

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Mr. Voorhees

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Washington 25, D. C.

November 30, 1956

The Honorable Sherman Adams
The White House
Washington, D. C.

original in ICA

Dear Governor Adams:

This letter is written with reference to the announcement the President expects to make on the bringing of Hungarian refugees to this country.

Under the present authorization by the President, \$5,000,000 has been set aside out of Section 401 Mutual Security Act funds for the Hungarian Relief program. Of this approximately \$2,500,000 has already been allocated. At least some part of the remainder will be available for the program discussed with the group that met with you and Mr. Voorhees this morning.

It will be necessary, however, that plans be formulated as soon as possible outlining the responsibilities of the agencies participating, both Government and private, in the U. S. effort and how these activities are to be funded.

There are generally five areas of responsibility:

- (1) Selection of refugees in Austria either under the visa procedure or as parolees.
- (2) Transportation to the United States.
- (3) Interim care and housing in the United States.
- (4) Permanent placement in the United States (homes, jobs, schools).
- (5) Legal clearance for residence in the United States.

*Acad +
Gen Swamp*

ICAH / Defense

Army

Private agencies

*+ RC guided by
The project of the
Committee for Hung. Refugees*

Justice

Gen Swamp

*(6) Screening + Classification
/ Though on arrival*

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Though much of the above will have the active and necessary participation of the voluntary agencies and private resources, I believe at least one Government agency should be directly responsible for each of these areas.

yes
If Mutual Security funds are to be used, ICA should participate in the planning of any such activities in advance of the obligation of funds. The Mutual Security funds available for this purpose must come from the President's Special Fund of \$100 million (Section 401). The resources of Section 401 must be carefully conserved in view of the many demands that have been made upon it and the exigencies that will no doubt have to be met during the remainder of the fiscal year. Great waste ensues when one agency conducts an operation and another agency must foot the bill.

To facilitate the work which we are all anxious to accomplish as expeditiously as possible, I have designated my Special Assistant DeWitt L. Sage, to represent this agency and Colonel Dayton H. Frost to assist him.

Yours very sincerely,

John B. Hollister

LJSaccio:fe:11/30/56
D/ICA:JBHollister

CC: Honorable Reuben Robertson, DOD
Honorable Loy Henderson, State
Honorable Tracy Voorhees, DOD ✓
Mr. Rabb, WH
Mr. Robert Macy, BOB

Mr. Saccio, GC
Mr. D. L. Sage, D/ICA

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Mr. Voorhees

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Washington 25, D. C.

December 1, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR SHERMAN ADAMS

SUBJECT: Hungarian Refugee Relief

filed
original in ICA

Following up my letter to you of yesterday on the Hungarian refugee matter, I have talked this morning with Tracy Voorhees and with Jerry Morgan and with some of my staff. It would seem that the most efficient and economical way to transport to the United States the refugees which the President expects to announce we will take is through the use of military air transport, for they have, of course, available equipment and personnel. Tracy feels that while a possible political objection of flying military planes into Vienna could be overcome in some way because of the servicing needs it would be a better proposition to fly the refugees out of Frankfurt or some similar American airbase and have them shuttled from Austria to this base, probably by commercial air flights although, of course, this could be supplemented by train if necessary. We are planning this part of the operation.

It will need some pressure to make the Department of Defense act in this matter because they do not seem to wish to take on this operation. We feel that not only is this the cheapest and the quickest way to do the job but there are extraordinary advantages from the point of view of the publicity and psychological effect of an operation of this kind similar in many ways to that of the Berlin Airlift. The fact that our mighty air machine can be turned quickly to a charitable act of this kind is impressive from the point of view of the humanitarian side as well as the efficiency with which our great Air Force can do a job.

As far as the caring for the refugees in this country is concerned, Tracy is not quite prepared to make a recommendation, although he feels at present that probably continuation of the work at Camp Kilmer

/will

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will be the best method of handling the problem. He is fully alive to watching the expense, the element which has worried me inasmuch as the military people have what seems to me completely unrealistic views as to the possible expense.

This brings me to the expense item, which I think you know is always very important to me. The military have been discussing the whole problem with an idea that a very substantial bill will be submitted to the ICA. This is, of course, no time to worry about who pays for what as we must get the job done, but it would seem that the proper method of accounting as between agencies in a case of this kind would limit our obligations to the actual out-of-pocket to the Services in their activities, i. e., what this has cost them over and above what their ordinary costs would have been for everything concerned. I would be perfectly willing to leave it to Percy Brundage to work out a proper accounting when the time comes.

Knowing the demands that are already made and will be made before the end of the year on the President's special funds I am most anxious to keep the expense as low as possible, consonant with an efficient and speedy operation.

I have offered the services of this organization to Tracy to work in any way we can. He has gone to New York today, will meet with the charitable agencies on Monday and be back here Monday evening.

