



AMERICAN RED CROSS

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

WASHINGTON, D. C.

ZONE 13

December 12, 1944

Mr. Amon G. Carter
Fort Worth
Texas

Dear Mr. Carter:

We have received your telegram of today's date addressed to Mr. J. Townsend Russell.

During the month of October, two visits were made to Oflag 64, one on the 11th by a delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross and one on the 23d by a delegate of the Protecting Power.

After the visit of October 11, Geneva was notified to forward 350 overcoats and 1200 blankets to Oflag 64 for American prisoners of war. These supplies were shipped from Geneva shortly thereafter.

It was also noted, on October 11, that there was a reserve supply of 1,424 standard food parcels in Oflag 64. Therefore, we are confident that the distribution of these parcels is continuing regularly. Since the end of October, food packages to the northern German camps have been moving both from Sweden via shuttle ships and from Switzerland. Every effort is being made to use every possible means to overcome the increasing difficulties in servicing the American prisoners of war.

Mail to Oflag 64, as well as most other prisoner of war camps, has always been irregular, averaging over 90 days in transit. From the time of the invasion of southern France until early in November, the movement of mail across France was almost completely disrupted. We are glad to say that the flow of mail to and from the German border now appears to be regular. The movement of mail in Germany itself, however, appears to be coming progressively worse.

We trust that the foregoing information will relieve your anxiety and help to clarify the questions raised in your telegram.

Very truly yours,

John F. Cotton
Assistant Director
Relief to Prisoners of War