GREECE

ATTITUDE OF THE UNITED STATES TOWARD RECOGNITION OF THE GREEK GOVERNMENT

868.001 C 76/42

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

Greek Series No. 946

ATHENS, March 23, 1922.
[Received April 21.]

Sir: I have the honor to report that the Prime Minister, Mr. Gounaris, has endeavored to take up with me the question as to the recognition by the United States Government of King Constantine. I told Mr. Gounaris that I was in no way authorized to discuss the question but that I would report to the Department of State the fact that he wished to take it up. He added that the Greek Government was disposed to meet practically any terms of the American Government in this regard, and asked if the American Government would care to stipulate under what conditions the recognition would be considered.

I have [etc.]

JEFFERSON CAFFERY

868.001 C 76/45: Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

WASHINGTON, May 8, 1922—5 p.m.

37. Your 56, April 30, 10 p. m.² Department is not yet convinced that the moment has arrived to accord recognition but this matter is being given careful consideration. It is important that the Department should be promptly informed of any indications that the attitude of the Allies toward recognition will be modified.

On February 25 the British Ambassador stated that his Government felt that the present would be an inconvenient moment for the United States Government to recognize Constantine. While the atti-

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¹ For previous correspondence, see Foreign Relations, 1921, vol. ii, pp. 138 ff.
² Not printed.
tude of the Allied Powers is not of course controlling in this matter, in view of other pending questions it must necessarily be taken into consideration.

Hughes

868.001 C 76/82

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

Greek Series No. 1030

ATHENS, May 12, 1922.

[Received June 7.]

Sir: With reference to the Department’s telegram No. 35, dated April 29 [28], 1922, regarding the recognition of King Constantine, I have the honor to report that recently I have been asked whether it would be possible for me to meet, informally and unofficially, King Constantine, as he desired to have an informal talk with me. I have consistently replied to these inquiries that, while under ordinary circumstances I would be delighted to meet King Constantine, under conditions now prevailing, for obvious reasons, the meeting was out of the question.

I have [etc.]

Jefferson Caffery

868.001 C 76/89: Telegram

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

ATHENS, September 27, 1922—8 p.m.

[Received September 28—7:59 a.m.]

129. This morning King Constantine abdicated. Proclamation in his name begs all parties to avoid civil strife and to unite in support of his successor. This afternoon the Crown Prince took oath as George II to maintain the constitution. Revolutionary troops now entering Athens, which is comparatively quiet. Machinery of government is considerably disorganized, as revolutionary chiefs have not yet arrived and new Cabinet not formed. There is confusion in statements and programs of leaders. But most of them anticipate that, as Constantine has been sacrificed to conciliate Allied Powers, there will now be a revision of the proposed terms of peace with Turkey. Nevertheless they declare intention in any case to refuse terms and continue the war.

Caffery

*Not printed.
The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

ATHENS, October 26, 1922—8 p. m.
[Received October 27—3: 45 a. m.]

150. Venizelists are imputing responsibility for disaster in Asia Minor to their political opponents. On this charge many arrests are being made and executions are demanded. The authorities plan immediate trial of the accused by special court martial. Informal but energetic protests against court martial are being lodged with Minister for Foreign Affairs by most of my colleagues, including British and French, who are also pressing me to make informal and personal representations. I shall not move in the matter, however, without instructions from the Department. Our informal recommendation of a fair trial for the accused might perhaps be effective, as the prestige of the United States is the highest here at present.

CAFFERY

The Acting Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

WASHINGTON, November 1, 1922—2 p. m.

76. Your 150, October 26, 8 p. m. and 152 October 27 9 P. M.*

You may in your discretion orally and informally indicate to Greek authorities that arbitrary action in the trial or execution of political prisoners in Greece would in your own opinion undoubtedly make an unfortunate impression in this country.

PHILLIPS

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

ATHENS, November 2, 1922—11 p.m.
[Received November 3—4: 36 a.m.]

158. I received a call today from members of the revolutionary committee tendering the thanks of the authorities for help given the refugees by American relief organizations.* They referred also to

* Latter not printed.
* See “American Relief Activities on Behalf of Greeks Evacuated from Turkish Territory,” pp. 414 ff.
arrest and trial of political prisoners, and solicited my opinion. In reply I explained that an unfortunate impression would be created in the United States if they proceeded to arbitrary measures. I was then given assurance that an order would be issued for release of all political prisoners not actually implicated in disaster in Asia Minor, and that measures would be taken to insure a fair trial for those charged with misconduct.