John B. Hollister

John B. Hollister

bc: Honorable Tracy Voorhees, DOD ✓
Honorable Percival F. Brundage

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Dec 7 File

To Gov Adams

Gov. Adams

The From ~~The~~ Voorhees

The more I think about the pro-
posed step & proposal you mentioned to me

yesterday afternoon the more enthusiastic

I get. It is all plus and a very

~~I w. I should have been bought~~

big plus. ~~and I only wish I had~~

~~money~~

~~been bought~~

directed rec'd paper

New subject:- Following is the Memo you at
yesterday afternoon ~~State Department~~ ^{later} ~~about~~
A project for a four million U.S. contribution
to ten million UN fund to assist Aus-

tria in ~~being~~ meeting European refugee
burden ~~pursuant~~ in accordance with

UN Gen Assembly resolution which U.S.
sponsored. ~~This also is also~~ If this is

~~I suggested to State that~~ ^{and later to you} ~~final~~ that
I ~~proved~~ ^{and it has not yet been cleared with Hollister}
~~to finally acted on by State~~

it be announced personally by the
President second that ~~we recommendation to made to the President~~ ~~consider~~ ~~Hauer-~~
~~was told~~ ^{after} that he ^{consider} inviting H to
come to Augusta Ga for ~~discussion of~~
discussion of ^{the Hungarian} refugee problem offering
to send ^{the} Columbine ~~to~~ to bring & return
H ^{and} ~~and third that we recommended that~~
^{the} Pres personally give ^{the} such four million
dollar check ^{to H} at such meeting. Of
course I assume that before such
invitation ^{to H} ~~we~~ would have quietly sounded
out H's ~~accept~~ to assure his acceptance.
The advantages of dramatizing before ^{the} world the
President's ^{habitués} interest in such help and his policy
of maximum action through U.S. support of
UN is ~~clear~~ ^{clear} too obvious to need ~~elaboration~~ ~~elaboration~~

argument especially as

The Press so ungrudgingly personifies
to the world the ^{literally} ~~deep~~ feeling ~~really~~

burning desire and almost desire

of the American people to give

the utmost help in this ~~the~~ ~~strait~~
which has befallen these homeless
~~people, exiles.~~

December 7, 1956

MEMORANDUM TO: Governor Adams

Lewis Douglas is ready to accept an invitation from the President to serve as Honorary Chairman of the proposed President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. The understanding is that he would not be required to do any heavy amount of work. I shall submit to you shortly a proposal for the Committee.

Lew asked me to tell you and the President that he considers that the two big emergencies with which the United States is confronted are:

First, the Middle Eastern situation,

Second, the rebuilding of our alliance in Western Europe.

If the President should wish him to do anything in these areas, he said that he will be willing to "junk anything" he is doing and give any service desired by the President.

Tracy S. Voorhees

December 11, 1956

*Adams?
Suggs*

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

The Governor indicated that a benefit for the Hungarian cause would be held at Constitution Hall on December 30th by Mrs. _____, under the auspices of the soon-to-be-announced Citizens Committee, of which Herbert Hoover, Sr. is Honorary Chairman. Tracy Voorhees has details of the benefit.

The Governor said that some sort of Presidential participation would undoubtedly be in order. Until the nature of the participation is determined, the Governor wanted to have at hand a draft Presidential message.

I advised Mr. McCann of this today and he will provide a draft for the Governor's consideration.

Minnich

CC: Mr. McCann
✓ Mr. Voorhees

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

December 12, 1956

Dear Senator:

Thank you very much for your letter about the concert in Minneapolis on the nineteenth for the benefit of the Hungarian Relief Program. I would thoroughly enjoy being with you that evening, but unfortunately previous plans will prevent this.

I appreciate your thinking of me, and wish you every success with your plans to continue the fine Emergency Hungarian Relief Program in Minnesota.

Personal regards.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Edward J. Thye
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

is

*Original
under "Thye"*

December 17, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR FILE:

GOVERNOR ADAMS

I spoke today with Governor Adams on the following matters:

- 1) Getting Msgr. Swanstrom as a speaker for Senator Thye.
- 2) Complaints of transportation by MATS and Congressman *Crossed*
Bland's telegram. Governor Adams said to pay no attention to it.

Hand

Discussed with
Gov Adams

Jan 4/57

1. HH letter
2. Scholarships - ask Milton
3. Rat \leftarrow per day 2 £
(Also confirmed with Person)
4. Policy is MATS NOT JCEM
5. Zannick OK NOT to increase com.
6. Aid from Govt to Voluntary Agencies
in transportation (£ 1,500,000)
7. Lord + Am Legion football game
+ charitable Corp to receive
the funds
8. Dr Furnas

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

1. Cancel The Haan, which is in New York.
2. Cancel The Marine Corps, which is on its way over after it discharges its present passenger complement.
3. The Eltinge can take its passenger load in Bremerhaven, but should be cancelled after that.
4. It will be all right for the Walker, which is on its way from California to take over a complement of refugees, and then it should be cancelled.

Fact of cancelling
Not to decrease
Program

but

12 January 1957

NOTES OF TALK WITH GOVERNOR ADAMS

I received a memorandum from Mr. Rabb as to cancellation of certain Navy transports. Mr. Carter told me that he had asked Mr. Rabb about the decision about the airlift and Mr. Rabb had said that we were to continue the airlift unchanged. Since the first week is gone by in which we were going to have two a day and thereafter we were to have two a week, this would give us only having two a week.

I was talking with Mr. Loy Henderson this morning. He said that it was his understanding that Governor Adams' intention was to substitute airlift for the ocean transportation but that we were not to decrease the amount that we were bringing in and on that basis that State was satisfied. Mr. Henderson had said that he had pointed out that any substantial reduction below the planned rate would have serious aspects on foreign policy.

Accordingly, I saw Governor Adams to explain to him first that the HAHN had been refitted in order to carry 50% women and that this was only useful for this Hungarian refugee transportation and that she was ready to sail today. He said that that should have been explained.

I then said that the question in my mind was that the indirect message from Mr. Rabb would indicate that we would bring only two flights a week in - would, together with the cancellation of the transports, reduce very greatly the number of refugees whereas the word from Mr. Henderson indicated that we were to continue approximately the same number of refugees by substituting airlift for the ocean transports. Governor Adams said that there was real opposition to the use of the transports because of the publicity of large numbers coming in at one time that the Attorney General was concerned based upon statements by Mr. Rayburn - and that it was, therefore, better to substitute airlift for sealift.

