCONSTRUCTION PUT UPON THE MAGNIFICENT WORK BEING DONE BY YOU AND YOUR ENTIRE STAFF.
3. I THEREFORE WISH YOU TO BRING THIS MESSAGE TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR STAFF BOTH IN PARIS AND IN THE FIELD WITH AN ASSURANCE OF MY COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN THEIR ZEAL AND INTEGRITY. I KNOW THAT EVERY MAN AND WOMAN ENGAGED IN THIS VITAL WORK WILL PERSEVERE IN THE JOINT EFFORT TO BRING UNRRA'S RESPONSIBILITY IN THE DP OPERATIONS TO A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION, FOR WHATEVER SACRIFICE IS ENTAILED FOR ANY MEMBER OF UNRRA THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE IS THE ALLEVIATION OF MISERY FOR THOUSANDS OF VICTIMS OF TYRANNY AND AGGRESSION. THIS KNOWLEDGE MUST REMAIN THE GUIDE TO OUR ENDEAVOUR. WITH BEST WISHES -

ROOKS. "

Office of the Legal Adviser.

Date: 11/4/47

To: ACO

From: Louis C. Stephens

1. As the question raised by Belgrade gets into the division of governmental powers in Austria between the civil and military authorities, I think we should refer it to the Legal Adviser of the Austrian Mission who has access to the facts.

2. I see no harm in his cabling Belgrade direct and repeating to us, (although you might prefer that we have Cap cable us and we relay to Belgrade after checking).  
(Miss Radin has cleared - hookship attached)

We concur



ROUTING SLIP

UNRRA

D.P.H.Q.

TO: ~~Mr. E.A. Reich.~~

~~10.4.47.~~

DATE: 14 Apr

Mr. Stephens

ROOM NO:

Approval

Investigate

Comment

Signature

Prepare reply

See me

Necessary action

As requested

Note & return

For your inf.

Note & file

Per telephone  
conversation

REMARKS

I think these should have been referred to you, rather than to me.

Low - Are you taking action on this?

FROM: ~~Rhea Radin.~~

ROOM NO: ~~482,~~

Silvach

480

✓

1st

ROUTING SLIP

UNRRA

D.P.H. Q.

TO:

DATE: 10/4

ROOM NO:

Approval

Investigate

Comment

Signature

Prepare reply

See me

Necessary action

As requested

Note & return

For your inf.

Note & file

Per telephone  
conversation

REMARKS

Cleared with Radin

FROM:

ROOM NO:

12/

DATE SENT : 9 APRIL 1947

DATE RECEIVED : 10 APRIL 1947

FROM : BELGRADE

TO : PARIS HQ DP

NUMBER : B 26

"UNDERSTAND JUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT REPATRIATION PAPER " U DOMOVINA "  
EXPERIENCING CENSORSHIP DIFFICULTY IN AUSTRIA. REQUEST YOUR COUNSEL  
INVESTIGATE LEGAL STANDING MILGOV CENSORSHIP IN RESPECT OF PUBLICATIONS  
OF AN ALLIED GOVERNMENT IN OWN LANGUAGE INTENDED SOLELY FOR OWN CITIZENS  
NOT, REPEAT NOT, GERMAN LANGUAGE OR FOR GERMAN CIRCULATION. GRATEFUL  
YOUR EARLIEST CABLED ADVICE.

ACTION : GENERAL COUNCIL

INFO : COHEN - GIFFORD - GREENSLADE

ACTION



CD

DATE SENT : 9 APRIL

DATE RECEIVED : 10 APRIL 1947

FROM : BELGRADE

TO : VIENNA 43

RPTD : DP HQ PARIS

NUMBER : 29

UNDERSTAND "U DOMOVINU" NUMBER 3 IS UNDER CENSOR BAN FOR CIRCULATION  
IN DP CAMPS. PLEASE CABLE (A) IF THIS CORRECT (B) IF SO WHAT ARE REASONS.  
INDICATE ARTICLES THEREIN WHICH ARE FOUND TO BE OBJECTIONABLE.

ACTION : GENERAL COUNSEL

INFO : COHEN

GIFFORD

GREENSLADE

ACTION



19/

DATE SENT : 9 APRIL 1947

DATE RECEIVED 10 APRIL 1947

*106*  
*Chadwick*

FROM : BELGRADE

TO : PARIS HQ DP

NUMBER : B 28

*WR 36/28*

UNDERSTAND JUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT REPATRIATION PAPER " U DOMOVINA "  
EXPERIENCING CENSORSHIP DIFFICULTY IN AUSTRIA. REQUEST YOUR COUNCIL  
INVESTIGATE LEGAL STANDING MILGOV CENSORSHIP IN RESPECT OF PUBLICATIONS  
OF AN ALLIED GOVERNMENT IN OWN LANGUAGE INTENDED SOLELY FOR OWN CITIZENS  
NOT, REPEAT NOT, GERMAN LANGUAGE OR FOR GERMAN CIRCULATION. GRATEFUL  
YOUR EARLIEST CABLED ANSWER.