Caffery

868.00/322: Telegram

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

Athens, November 28, 1922—11 p.m.
[Received November 29—1:24 a.m.]

175. My 169, November 20, 1 p.m. Yesterday several hundred Venizelist officers presented to revolutionary committee demand for immediate execution of chief political prisoners threatening lives of committee in case of refusal. Therefore trial was rushed through all night and six principal accused were condemned and executed this morning. British representative is sending note to Foreign Office announcing rupture of diplomatic relations and is leaving tonight for London. Counselor left unofficially in charge of British interests.

Caffery

868.00/339a: Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

Washington, December 1, 1922—5 p. m.

84. Execution of Greek political leaders has caused a most unfavorable impression in this country and Department fears that it may seriously affect the popular response to appeals which are now being made for the raising of funds to assist in meeting the refugee situation in Greece. While avoiding any statement which might be interpreted as an interference in the internal affairs of Greece, you may in your discretion, either orally or in a personal communication, make this clear to the Greek authorities, indicating that you believe that in their own interests they would desire to avoid further action which would impede the work of relief or embarrass American agencies in their efforts to meet the emergency in Greece.

Hughes

* Not printed.
The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

ATHENS, December 11, 1922—4 p. m.
[Received December 12—3:42 a. m.]

183. Upon receipt of Department's 84 of December 1, I acted at once as directed. Foreign Minister said that your disinterested advice was appreciated; that American opinion about the executions gave the authorities much concern; and that any action which might further alienate American public sentiment would be avoided.

There have since been released some persons who had been imprisoned in order to curb their political activities before the coming elections . . .

But the truth is, nevertheless, that the chief political enemies of Venizelos have all been put to death, and that groups of Venizelist officers in Athens now control the country.

Official disapproval of the executions has been expressed by practically all my colleagues, who are maintaining an attitude of great reserve in their relations with the Foreign Office.

Caffery

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The Secretary of State to Mr. George B. Christian, Jr., Secretary to President Harding

WASHINGTON, January 13, 1923.

My Dear Mr. Christian: In accordance with the desire expressed in your letter of today, there is sent to you enclosed a translation of the telegram from the King of Greece announcing the death of his father, the late King.

As we have of late had no official intercourse with the Greek Government, neither with the present King nor with his father, it would be consistent with our past action to acknowledge the receipt of this communication through the American Chargé d'Affaires at Athens rather than for the President to telegraph an answer in his own name.

I therefore suggest that the following telegram be sent to the Chargé d'Affaires, if it should meet with the President's approval:

*Not printed.*
"You are directed to say informally to the Minister for Foreign Affairs that the President has received a telegraphic communication from the King, announcing the death of his father, and to express suitably, under the circumstances, the condolences of the President."

I am [etc.]

CHARLES E. HUGHES

AMERICAN RELIEF ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF GREEKS EVACUATED FROM TURKISH TERRITORY *

767.68/274: Telegram

The Consul General at Smyrna (Horton) to the Acting Secretary of State

Smyrna, September 2, 1922—4 p.m.
[Received 11:50 p.m.]

Military situation extremely grave owing to exhaustion and low morale of Greek forces. Ushak and Kutay Aintab [Kutaya and Aidin?] were evacuated and burned yesterday. First army corps badly demoralized has retired to position west of Ushak. It has been joined by second corps which narrowly escaped being [captured?] by making wide detour. This force is now barring Turkish advance on Smyrna but is not dependable. Third army corps is at Eskishemir but will probably soon evacuate and burn the town. Reenforcing division expected to-day and others soon. My opinion is that situation is so serious that it cannot now be saved. Panic spreading among Christian population foreigners as well as Greeks and many are trying to leave. When demoralized Greek Army reaches Smyrna serious trouble more than possible and threats to burn the town are freely heard. In view of the above I respectfully request that cruiser be despatched to Smyrna to protect consulate and nationals.

Horton

767.68/276: Telegram

The Consul General at Smyrna (Horton) to the Acting Secretary of State

Smyrna, September 4, 1922—noon.
[Received September 5—12:45 a.m.]