Governor Adams said that the explanation should be that canceling the transports was not to decrease the program - that is, the number - but was to bring in the refugees in smaller lots upon the basis that it was easier for us to handle them as they arrived day by day in smaller lots than if they arrived from time to time in large numbers. Accordingly, he said to step up the airplane flights to approximately the program of 5400 that we would have for the first month following the completion of the 21,500. .

I arranged with General Collins to make the changes as to the ships and as to the planes - saw that he would inform Mr. Beebe. Also that he would request that neither the Defense Department nor Mr. Beebe make any public statement about this change and refer any inquiries about it to the White House. I then went to Mr. Hagerty's office - found that both he and Mr. Murray Snyder had left - but left a memorandum with the secretary there as to the explanation which Governor Adams wished to have made.

Tracy S. Voorhees

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THE WHITE HOUSE

CLASSIFICATION CANCELLED
BY AUTHORITY OF

T. S. VOORHEES

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT ON HUNGARIAN REFUGEES
DEC 31 1959

You recently asked me to act as your representative as to Hungarian refugee relief matters. As later defined by Governor Adams, this was not to include steps in the way of relief and resettlement of persons not coming to this country.

January 27, 1957

To coordinate the voluntary organizations, you on my recommendation appointed the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. The Committee has the 22 voluntary and Government agencies operating there. Through Mr. Rabb, and has instituted a series of business measures. The rate of departures from Kilmer for resettlement was 100 per cent. As of midnight January 25, 22,302 refugees had arrived, and 10,000 of them had left for resettlement under sponsorship. Only 2,556 remained at Kilmer. The critical phase inherent in the arrival of over 20,000 penniless persons, most of whom do not speak English, has been passed.

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR ADAMS

Through Mr. Rabb

SUBJECT: Hungarian Refugees

Herewith I submit:

- (1) Summary of progress report to the President.
- (2) Progress Report
- (3) Copy of the Kilmer brochure with the highlights indicated in red pencil.
- (4) Memorandum for you on the rate of refugee movement to the U.S.

On the advice of Mr. Brown, Sr., I requested Mr. Hallen Tuck and General Carl. The report of Mr. Tuck and General Hardigg will be finished and submitted to you in a day or two.

I regret the necessity for my absence tomorrow as well as Tuesday morning for a hospital check-up in New York. This I have already postponed for weeks because of the urgency of the work here, and I cannot delay it further.

Tracy S. Voorhees

Attachments

As stated

(2) That the necessary Governmental organizational steps be taken to make such a policy promptly really effective. (These are, I believe, quite simple.)

The cost of such a policy for this fiscal year is well within the resources of the President's Special Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED

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Upon removal of attachments
this document becomes *Unclassified*

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The White House
January 27, 1957

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS REPORT TO THE PRESIDENT ON HUNGARIAN REFUGEES

You recently asked me to act as your representative as to Hungarian refugee relief matters. As later defined by Governor Adams, this was not to include steps in Europe for relief and resettlement of persons not coming to this country.

To coordinate the voluntary organizations, you on my recommendation appointed The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. The Committee has organized at Kilmer the 22 voluntary and Government agencies operating there into an effective team, and has instituted a series of business measures. The rate of departures from Kilmer for resettlement was increased by about 500% in a month. As of midnight January 25, 22,302 refugees had arrived, and 90% of them had left for resettlement under sponsorship. Only 2,296 remained at Kilmer. The critical phase inherent in the arrival within a few weeks of over 20,000 penniless persons, most of whom do not speak English, has now passed.

To coordinate in Washington the work of the Government agencies in the above field, I set up an informal working level group of the active representatives from each. This is adequate for the purpose. This work is also becoming routine.

I hope to finish by March 1 the emergency White House assignment you gave me, and anticipate that The President's Committee can also by then complete its work and be dissolved.

On the advice of Mr. Hoover, Sr., I requested Mr. Hallam Tuck and General Carl Hardigg, both "old pros" in refugee relief, to make a first-hand study of the Hungarian refugee relief problem in Europe. Their conclusions have been reviewed with Mr. Hoover. Steps are needed which it is clear are not, and should not be, part of my assignment. But I feel that it is not inappropriate to recommend the following action:-

(1) That the United States -- as befitting its destiny in world leadership and in humanitarian action, and to carry out the principles of your inaugural address - adopt a basic policy that it will meet adequately and affirmatively the needs of the Hungarian refugees to the extent that these cannot reasonably be met by other countries; that to this end the United States act to assure proper care on a reasonable and equal basis in the camps in Austria, and a vigorous program for permanent resettlement. (Such a policy does not now exist. We so far have dealt only with parts of the problem, and have not acted adequately to meet the needs of these homeless exiled veterans of a new and inspiring fight for freedom.)

(2) That the necessary Governmental organizational steps be taken to make such a policy promptly really effective. (These are, I believe, quite simple.)

The cost of such a policy for this fiscal year is well within the resources of the President's Special Fund.

Respectfully submitted,

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SIGNED
Tracy S. Voorhees

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THE WHITE HOUSE

Washington

January 27, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH GOVERNOR ADAMS

FROM: Tracy S. Voorhees

SUBJECT: Progress Report on Hungarian Refugees

Almost two months ago you asked me to act as your representative to assure coordination of the work of the voluntary and Government agencies in connection with Hungarian refugee relief and resettlement activities, and to set up the necessary machinery for this. My understanding was that you intended this to be a temporary function for an emergency situation; further -- as since defined by Governor Adams -- that my work relates primarily to coordination of activities for movement of refugees to this country, their reception here, their distribution for resettlement, and of the work in Austria of the various U.S. voluntary agencies operating there. In the latter I have not dealt with the selection and allocation to sponsors of refugees to come to America, which has been done under the direction of the Commissioner of Immigration.