ACTION : GENERAL COUNCIL

INFO : COHEN - CLIFFORD - GREENGLADE





*his*

GD

DATE SENT : 9 APRIL

DATE RECEIVED : 10 APRIL 1947

FROM : BELGRADE

TO : VIENNA 43

RPTD : DP HQ PARIS

NUMBER : 29

*WR. 36/28*

INDEXED

UNDERSTAND "U DOMOVINU" NUMBER 3 IS UNDER CENSOR BAN FOR CIRCULATION  
IN DP CAMPS. PLEASE CABLE (A) IF THIS CORRECT (B) IF SO WHAT ARE REASONS.  
INDICATE ARTICLES THEREIN WHICH ARE FOUND TO BE OBJECTIONABLE.

ACTION : GENERAL COUNSEL

INFO : COHEN

GIFFORD

GREENSLADE



*460*



UNRRA VIENNA

VIENNA

APRIL 11 FROM UNRRA PARIS

COX FROM STEPHENS

1. RECEIVED FOLLOWING CABLE FROM BELGRADE QUOTE UNDERSTAND JUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT REPATRIATION PAPER "U DOMOVINA" EXPERIENCING CENSORSHIP DIFFICULTY IN AUSTRIA PD REQUEST YOUR COUNSEL INVESTIGATE LEGAL STANDING MILGOV CENSORSHIP IN RESPECT OF PUBLICATIONS OF AN ALLIED GOVERNMENT IN OWN LANGUAGE INTENDED SOLELY FOR OWN CITIZENS NOT CMA REPEAT NOT CMA GERMAN LANGUAGE OR FOR GERMAN CIRCULATION PD UNQUOTE
2. PLEASE INVESTIGATE AND CABLE REPLY BELGRADE REPEATED PARIS REFERRING BELGRADE CABLE TO PARIS B 28 PD
3. ALSO INFORM PARIS YOUR REPLY TO CABLE BELGRADE TO VIENNA 43 PD

Approved by

---

Louis C. Stephens  
General Counsel's Office



UNBRA VIENNA

VIENNA 41 APRIL 11 FROM UNBRA PARIS

COX FROM STEPHENS

1. RECEIVED FOLLOWING CABLE FROM BELGRADE QUOTE UNDERSTAND JUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT REPATRIATION PAPER "U DOMOVINA" EXPERIENCING CENSORSHIP DIFFICULTY IN AUSTRIA PD REQUEST YOUR COUNSEL INVESTIGATE LEGAL STANDING MILCOV CENSORSHIP IN RESPECT OF PUBLICATIONS OF AN ALLIED GOVERNMENT IN ONE LANGUAGE INTENDED SOLELY FOR OWN CITIZENS NOT CMA REPEAT NOT CMA GERMAN LANGUAGE OR FOR GERMAN CIRCULATION PD UNQUOTE
2. PLEASE INVESTIGATE AND CABLE REPLY BELGRADE REPEATED PARIS REFERRING BELGRADE CABLE TO PARIS B 28 PD
3. ALSO INFORM PARIS YOUR REPLY TO CABLE BELGRADE TO VIENNA 43 PD

Approved by

\_\_\_\_\_  
Louis C. Stephens  
General Counsel's Office  
\_\_\_\_\_



154

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

Displaced Persons Headquarters

Hotel Majestic  
Avenue Kleber  
Paris 16 e

To:

From: S. W. Morrell, Chief of Public Information.

I am attaching the outline of a "Spring Programme for the Repatriation of Polish Displaced Persons" which we have received from UNRRA Warsaw Mission, together with a timetable for its execution. We may expect some modification of this plan as a result of the Repatriation Conference now being held here, but since the programme as at present outlined requires immediate action by you on a number of points, I am forwarding the plan as it stands and will notify you later of any changes made.

Meanwhile, your action is required particularly on the following points as will become clear from a reading of the attached documents:

1. You should check with Polish Liaison Officers in your area that they have received the material already sent to them through Polish channels (mentioned in the timetable under dates March 1 and 8), and secure its prompt and wide distribution. It is important that throughout the operation you maintain constant contact with the Liaison Officers, and arrange to be notified immediately in the event of any material for the campaign coming to them subsequently.
2. You should try to get an appeal for repatriation from your Zone Director or Chief of Mission. A similar statement will be made from this H.Q., and I attach a copy of a telegram to Washington asking for a statement from the Director-General.
3. You should ensure, with the Chief Repatriation Officer (who is responsible for distribution), that the widest possible distribution and use are made of the informational material sent to you by UNRRA Warsaw. This will reach the Zones of Germany by UNRRA channels via Berlin, where it will be consigned to Denis Erlam, already packaged and addressed to Zone Directors. For Austria, Italy and the Middle East, this material will be sent to the Chief of Mission via D.P. H.Q., Paris.
4. You should report to UNRRA Warsaw (by the fastest possible route, by cable if necessary) any specific complaints you receive of faulty distribution of "Repatriant" or other material provided through Polish Liaison channels.
5. You should forward promptly to UNRRA Warsaw any questions which are raised in the camps in connection with the honesty or other aspects of repatriation. It is advisable to send these questions on as they come in, without waiting for an accumulation.
6. You should keep Radio Polski advised - via UNRRA Warsaw - of the names and prospective addresses of returning Polish D.P.'s who, because of their prominence in camp life or for other reasons, would be suitable subjects for broadcasts on their return to Poland, or some time afterwards.
7. You should furnish UNRRA Warsaw with any other material which would be useful for "Repatriant" or Radio Polski, enlisting the aid of Teams in securing this. Again, the material requested under (5), (6) and (7) should be forwarded by the fastest possible route, by cable if necessary.



We have arranged with UNRRA Warsaw to obtain prior clearance from the Polish Government on all information material sent to you and to send you the English texts of all material despatched in Polish. This office will receive copies of all material sent to you, and we should like to have from you copies of any material provided by you to UNRRA Warsaw along the lines suggested above.

You should note that the Information Material, which is being numbered in a series, is a bulletin produced by UNRRA Warsaw Mission for the use of UNRRA staff in the D.P. Operation, and that it is therefore not being sent in any great volume. In fact, with the next consignment of such material, we propose sending to all but the British Zone of Germany a sample stencil, and on receiving confirmation that the stencil can be used on mimeograph machines available in the Zones and Missions, will start sending stencils only. It is assumed that the British Zone of Germany will not have sufficient paper to reproduce in quantity from stencils.

Please note that all this information material will be sent through the Zone Director (or Chief of Mission) to the Chief Repatriation Officer, who will be responsible for arranging and supervising its distribution. It is not the duty of Public Information Officers to engage in the distribution of material, but rather to provide that information which can be produced at Zone or Mission headquarters and to send to Warsaw requests and suggestions for further information material which it is thought will aid the programme. The work will require the closest co-operation between Public Information Officers and Repatriation Officers, who should not contact Warsaw direct with suggestions on information policy.

B. W. Morrell.

March 14, 1947.



C O P Y.

TO: UNRRA WASHINGTON 1700.

March 13, 1947.

REPEATED: UNRRA LONDON 169.

FROM: UNRRA PARIS PUBLIC INFORMATION DIVISION.

REPATRIATION CONFERENCE HELD HERE TODAY WITH DIRECTORS OF US UK AND FRENCH ZONES OF GERMANY AND CHIEFS OF AUSTRIAN ITALIAN AND MIDDLE EAST MISSIONS STOP REPRESENTATIVES OF POLISH AND YUGOSLAV MISSIONS ATTENDED AND DISCUSSED ALL ASPECTS OF SPRING REPATRIATION CAMPAIGN PARAGRAPH IT AGREED THAT THE CAMPAIGN SHOULD OPEN ON MARCH 24 WITH STATEMENT BY POLISH PRIME MINISTER STOP UNRRA YUGOSLAV MISSION WILL ALSO INVESTIGATE POSSIBILITY OF OFFICIAL STATEMENT FROM YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT PARAGRAPH ATTEMPTS WILL BE MADE BY ZONE DIRECTORS IN GERMANY TO OBTAIN STATEMENTS FROM MILITARY COMMANDERS ON LINES OF THOSE MADE IN FALL REPATRIATION CAMPAIGN PARAGRAPH IT WAS ALSO FELT DESIRABLE THAT DIRECTOR GENERAL SHOULD ISSUE STATEMENT CALLING UPON ALL DEEPEES AND PARTICULARLY YUGOSLAVS AND POLES UNDER UNRRA CARE IN EUROPE AND MIDDLE EAST TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES THIS SPRING TO HELP IN RECONSTRUCTION OF THEIR COUNTRIES STOP THIS STATEMENT TO BE ISSUED ON MARCH 24 AND TEXT TO BE CABLED TO DEEPEE HQ PARIS IN TIME FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE FIELD WHERE IT CAN BE ISSUED SIMULTANEOUSLY WITH POLISH PREMIERS STATEMENT ON MARCH 24 PARAGRAPH SUGGEST THAT STATEMENT ON POLISH DEEPEES SHOULD REFER TO POLISH PARLIAMENTS RESOLUTION OF FEBRUARY 22 1947 REAFFIRMING THE RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS OF ALL POLISH CITIZENS AND TO THE RECENT AMNESTY PARDONING THOUSANDS OF POLITICAL PRISONERS STOP WITH REGARD TO YUGOSLAV DEEPEES SUGGEST THAT STATEMENT SHOULD REFER TO ANNOUNCEMENT BY YUGOSLAV COMMITTEE FOR SOCIAL WELFARE OF FEBRUARY 7 REAFFIRMING YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENTS AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS AND APPEALING TO YUGOSLAV DEEPEES ABROAD TO RETURN HOME PARAGRAPH STATEMENT SHOULD AVOID ALL REFERENCE TO SIXTY DAY RATION SCHEME ANNOUNCEMENTS OF WHICH CAN BE ISSUED SUBSEQUENTLY IF NEGOTIATIONS ARE SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED WITH GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED AND IT.



