

A M E R I C A N R E D C R O S S

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON 13, D. C.

April 12, 1945

Senator Tom Connally,
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Connally:

Your memorandum of April 7th, with which you forwarded to the American Red Cross a telegram from Amon Carter, has been received. In answer to this we wish to advise that we have in Switzerland and in Lubeck, and the near-by port of Goteberg, Sweden, several million American Red Cross Standard Food Packages. Our big problem in getting these packages to our prisoners in Germany is primarily one of over-coming transportation difficulties within Germany itself.

Railroad cars donated by the French, Belgian, and Swiss Governments are being turned over to the International Red Cross for use in transporting Red Cross supplies into Germany. International Red Cross is forming trains of fifty cars each. The first two of which are already in operation. These trains are being used to deliver supplies to railheads or supply distributing points in Germany, where fleets of heavy trucks under International Red Cross control will pick up the supplies and transport them to camps and moving columns of prisoners in that general area. There are already in operation a total of two-hundred and fifty (250) such trucks and it is anticipated that this number will be increased in the very near future to the number of about five-hundred (500).

We have just received a cablegram from Geneva indicating that practically all supplies sent into Germany during March are reaching their destination. This means that American Red Cross Standard Food Packages are reaching our Prisoner of War in Germany.

Stalag lll-A where Amon Carter, Jr. is a prisoner is reported to be well stocked and serving as a center of distribution for Standard Food Packages. This information leads me to say that American Prisoners in Stalag lll-A should be receiving regular distribution of American Red Cross Food Packages.

Sen. Tom Connally

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I wish to assure you that the American Red Cross and the International Red Cross are acutely aware of the situation and desperate needs of our prisoners in Germany, and are energetically doing everything possible to make continued and regular distribution of supplies to American Prisoners of War camps in Germany.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) C. L. Irwin

C. L. Irwin

Relief to Prisoners of War

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