I

To coordinate the work of the voluntary agencies, you on my recommendation appointed The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. The Committee has accomplished this as to work in the United States. It has also made some progress in coordination of the work of the U.S. voluntary agencies in Austria, particularly in their relationship with the League of Red Cross Societies.

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Further, The President's Committee has effectively assisted the religious and other voluntary agencies which have carried on in such devoted spirit the work of resettling the refugees. The main factors in such assistance by the Committee have been (a) the organization at the Joyce Kilmer Reception Center of all of the voluntary and Government agencies -- some 22 in number -- into an effective team to do a job; (b) the stimulation of quicker absorption of the refugees by establishment for the agencies engaged in resettlement of a quota system for output, and by friendly competition between them to meet such quotas; (c) the arranging for expert job skills analyses at Kilmer by the United States Employment Service; and (d) the setting up of a machine card system making readily available for the agencies engaged in resettlement full information as to job skills and other facts about the refugees, and correspondingly offers of homes and jobs. (a brochure submitted herewith describes this work more fully.) However, it has been the private agencies, not the Committee, which have done the resettlement job.

The organization which the Committee put together at Kilmer represents a unique combination of talents of business men and of the representatives of the Government and the voluntary agencies. It has functioned smoothly.

The rate of departures from Kilmer for resettlement was increased by about 500% from the first week in December to the first week in January. Up to midnight January 25, 22,302 refugees had been received, 20,006 had departed for resettlement, and 2,296 remained at Kilmer.

On the basis of the rate of arrivals so far as now foreseeable, the above functions are rapidly becoming routine. It has already been possible to close part of the facilities at Kilmer. However, the Reception Center and the system above described will, I believe, continue to be useful for a period of at least several months.

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II.

For the machinery in Washington to coordinate the activities of the Government departments and agencies concerned with the above work, I set up an informal ad hoc group of the persons in each department or agency actively engaged with this problem on the working level, of which I have acted as chairman. The area of this group's activities, like that of The President's Committee, has related to the movement, reception and distribution of the refugees coming to America. This informal group is adequate for such purpose, and the functions of the departments and agencies in these activities are also becoming routine.

In such coordination of Government agencies I have acted as an individual as your representative, not as Chairman of The President's Committee, but I have been greatly assisted by General Collins, who has also ably directed the affairs of the Committee.

As the above figures indicate, the critical phase of the situation which was inherent in the arrival in this country within a few weeks of upwards of 20,000 penniless persons, only a few of whom speak English, is now passing. Barring presently unforeseeable changes in the situation, the emergency job you asked me to do in the White House will soon have been accomplished --- probably not later than March 1. This may also apply to the functions of The President's Committee, although the recommendation as to this is not for me but for the Committee to make. The subject will be considered at an early meeting.

Continuing coordination in Washington of the Government agencies engaged in this work could, I think, be soon handled by a regular member of the White

congressional approval to meet other similar emergencies which may call for quick action before definitive legislation may be enacted.

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II.

House staff with little tax on his time. Similarly, continuing coordination at Kilmer could, I believe, be taken over by the Commissioner of Immigration, and coordination of the U.S. voluntary agencies in Austria by an augmented staff in our Embassy. This is now being provided to Ambassador Thompson.

I shall shortly be able to definitize these tentative suggestions, on the principle that both my work in the White House and that of The President's Committee should be promptly terminated on our own motion, as the emergency situation to meet which we were called passes.

The above covers the area of my specific responsibilities as defined by Governor Adams.

III.

While new immigration legislation is heavily involved with the Hungarian refugee problem, it of course covers a much broader field. Accordingly, I have not regarded it as part of my responsibilities, except to offer such assistance as may be desired either through testimony or in other ways.

I recognize the reasons dictating the necessity for introduction of all of the immigration legislation as one package. However, if after such introduction and reference to committees, it should prove possible to obtain promptly a joint resolution expressing congressional approval of your emergency action already taken as to the Hungarians, and similar steps which you might have to take on short notice if other situations develop in which large numbers of persons from the satellite countries should flee to Western Europe from the communist terror, this would be, I believe, a highly desirable step. It would give the refugees now here on parole prompt reassurance in building their lives, and would clearly clothe you with the requisite congressional approval to meet other similar emergencies which may call for quick action before definitive immigration legislation may be enacted.

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IV.

Determination of the rate of acceptance of the Hungarian refugees beyond the original 21,500 quota is a matter for high policy decision to resolve the differences of view between the Department of State and Justice. My function has been to inform Governor Adams of the problems and to carry out the decisions made by you or by him in your behalf.

V.

There is another field which I believe needs attention but which it is now clear is not, and I believe should not be, part of my temporary White House assignment. This relates to adoption of a policy for full scale assistance for these Hungarian refugees in various European countries -- particularly aid in Austria and now also in Yugoslavia -- and some stronger organization in the Government to make such a policy effective. This subject does not concern immigration to this country, other than the fact that a vigorous policy effectively executed would decrease pressures for even larger numbers to come here. It, therefore, does not concern the pending new legislation, except probably to ease the path for it. Unless we have pursued actively all leads for resettlement elsewhere, Congress may well feel that we do not need the immigration quotas for which the Administration will presumably be asking.