PUBLIC INFORMATION MATERIAL FOR  
SPRING PROGRAMME FOR REPATRIATION OF POLISH DISPLACED PERSONS

The background to this programme will be the recent amnesty, not so much as it directly affects individually displaced persons, but as a further indication of the general settlement in the country and the freedom of the individual, even those who have committed offences against the State. It is thought that publicity around the amnesty should remove some of the last doubts of displaced persons who have been led to believe that their liberty will be restricted should they return to Poland. In addition, it is possible at this time to present the plans of the new government insofar as they affect future social and economic developments within the country.

Indications from the field point to the fact that the present is a particularly opportune time for UNRRA to launch its final programme for the repatriation of Polish displaced persons. There is reason to believe that these displaced persons are at last beginning to take a realistic view of their own position and of the restricted opportunities offered by resettlement projects. The fact that objective information about conditions and opportunities in Poland is reaching them more freely is also having its effect on their attitude towards returning home. In the light of these factors, we feel that it is not too optimistic to hope that the vigorous execution of a well-planned programme during the remaining months of UNRRA's responsibilities would result in a mass repatriation of the remaining Polish displaced persons.

The following plans have been worked out with UNRRA and military representatives from the U.S. Zone, Germany, but they are equally applicable to all displaced persons operations. The general lines have been discussed with and approved by Minister Wolski, General Plenipotentiary for Repatriation, and the more detailed matters with representatives of the Ministry of Recovered Territories, the Labour Department of the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Radio Polski, Film Polski, and the editor of "Repatriant".

A. Time Schedule.

The programme will open with the Polish Prime Minister's statement on the evening of March 23. All other statements - by the Director-General, the Acting Chief of Operations, the UNRRA Zone Directors, Chiefs of Mission, and the Military Commanders in the three Zones of Germany and Austria - should be released on March 24, or as soon thereafter as can be arranged.

B. Proclamations.

1. Publicity should be given to the amnesty and its implications for displaced persons. President Bierut's forecast of the amnesty was dispatched from Warsaw to all D.P. Operations on February 21, 1947. The actual text of the amnesty decree as it is approved by the Polish Parliament, will be dispatched by the UNRRA Mission in Warsaw on March 4, 1947.

2. The Prime Minister's statement. UNRRA Warsaw will endeavour to obtain from the Prime Minister a statement to all displaced persons on repatriation. The text of this will not be dispatched before March 24, 1947.

3. It is suggested that D.P. Headquarters, Paris, arrange for General Rooks, Director-General, to make a parallel appeal, the text of which should also be sent to all D.P. Operations. Paris H.Q. will also arrange for a statement by the Acting Chief of D.P. Operations, Mr. Myer Cohen.

4. For the U.S. Zone, the UNRRA Director will also produce a statement. It is suggested that other Zone Directors and Mission Chiefs will wish to do similarly.

5. It is planned that the Commanding General, U.S. Zone, will produce an early appeal which will be posted in all centres as soon as it is issued.



C. Posters.

1. A set of large pictorial posters on the National Economic Plan have been produced by the Polish Ministry of Information and are very suitable for display in D.P. centres. UNRRA Warsaw has approached the Ministry of Information for several sets of these posters. Because of their size and bulk, it will not be practicable to send these to the Middle East.

2. The new Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Minister Rusinek, has agreed to produce a poster outlining the possibilities of employment in Poland for skilled and unskilled workers and appealing to them to return. This has been discussed with and agreed to by Mr. Altman, Director of the Department of Labour at the Ministry. It is hoped that these posters will be ready for dispatch to D.P. Operations by March 28.

3. The question of supplying D.P. Operations with copies of large photographs of present-day Poland has been discussed with Film Polski and the State Office of Repatriation. These would provide excellent material for travelling exhibitions. UNRRA Warsaw will inform D.P. Operations if these can be supplied. As it is expected that these, if available, will be limited in number, it is proposed to send only a few to the U. . Zone, which has the best facilities for reproducing them in the quantity required.

4. The Polish Repatriation authorities will endeavour to supply UNRRA Warsaw with sets of any current posters which would help to give an atmosphere of present-day Poland to D.P. centres. It is not yet known in what numbers these will be available, but such as are received will be forwarded for distribution through the Zones and Missions.

D. Newspapers.

1. The possibility of preparing special issues of the "Repatriant", has been discussed with Mr. Wolski who supports the idea. Further discussions will continue with the editor of "Repatriant" as to the actual form of these special numbers. D.P. Operations are urged to submit suggestions to UNRRA Warsaw.

2. UNRRA U.S. Zone will arrange for appropriate selections from the Informational Material sent forward from Warsaw to be reproduced in the U.S. Zone News published by the Polish Repatriation Mission.

3. Similar information will be carried in Team News, the UNRRA publication.

4. It is suggested that D.P. Operations institute a check on the prompt distribution of Polish daily newspapers within their Zones.

E. Literature.

1. UNRRA Warsaw is discussing with the Ministry of Information the possibility of obtaining quantities of two pamphlets on the National Economic Plan, one addressed to rural workers and the other to urban workers.

2. The Ministry of Recovered Territories will produce 10,000 copies of a special pamphlet addressed to those who are about to settle in the new areas, giving information on facilities provided by the Polish Government to enable repatriates to obtain farms, shops, agricultural equipment, etc. This has been discussed with Director Dubiel of the Ministry on the 21st February, when he agreed to produce this quantity of pamphlets by the third week of March.

3. On the basis of material obtained from the Ministry of Labour, UNRRA Warsaw will produce Informational Material of a detailed character on occupations and working conditions in the Mining, Building and Metal industries.



4. UNRRA Warsaw is attempting to produce by the end of March, Informational Material - "Questions and Answers on the Amnesty", which will explain the ways in which the amnesty is affecting various individuals and groups, and answering any problems which may have been raised by DP Operations on the interpretation of the amnesty. UNRRA Warsaw will expect to receive from DP Operations any such questions as they arise.

5. The "Repatriant" is producing quantities of a pamphlet on the amnesty. These will be dispatched direct to the three Zones of Germany, and will be forwarded by UNRRA Warsaw to D.P. H.Q. Paris for dispatch to Austria, Italy, and the Middle East.

F. Radio.

1. UNRRA Warsaw to discuss with Prime Minister the possibility of radiating his statement from Warsaw on evening of March 23.

2. UNRRA U.S. Zone and U.S. military will endeavour to increase available time on radio Frankfurt from 15 to 30 minutes.

G. Films.

1. UNRRA U.S. Zone will arrange for the cutting of the repatriation film - "The Way Home", and will arrange for its re-showing throughout the Zone in connection with this campaign.

2. Film Polski is, at the moment, sending three copies a week of all Polish newsreels to the Polish Repatriation Mission, Berlin, which clears them for showing, and despatches two to the U.S. Zone and one to the British Zone. UNRRA U.S. Zone will discuss with the Mission in Berlin ways whereby these films can be made available for showing in the Zone. The Polish Ministry of Information has already arranged for two newsreels a month to be supplied to UNRRA Warsaw for D.P. Operations. It has been decided that these will be forwarded through to the Repatriation Mission, Berlin, as are the other copies, and will be picked up there by the UNRRA liaison officer, Berlin, for transmission to the U.S. Zone. Major Szybek for Mr. Wolski will endeavour to arrange with the Ministry of Information for two additional films a month to be supplied. All films which have been shown in the Zones of Germany should be dispatched promptly to D.P. H.Q. Paris, which will forward them to Austria and the Middle East.

-----  
A timetable for the Campaign is attached.

UNRRA Mission Warsaw  
Repatriation Division  
February 25, 1947.



PUBLIC INFORMATION MATERIAL FOR  
SPRING CAMPAIGN FOR REPATRIATION OF POLISH DISPLACED PERSONS

TIMETABLE.