Initially, I was not clear as to your wishes/^{as} to the extent of my responsibilities in the above field of assistance in Europe for Hungarian refugees. Accordingly, to be prepared, and acting on former President Hoover's advice, I requested Mr. William Hallam Tuck -- whom Mr. Hoover considers the most experienced citizen we have in refugee matters -- to

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(2) That to this end the policy be to do whatever is
take a look at the whole picture of the Hungarian refugee problem in Austria,
and see that these refugees receive proper care on a
particularly as to the possibility of relieving pressures for additional
and receive a decent opportunity for their permanent resettlement.
immigration to the United States and the steps which might be possible to
(3) That this aid be provided to the maximum extent possible
achieve the maximum desirable resettlement elsewhere. This, I felt, would be
not only to Austria -- to defray a substantial part of the feeding
valuable for whoever was to have responsibility for dealing with the U.S.
later be decided -- either through arrangements directly with such
response to the Hungarian refugee problem as a whole. Red Cross Societies.

Such a study was to be in addition to Mr. Tuck's specific functions in
possible in schillings be provided to the maximum extent possible
Vienna in coordinating the work of the U.S. voluntary agencies. Mr. Tuck
took with him General Carl A. Hardigg, who had assisted him from 1947 to 1949
be furnished through the League of Red Cross Societies on a basis
when Mr. Tuck was Director General of the International Refugee Organization
Hungarian refugees in Austria, except the very small ones, and to
(IRO) which resettled very large numbers of refugees. for a period through
the calendar year 1957. (However, after that the League should not
Mr. Tuck and General Hardigg made more than a month's study in Europe --
principally in Austria -- and have now returned and made their report. At this
their request and mine, Mr. Hoover, Sr., who has in the interval kept in
touch with the situation has reviewed its proposals. It is an unparalleled
opportunity for us to show the true VI. of America -- what our nation has
always. Accordingly, upon the above basis and in addition to submitting Mr. Tuck's
and General Hardigg's more detailed proposals, in which I unreservedly concur,
I should like to make the following recommendations:

(1) That the United States -- as a part of its destiny as a
of leadership and of humanitarian action in such disasters as
have befallen the Hungarian people -- adopt a basic Administration policy
policy of dealing affirmatively and adequately with the Hungarian
refugee problem, in Austria principally, but also now in Yugoslavia,
as well as in the several other European countries which have given
temporary asylum to far more than the numbers they can support without
further aid from us.

problem as they become acute, the changes in Government organization required
will, I believe, be quite different from those called for if the policy above
recommended is adopted.

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(2) That to this end the policy be to do whatever is necessary beyond the reasonable capabilities of the other countries concerned to see that these refugees receive proper care on a reasonably equal basis in the various camps in Austria and elsewhere, and receive a decent opportunity for their permanent resettlement.

(3) That this aid be provided to the maximum extent possible by use of our surplus foods through gifts to countries of asylum -- not only to Austria -- to defray a substantial part of the feeding costs of the refugees in such countries; this being done -- as may later be decided -- either through arrangements directly with such Governments, or through the respective National Red Cross Societies.

(4) That assistance to the Austrian Government for expenses payable in schillings be provided to the maximum extent possible through counterpart funds.

(5) That the assistance for maintenance of the camps in Austria be furnished through the League of Red Cross Societies on a basis adequate to permit the League to take over all such camps for Hungarian refugees in Austria, except the very small ones, and to enable the League to plan ahead on a firm basis for a period through the calendar year 1957. (However, after that the League should not be permanently saddled with the care of any residual hard core.)

Such policies are, I believe, requisite to translate into action in this field the lofty spirit of your inaugural address concerning the role of America. Such a course is desirable also because this is an unparalleled opportunity for us to show the true face of America -- what our nation has always stood for and will always stand for in the world.

VII.

The question which has recently been under consideration as to organizational changes in the Government to deal with this Hungarian refugee problem in Austria and neighboring countries can, I believe, not be soundly worked out until the above question of basic policy is settled. If our policy is to continue only to deal on an ad hoc basis with parts of the problem as they become acute, the changes in Government organization required will, I believe, be quite different from those called for if the policy above recommended is adopted.

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VIII.

January 27, 1957

This report is made by me as your representative, not as Chairman of The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. Much of the work accomplished as reported above has been done by others. I shall inform you later as to the invaluable contributions they have made.

Respectfully submitted,

SIGNED
Tracy S. Voorhees

Against all odds, Mr. Voorhees (Voorhees's Vice Chairman of the Committee) and I all feel that the work accomplished in about 1956 for the public, encouraged by the Government for the coming period, created a very real problem for the religious and other voluntary agencies which have done much a tremendous job in resettlement of the refugees. The problem for them arises from the shortage of signals and the uncertainty as to their future work. Following completion of the 25,000 quota set in accordance with the President's decision on January 1, we alerted the agencies to a possible new limit of between 25,000 and 30,000 a month pending legislation. Realized at this in January 25, and X-1, 57 for the period of 1957, we will be able to provide as to the work being done that the agencies have in a constant manner. They increased their staffs of signal and other personnel as well as to meet the big influx for the year 1957. The agencies were prepared to have staffs would be increased, and they were not to prepare for. We urgently need to have the agencies be able to handle the situation.

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THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

January 27, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR ADAMS

SUBJECT: Decision as to rate of admission of Hungarian refugees.

Pursuant to your direction given orally to Mr. Rabb and myself on January 24, we are proceeding as follows:

Taking January 5 as the date of the last embarkation of refugees constituting the 21,500 quota, we are planning, during the approximately ensuing month to February 6, to bring in 3300 by the two ocean transports and 500 to 700 by the MATS airlift. The latter is being stepped up from two plans to three planes a week.

General Collins, Mr. Beebe (The President's Committee's Vice Chairman at Kilmer) and I all feel that this sharp reduction to about 4000 for the month, accompanied by the uncertainty for the ensuing period, creates a very real problem for the religious and other voluntary agencies which have done such a wonderful job in resettlement of the refugees. The problem for them arises from the changes of signals and the uncertainty as to their future work. Following completing of the 21,500 quota and in accordance with the President's decision on January 1, we alerted the agencies to a probable case load of between 5000 and 6000 a month pending legislation. Reduction of this by between 20% and 33-1/3% for the period up to February 6 with no clear guidelines as to the workload beyond that time leaves them in a confused condition. They increased their staffs at Kilmer at our urgent insistence in order to meet the big inflow for the crash program of 21,500. While some reduction in these staffs would be necessary anyway, they do not know now what to prepare for. We urgently need to keep their enthusiastic and effective cooperation.

There is also a problem in that the State Department through Mr. Henderson informed the Austrian Ambassador that the change from ocean transports to airlift was a change in method of transportation only, not a reduction in the number being brought in. This was done in accordance with your decision at that time, which was modified later because the Attorney General had adopted a different course. The Austrian Government is gravely concerned by the overload which it is carrying, and which is being increased by the above curtailment in movement to this country.

For all of these reasons, the very earliest possible decision which you can make as to what we are to plan for after February 6 is desirable and, I believe, urgent.

Tracy S. Voorhees

cc: Mr. Rabb

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

For Adams

(1) ~~Look at the~~

(2) Use I C E M
instead of MATS

(1) ~~(2)~~ Kilroe figures

(3) ~~(4)~~ Scholarships

(4) ~~(5)~~ Funds for I C E M

(2) ~~(6)~~ II for private agencies

(7) Legislation

(8) Kilroe Brochure

+ going to Congress

(9) Publicity re change

(10) Cutler 4 Oct 13

(11) My problems

List of Decisions of major nature

(1) 21,500 — not counted but ^{was} too good
However I inherited the word

(2) Nixon trip consulted by Gov A about

T — Elbowed way into huddle as to plan
for T — " " " Dec 28 meeting

where he ^{possibly} reported — never saw report on
knows it to be released till 2 hrs after

press had T — Policy meeting Jan 1 with
L & Lads (NOT NOTIFIED) — Award of 200 to T — all
given a hand — of plan

This was
an oral
report to
Gov Adams
Jan 17

DEEM or MATS

(1) No change in cost

(2) Visa ^{saves starting area}

(3) Walters

(4) Risk

(5) ~~Com~~ Commercial Air
Transport

(6) Claim that
interferes with sol-
diers

~~See Adams~~
~~JOHN~~

~~Wayne Kendrick~~

~~W. H. Kendrick~~

~~Magyar letter~~

~~Memo for Adams~~
~~re publicity~~

USIA

Safe

crossed and heats

February 8, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR ADAMS

SUBJECT: Use of MATS, rather than commercial, flights to carry refugees

You will recall the questions raised early in December by the Air Transport Association, Senators Byrd and Sparkman, Representative Flood and others concerning our use of military air and sea transport to bring to the United States the Hungarian refugees. I believe that you will be interested in the following excerpts from a dispatch to USIA/Washington from the Public Affairs Officer at our Embassy in Bonn:

"Judging from the tremendous publicity accorded Operation 'Safe Haven' in West Germany, the U. S. air-and-sealift of Hungarian refugees to the United States has been one of the most effective weapons for exposing Communism and countering anti-American propaganda that USIS Germany has experienced in the last few years.

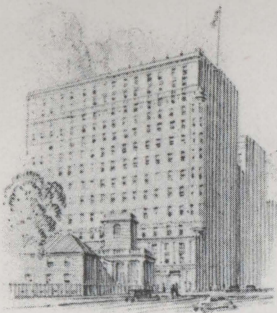
"Thousands of newspaper column inches have been devoted in this country to the plight of the unfortunate Hungarians and many thousands more to the American rescue 'lift,' which appeared as a spectacular feat in American organizational ability as well as a great gesture of humanitarianism."

I might mention two specific quotations from German newspapers which were included in this dispatch:

Berliner Morgenpost (circulation 190, 800): "... They (the refugees) were able to see with their own eyes how much effort the U. S. Air Force put into each flight and with what overwhelming friendliness the crew members tried to fulfill their every wish..."

Abendzeitung, Munich (Circulation 86, 000): "What the American Army, Air Force and Navy are doing for the refugees may perhaps only be compared to the Berlin airlift. This giant, smoothly operating organization was set up within a few days... Red tape is unheard of..."

Tracy S. Voorhees



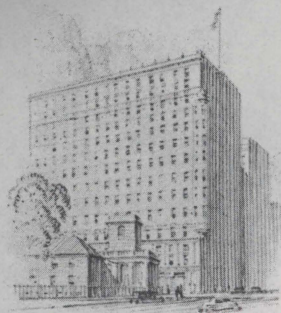
Parker House

SCHOOL and TREMONT STREETS
BOSTON 7, MASS.

GLENWOOD J. SHERRARD
President and Managing Director

Feb 9/57

Message for Gov Adams
Since ~~the~~ you are see-
ing Gen Collins ~~the~~ at this
morning ~~about~~ anyway about
another matter I should great-
ly appreciate your permit-
ting him to ~~talk with~~ ~~present~~
talk with you about the rate
of Hungarian refugee arrivals.
Gen Collins views are my views
and anything agreed upon
with him is satisfactory to me.
Specifically there is ^{one point not clear} the
question as to whether the ^{certifying of a} 200
a day cumulative total



Parker House

SCHOOL and TREMONT STREETS
BOSTON 7, MASS.