1947

- February 25. UNRRA Warsaw receives mimeographed material on resettlement in recovered territories from Ministry of Recovered Territories.
- 26
- 27
- 28 UNRRA Warsaw despatches Information Material No. 30 to the field. (Appeal, Declaration of Rights, Recovered Territories. Polish Text). Warsaw reports that this material has already been delivered in Germany through UNRRA channels. The English text is due to be despatched on March 16.
- March 1 Meeting of Joint UNRRA-Polish Government Publicity Committee, Warsaw. 100,000 Amnesty and Appeal of Sejm handbills sent by Repatriant to Germany. These should be available from Polish liaison officers. 3,000 received by Mission.
- 2
- 3
- 4 UNRRA Warsaw despatches information material to the field. (Text of Amnesty as approved by Parliament. Amnesty-Sejm Appeal handbills sent out; 250 Austria, 750 Italy, 2,000 Middle East).
- 5
- 6
- 7 UNRRA Warsaw Publicity Committee expects to receive and will despatch National Economic Plan exhibition material to the field this week. (English text Information Material No. 31 out by air - Amnesty).
- 8 Ministry of Information to produce 3,000 copies each of two N.E.P. pamphlets, 2,400 each to go to Germany and Austria through Repatriant channels, 600 of each to be delivered by UNRRA Warsaw to D.P. H.Q. for despatch to Middle East and Italy.  
i. Co da chłopu (How the Plan Affects the Rural Worker) - 3,000.  
ii. Co do robotnikow (How the Plan Affects the Urban Worker) - 3,000.
- 9
- 10 UNRRA Warsaw begins to receive first "stills" from Film Polski. These will be despatched as they come in.
- 11 Information Material No. 30 (English text) sent out by air.
- 12
- 13
- 14 UNRRA Warsaw despatches N.E.P. pamphlets to Paris for re-routing to Austria, Italy and the Middle East.
- 15
- 16



- March 17 Polish and English texts of Information Material No. 32 ready for approval: quotations from Polish press on Effects of Amnesty, especially concerning jail inmates and forest bands. These will go to Berlin in the UNRRA bag for distribution through Zones. Sabin and Widdicombe expect to see Prime Minister in course of this week to procure statement.
- 18 Information Material No. 32 goes out.
- 19
- 20
- 21 (a) UNRRA Warsaw receives first consignment of general Polish posters. (See plan of Campaign - Para. C (4)).  
(b) UNRRA Warsaw receives 10,000 copies of pamphlet - "How to get Started in the Recovered Territories" - from the Ministry of Recovered Territories. Germany Zones will get their supplies through UNRRA Berlin; Italy, Austria and the Middle East through D.P. H.Q.  
(c) UNRRA Warsaw issues to the field information material on occupations and conditions of work in the Mining Industry. This will be forwarded through UNRRA channels.
- 22 UNRRA Warsaw receives poster from Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare on work opportunities and employment possibilities in Poland (4,000 copies). This amount will be forwarded through UNRRA channels.
- 23 Polish Prime Minister to broadcast statement. Time, wave length will be notified by UNRRA Warsaw.
- 24 Publication in all Zones and Missions of proclamations by Polish Prime Minister, General Rooks, Commanding Generals, Mr. Myer Cohen and Zone and Mission Directors.
- 25 (a) UNRRA Warsaw sends "How to get Started" to the field.  
(b) UNRRA Warsaw sends general posters to the field.
- 26
- 27
- 28 UNRRA Warsaw sends Ministry of Labour poster to the field.
- 29
- 30
- 31
- April 1 UNRRA Warsaw will try to arrange for Repatriant to publish "Questions and Answers on the Amnesty".
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5 UNRRA Warsaw sends information material on "Occupations and Employment Possibilities in the Building Industry" to the field.

...3...

April 6

7

8

9

10

11

12 UNRRA Warsaw to send information material "Occupations and Employment Conditions in the Metal Industry" to the field.

-----



UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION  
HEADQUARTERS, DISPLACED PERSONS OPERATIONS,  
HOTEL MAJESTIC, AVENUE KLEBER, PARIS 16e

Public Information Division  
Kleber 3600.

Release No. 17  
4th June 1947.

The following statement was made in Washington this afternoon by the Director General of UNRRA, Major General Lowell W. Rooks.

I can no longer keep silent in the face of mounting abuse now being directed at UNRRA. My duty to my faithful and loyal employees forbids it. I am in a position to know and I affirm to the American people that this world-wide organization, in the face of every conceivable difficulty, economic, financial and political, has done a magnificent job, not only in sending supplies to the destitute and helpless war-ravaged countries, but also in the care and protection of those unfortunate people who constitute the worst example of the Nazi brutality in making war - the millions of Displaced Persons left stranded and homeless.

Now if newspaper accounts are correct, we have the example of the Refugee Defense Committee of New York. Charles Poletti, Robert Lafollette, Dorothy Thompson, and David Martin are mentioned charging in a memorandum to the House Foreign Affairs Committee that "If the International Refugee Organization, IRO, should develop into the continuation, both in personnel and in policy, of the unlamented UNRRA then it will earn for itself the curses of all its million wards as UNRRA has already done for itself".

What is the basis of this charge and what are the motives of the people who seek to discredit an Organization which has done so much for the world? It is plain such people wish, even at expense of gross slander, to block any further repatriation of Poles, Balts, Ukrainians and Yugoslavs to their homelands. Their motives are political not humanitarian but unfortunately in this instance they have succeeded in misleading good citizens who would normally have obtained full information before giving public support to such statements. They would prefer to see these unhappy Displaced Persons sit where they are in Camps in Germany, Austria, and Italy until they rot thoroughly - and largely at the expense of the American taxpayer - rather than go home where I am convinced the greater part of them would find their best opportunity to rehabilitate themselves.