GLENWOOD J. SHERRARD
President and Managing Director.

~~should not~~ since Janu-
ary 3rd should not be ~~ex~~
~~clusive~~ of additional to
such of the previous quota
of 21,500 as arrived after
January 3rd. I have read
the minutes of The President's
MEETING of January 1st with
the ~~leaders~~ Congressional
leaders of both parties and
I understood that the 200
a day ~~was~~ ~~inter~~ ad figure
which he mentioned was intended to be
~~not~~ additional to the 21,500.

CONFIDENTIAL

THE WHITE HOUSE

C-O-P-Y

COPY

WASHINGTON

COPY

COPY

February 11, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Honorable Sherman Adams
The Assistant to the President

I am returning herewith the memorandum from Mr. Voorhees which you sent over to me to examine entitled "Recommendations Made by TSV in His Report to the President on Hungarian Refugees." These are the same recommendations contained in Mr. Voorhees' Progress Report on Hungarian refugees made to the President on January 27, 1957.

As you know, the Planning Board is currently studying a long-range policy paper referring to defectors, escapees, and refugees from Communist areas for submission to the National Security Council. The State Department produced a first draft of this paper toward the end of last week. On February 7 there was circulated to the Planning Board for consideration in connection with that draft the enclosed extract from Mr. Voorhees' Progress Report to the President.

The Planning Board at its meeting on Monday, February 11, will devote practically its full time toward consideration of these matters with a view to presenting to the Council on February 20 or 21 such substantive policy recommendations as can be developed. Because of delay in receiving the initial draft from the Department of State, it does not appear that there will be time for the Planning Board to develop a full-dress paper and to have it circulated in advance of the Council Meeting on February 20 or 21, but I hope to be able to raise at that meeting the substantive long-range policy questions.

/s/ Robert Cutler
Robert Cutler
Special Assistant
to the President

Enclosures

1. Memorandum Containing Mr. Voorhees' Recommendations
2. Extract from Mr. Voorhees' Progress Report

including 1st paragraph ; V and VI

*Cross-file
President ✓*

February 17, 1957

Dear Sherman:

Herewith is a letter to the President terminating by March 1st -- subject of course to his wish and yours -- my temporary post in the White House.

While I had some anxious days and nights about the problem during the great influx of refugees last December, I really enjoyed tackling the task, and it is a deep satisfaction to me that the emergency phase of it for which I was called has been met.

As an invaluable byproduct, I have been more than amply repaid for my work by the friendships formed and friendships deepened with you and others of the White House staff who have so generously and unreservedly helped me.

I shall submit separately a list of the persons -- and corporations -- who have contributed outstandingly to this work and to whose efforts the successful outcome has been so largely due.

With warm regards,

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

Honorable Sherman Adams
The White House

Feb 15

Adams

- (1) Give him letters
- (2) Inform him of
Walker's letter
- (3) Rate of arrival - policy
NOT being carried
- (4) Policy WE NEED a
MEETING for
Mar 1
- (5) Red Cross
- (6) Kluksu Klux

Meeting 11 o'clock Friday

49

$$\begin{array}{r}
 17,400 \\
 1,600 \\
 \hline
 26,600 \\
 \hline
 50 \overline{) 9200} \\
 \underline{50} \\
 4200 \\
 \underline{4000} \\
 200
 \end{array}$$

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

February 26, 1957

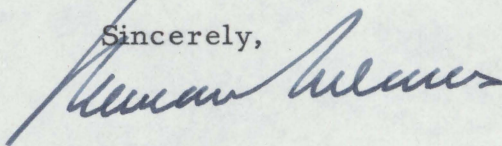
Dear Tracy:

Before leaving Washington for a brief respite, I want to tell you how much your efforts in behalf of the Hungarian Refugee program have meant to all of us here in the White House.

It is encouraging and helpful to us to find men of your calibre who will come in, on a moment's notice, and give so unstintingly of their time and energy. We are all indeed grateful and wish to thank you for all you have done. I hope in the future we may again call on you.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Herman Belcher", written over a diagonal line.

The Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Office copy

February 27, 1957

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR ADAMS
(Through Mr. Maxwell Rabb)

FROM: Tracy S. Voorhees

SUBJECT: Contract with ICEM

Crossed

To carry out your decisions at the February 22 meeting, I proposed to authorize ICA to let a further contract to ICEM to carry 2,000 additional refugees to the U.S. without specifying dates for their movement and subject to the availability, as determined by our Embassy, of duly processed refugees in Austria. The existing contract with ICEM - also for 2,000 - will cover the movement of a balance of about 800 in March. MATS will carry approximately 650 to 700 in March on the three flights per week basis.

ICEM is an international body and contracts with it are, therefore, known to many nations. Accordingly, State felt strongly that a new contract in the above amount is desirable instead of a smaller contract because the latter would raise questions as to whether the U.S. is shutting its doors, and thereby further discourage action by other countries to admit refugees.

ICA is prepared to make such a contract. I favor it for the reasons above stated, but felt it best to check this with Mr. Rabb first and then with you.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 28 1957

NOTE:

The attached was submitted to Governor Adams and I understand has his approval.

(initialed TSV by HTC)

Tracy S. Voorhees

(Attachment: Memo to Gov. Adams re
Meeting of February 22 concerning
rate of Hungarian refugee arrivals)

Sent to: Dr. Marion Boggs, EOB, Room 304
Sage
Henderson
Swing
Rabb

*Also filed under
"rate of arrival"*

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

February 27, 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR ADAMS

FROM: Tracy S. Voorhees

SUBJECT: Meeting of February 22 concerning rate of
Hungarian refugee arrivals.

This is submitted pursuant to your direction to me at the meeting. Mr. Rabb concurs in it. If approved by you, I will send copies for information to State, Immigration and ICA.

You decided that arrivals during March should be on the following basis: -

- (1) That they would not exceed 4,000.
- (2) That they would be so distributed that at no time would the total of Hungarian refugees who had arrived since January 3d exceed an average of 200 per day for the number of days between January 3 and the date in question.
- (3) That only persons qualifying as refugees under the accepted criteria as previously agreed upon between State and Immigration be accepted. (These criteria were not explained at the meeting and State has asked to have an agreed written statement of them.)
- (4) That except for individual hardship cases, only refugees coming from Austria would be accepted, not Hungarian refugees either from Yugoslavia or from countries of secondary asylum, unless State should later recommend a modification of this course.
- (5) That as of March 1 Mr. Rabb would take over whatever may remain of my duties in the White House.

April 9, 1957

Dear Sherman:

Because of my absence in Europe on Department of Defense work, I deferred until my return writing to you to express the deep appreciation I felt for your action in taking the time to write me just before you started for your rest at the end of February. As I knew how tired and how pressed for time you were, I especially appreciated your thoughtfulness in writing me.

I feel that I have been overpaid, and overpaid several times over, for whatever I did for the Hungarian refugees. The work was a satisfaction in itself. It was a genuine privilege both to have the opportunity to do it, and to feel when it was over that it was something in which you and the President felt that I had been of some assistance to you.

Our present plans are to dissolve the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief not later than May 15, and to make a brief report to the President at that time. The Committee is engaged in three jobs which will either be completed or on which we will have accomplished all reasonably possible, I believe, by that time. These are: -

- (1) Continued coordination of the work of the 22 agencies at Kilmer.
- (2) Steps to make sure that the permanent resettlement of all of the refugees is proceeding satisfactorily. As to this, we last week held at Kilmer a successful conference of the Chairmen of the Governors' Committees on Refugees attended by representatives of 29 states which had in the aggregate accepted for resettlement over 91% of the total number of refugees. The progress reported was most encouraging.
- (3) Seeking to provide adequate educational opportunities for the several hundred promising university students among the refugees. We obtained Foundation funds to give all needing it a basic education in English, and

- 2 -

we have promises of about \$125,000 toward scholarships for next year. We will need to double this, but I think we can get the money. Also, we have set up a new organization, which will be largely independent of the President's Committee and which will continue the work of securing and managing these scholarships. This is a full time team formed from personnel of the Institute for International Education and the World University Service and working under the general supervision of Dr. Krout.

Pardon the length of this letter, but I thought you might desire a report.

Whenever in the future there is some temporary chore to do on which you feel I can be helpful, I shall always be ready and glad to serve if I can.

Please don't trouble to acknowledge this note.

Yours faithfully,

[SIGNED]

Tracy S. Voorhees

The Honorable Sherman Adams
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Copy to: Mr. Lewis Douglas
Mr. Leo C. Beebe
Mr. Harry Carter
General J. Lawton Collins

TRACY S. VOORHEES

SCHOLARSHIPS

Metropolitan Club
Washington 6, D.C.

November 13, 1957

Honorable Sherman Adams
The Assistant to the President
The White House Office
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Sherman:

You may, I think, be interested in the following information, which needs no acknowledgment.

Last spring you approved my request for about \$30,000 to set up a full time joint office of the Institute of International Education and the World University Service to deal adequately with scholarship offers and scholarship needs of the Hungarian refugee students. This office has now completed its work.

Aside from the full scholarships which were offered which included living expenses, we found a need for about \$300,000 from sources other than the Government to supplement tuition scholarships. We also needed a lot more tuition scholarships. We have been able to get both the money and the scholarships, but to do so I had to get back into the job myself early last summer for a number of weeks.

I am glad to tell you that in the Institute's opinion substantially all of the highly promising university students among the refugees who desired to continue their college education have been provided with suitable scholarships and the necessary supplementary funds for this academic year, although there are a few more students who are considered qualified for scholarship aid though not with the highest grades who may still be placed in scholarships in the second semester.

This good result was possible only because of the work of the joint placement office, and that in turn was possible only because of your helping hand. We have now, I believe, fully discharged our responsibility to these students.

Roughly, 750 students have been provided with scholarships and necessary supplemental funds.

The Institute and the World University Service plan to issue a press release in the near future about this program.

Thank you again for your help.

Yours faithfully,

SIGNED

Tracy S. Voorhees

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

November 14, 1957

Dear Tracy:

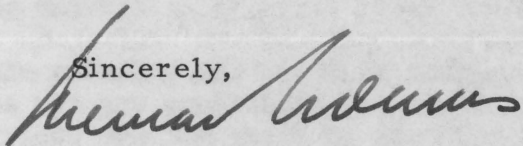
Thank you for your letter of November thirteenth, reporting the successful outcome of the Hungarian refugee student program.

I had known of the work you were doing on this even after the termination of the President's Committee, but I had not fully realized the magnitude of the requirement of private funds to supplement tuition scholarships.

Because of his great personal interest in students and education, the President will, I know, be pleased to learn of the results of your continued leadership on behalf of the Hungarian refugee students.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. Edgar Hoover", written over the word "Sincerely,".

The Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
Metropolitan Club
Washington 6, D. C.