What has UNRRA done and what is its present position? We have consistently encouraged voluntary repatriation for those who are not in political conflict with the Government of their country. This is the policy of the U.S. Government. This is the policy of the U.S. Army. It is the policy of the British Government, too, and it is the policy of UNRRA as laid down by its Council of the Forty-eight United Nations and watched over from day to day by its Central Committee in which the U.S. Government has from the beginning



Continued:

exercised a dominant influence. From the end of hostilities more than seven million people have been repatriated. UNRRA has watched over these people and not one substantiated incident of persecution after repatriation has come to my notice. On the contrary, our reports indicate that the Governments have acted uniformly to assist them in getting reestablished. We have incontrovertible evidence that we have not earned the "curses" of these people. On the contrary, we have had nothing but expressions of their gratitude. It is true that a very small number has not been satisfied with the conditions they found and some have come out into our care again, but this is not extraordinary when it is considered that life is hard in most liberated countries. Will it be easier elsewhere?

We have never used, and never will use, force or coercion in our efforts to encourage repatriation. Not one substantiated incident of this has come to my attention either. The truth is that ~~the~~ only incidents of coercion reported to me are of the very opposite nature, i.e. where those outside of UNRRA opposed to repatriation for political reasons have applied pressure and sometimes force to prevent it.

UNRRA has cooperated with the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, IGCR, and the Governments concerned in all resettlement plans. Resettlement in new lands is the responsibility of IGCR not UNRRA. We have, however, cooperated in migration plans despite the reservations of individual Governments in some instances. Last week in the Central Committee, for instance, representatives of the USSR and Yugoslavia opposed UNRRA participation in an employment plan called "Westward Ho" proposed by the British to take from 60,000 to 100,000 Displaced Persons from the British Zones of Germany and Austria to the United Kingdom for employment for one year on a probationary basis nevertheless UNRRA decided to support the plan, as it favors any plan that will get these people out of the camps and reestablished as useful and happy members of society. A little longer and they will be no good to themselves or anybody else. Moreover the taxpayers of the contributing countries cannot indefinitely support them, even at the low scale they are now enduring. One does not see any great enthusiasm in the Congress of the U.S. for taking any large number as immigrants, and despite much talk of many plans in other countries no great numbers have yet been resettled in new lands.

What then is to become of them? Resettlement is one answer, continuance in camps is another, absorption in the German, Austrian and Italian economies is another, and repatriation to their home countries is still another, and for those who have no valid cause to fear persecution I think the best one. There they are needed and wanted to help rebuild. There, by language and cultural background, they seem most likely to find the conditions most conducive to their rehabilitation.

UNRRA will not in its short remaining span of life yield to this smear campaign. It hurts us when people out of political motives choose to attempt to belittle the really fine job UNRRA has done. It hurts us when such groups seek to discredit our loyal and efficient workers. It hurts us most when



Continued:

responsible members of Congress accept these baseless charges and add their voices to the unjustified campaign of denunciation, but so long as we hold our offices we will be faithful to them as non-political, neutral, international public servants engaged in a great humanitarian enterprise.

It is probably inevitable as the political situation has deteriorated between the East and West that any International Organization engaged in helping some Eastern countries should become unpopular in my own country, therefore we are not surprised that the cry of "Communist" is raised against us. One may wonder though where the U.S. is going to find loyal patriotic citizens who will accept employment in International Organizations under these conditions. This may be a cause for concern because bad as international relations undoubtedly are it is my belief that most Americans consider it premature to decide at this time that the United Nations as an Agency for maintaining peace is a failure and should be abandoned. It is to be hoped in these last days of UNRRA that people will give a little thought to the fact that this job was started at the suggestion of the American and British Governments, that it was a job that had to be done and that when history is written it will be recorded as a job well done.



INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration  
Hotel Majestic DF. HQ  
Avenue Kleber  
Paris XVI<sup>e</sup>

Tel: Kleber 36-00 through 36-09  
Ext. 3167, 3169, 3267

FOR RELEASE JUNE 6TH, 1000 HOURS

June 5th, 1947  
No. 18.

The following statement was issued today by Myer Cohen, Acting Chief of Operations, United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration Displaced Persons Headquarters here:

"The Director General of UNRRA, Major General Lowell W. Rooks, has issued a statement defending UNRRA and its employees against charges raised in the United States by an organization known as the Refugees Defense Committee. As Acting Chief of UNRRA's Displaced Persons Operations in Germany, Austria, Italy and the Middle East, I feel it is equally my duty to draw to the attention of the public the fact that in these closing weeks of UNRRA's work a similar campaign of inaccurate and ill-informed abuse has originated in Europe. This campaign is directed against loyal and hard-working employees of UNRRA, who for more than two years have struggled to solve the enormous and tragic problem of the displaced persons.

During the last few weeks this campaign has assumed unreasonable proportions. Salaries for UNRRA employees have been mentioned which are actually far above those paid to any UNRRA employee in Germany, and it has been alleged that these employees are receiving high living allowances, whereas the truth is that no living allowances are paid to any UNRRA employee in Germany.

It has been alleged that "British officials winding up UNRRA have discovered a deficit of more than £50,000,000." The truth is that British officials are not winding up UNRRA. UNRRA will wind up its own affairs, and no such deficit exists.

The latest calumny against this body of international civil servants accuses UNRRA of permitting squalid conditions in its camps in the British Zone and of acting as a cover for large-scale black-market operations. I must point out that responsibility for law and order within the British Zone of Germany rests with the military authorities, who would surely have brought it to UNRRA's attention had there been any such black-market operations. No such action has taken place.



As to conditions in UNRRA camps in the British Zone, UNRRA has not yet received any complaint from the Commander-in-Chief and Military Governor of the British Zone, Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Sholto Douglas, nor from any other responsible British official. Conditions of camp life are not by any means perfect, but in this respect UNRRA camps compare favourably with those maintained by the armies of occupation for the displaced persons under their care.

From first-hand knowledge of the UNRRA workers in the field, I can add my own praise to the tribute paid only last week by the British Deputy Chief of Staff, General Bishop, to the work performed by UNRRA in the British Zone of Germany. This tribute, which was paid at a meeting between General Evelyn Fanshawe, UNRRA British Zone Director, and General Bishop is, I think, well deserved and an eloquent and positive answer to any insinuation that the occupation authorities are not satisfied with UNRRA's work.

It is interesting to note that when the military authorities in the three zones in Germany were faced with the possibility of UNRRA ending its work before a successor international organization was established, plans were made by these authorities to take over the UNRRA staff in the field. This alone should serve as an eloquent testimonial to the excellence of the work by the UNRRA staff.

At the present time under the proposed agreement being negotiated between the Preparatory Commission of the International Refugee Organization and the British Control Commission for Germany, certain functions previously carried on by UNRRA are in the future to be taken over by CCG, and it is an established fact that CCG are eager to recruit personnel from among the UNRRA staff to carry on these functions. It is clear that the British authorities would not contemplate taking over the people to do the job unless they were satisfied with the job already done."

-----



HEADQUARTERS DP OPERATIONS UNRRA

---

7 June, 1947

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE STAFF :

---

The attention of all members of the Staff is drawn to the following cable received from the Director-General, UNRRA, Washington :

" FOR ACTING CHIEF DP OPERATIONS FROM DIRECTOR GENERAL

- " 1. AM FULLY AWARE THAT IN THE FACE OF THE CONSISTENT DIFFICULTIES AND SET BACKS ENCOUNTERED IN RECENT MONTHS BY THE WHOLE STAFF OF THE DP OPERATIONS THAT THE VICIOUS ATTACKS RECENTLY LAUNCHED IN THE AMERICAN AND BRITISH PRESS AGAINST THE DP OPERATIONS DO NOT MAKE THINGS EASIER OR MORE AGREEABLE
2. THE STATEMENTS TO WHICH I REFER HAVE BEEN TOTALLY UNJUST AND WITHOUT LEGITIMATE FOUNDATION AND HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED BY UNSCRUPULOUS POLITICAL ELEMENTS. FOR THIS REASON I HAVE TODAY SEEN FIT TO HOLD A PRESS CONFERENCE AT WHICH I RELEASED A STATEMENT INTENDED TO COUNTER ANY MISCONSTRUCTION PUT UPON THE MAGNIFICENT WORK BEING DONE BY YOU AND YOUR ENTIRE STAFF.
3. I THEREFORE WISH YOU TO BRING THIS MESSAGE TO THE ATTENTION OF YOUR STAFF BOTH IN PARIS AND IN THE FIELD WITH AN ASSURANCE OF MY COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN THEIR ZEAL AND INTEGRITY. I KNOW THAT EVERY MAN AND WOMAN ENGAGED IN THIS VITAL WORK WILL PERSEVERE IN THE JOINT EFFORT TO BRING UNRRA'S RESPONSIBILITY IN THE DP OPERATIONS TO A SATISFACTORY CONCLUSION, FOR WHATEVER SACRIFICE IS ENTAILED FOR ANY MEMBER OF UNRRA THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE IS THE ALLEVIATION OF MISERY FOR THOUSANDS OF VICTIMS OF TYRANNY AND AGGRESSION. THIS KNOWLEDGE MUST REMAIN THE GUIDE TO OUR ENDEAVOUR. WITH BEST WISHES -

ROOKS. "