Following telegram has been sent to Admiral Bristol:

"September 4, noon. Refugees pouring into Smyrna and panic increasing. In interests of humanity and for safety American inter-

* For other correspondence concerning the protection of minorities in Turkey, see pp. 919 ff.
ests beg you to mediate with Angora Government for amnesty [sic] sufficient to allow Greek forces to evacuate. Amnesty will avoid possible destruction of Smyrna, which may result from blowing up of ammunition dumps and acts of mutinous and demoralized Greek soldiers. Greek High Commissioner last night authorized me verbally to take steps towards mediation. I repeated my request for one or more naval units. British Consul General informs me that he has telegraphed in the same sense to his High Commissioner. Horton.”

Horton

767.68/274: Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the Consul General at Smyrna (Horton)

WASHINGTON, September 5, 1922—4 p. m.

Your September 2, 4 p. m. Substance has been sent through Navy Dept. to Admiral Bristol, with authorization to send destroyers, since no cruisers available, to Smyrna to assist in care of American lives and property, it being clearly understood that sending war vessels is solely for such protection of Americans and not intended as taking part in any naval or political demonstration.

Phillips

767.68/279: Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol)

WASHINGTON, September 5, 1922—4 p. m.

113. Reference telegram of September 4, noon, from the American Consul at Smyrna to you repeated to the Department.

Department is not inclined to do more than send destroyers to Smyrna to assist in protection of American lives and property. The situation would not appear to justify this Government assuming the role of voluntary mediator.

Phillips

868.48/83: Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 6, 1922—noon.

[Received 10:25 p.m.]

168. For American Red Cross. Conditions in Smyrna owing to military situation may create serious disaster. I have received from
British High Commission request for assistance to refugees. I had meeting of representatives of American relief and benevolent institutions in Constantinople and we have organized disaster relief committee for Smyrna situation with members of these institutions and of commercial interests. Major Davis as special member of disaster relief committee with medical unit will proceed by destroyer to Smyrna and study situation and make recommendations. Locally there are no funds available for relief work Smyrna. I earnestly request that I be informed by cable that this chapter has been authorized to draw on headquarters for funds on condition that they will be utilized only if the necessity arises. I suggest that fund of $50,000 be made immediately available for this chapter. I am sending this message in code in order that it may not be advertised at large that we intended to undertake relief work in Smyrna and for the same reason I recommend that no funds be allotted by the Red Cross to other institutions for this work. I will use all my influence to have Allies contribute full share for any necessary relief in Smyrna. I will keep you informed of any proposed expenditure.

BRISTOL

886.48/83 : Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol)

WASHINGTON, September 8, 1922—6 p.m.

116. Your 168, September 6, noon, has been communicated to Red Cross. Department had already received urgent appeal from Smyrna, which had been presented to Red Cross and Near East Relief with suggestion that they cooperate in meeting the emergency. Replies have now been received from both. Red Cross intimates, provisionally and before receipt of your 168, that in absence of Chairman and in view of arrangement with Near East Relief as to respective spheres of action, further consideration will be necessary. Near East Relief says that Constantinople office has been authorized to contribute to the value of $25,000 and that Red Cross is being urged to consider Smyrna emergency as within its proper sphere.

PHILLIPS

886.48/87 : Telegram

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Acting Secretary of State

ATHENS, September 8, 1922—6 p.m.

[Received September 9—9:11 a. m.]

111. Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs called on me today to make urgent appeal to the Government of the United States to help
save 500,000 refugees he says are congregated in Asia Minor ports. He states Greek Government willing to receive these refugees but Greek vessels now employed evacuating Greek troops from Asia Minor and Greek Government has no boats to bring refugees to Greece and no food or tents for them therefore Greek Government appeals urgently for ships and food and tents. Same appeal made to Allied representatives here. French and Italian representatives believe attempt should be made by Allies to organize protection and relief refugees in Asia Minor ports as they consider their transportation to Greece now impracticable. British representative transmitting appeal to London.

CAFFERY

767.65/296 : Telegram

The Consul General at Smyrna (Horton) to the Acting Secretary of State

SMYRNA, September 8, 1922—10 p. m.

[Received September 9—12:22 a. m.]

Turkish forces expected to arrive tomorrow night or morning after. Please telegraph urgently what will be my relations if any with the Kemalist military or civil authorities.

HORTON

767.65/296 : Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the Consul General at Smyrna (Horton)

WASHINGTON, September 9, 1922—4 p.m.

Your September 8, 10 p.m.

You will bear in mind that your Government recognizes the existing regime neither in Greece nor in Asia Minor, and that diplomatic relations with the Sublime Porte have not been resumed. Nevertheless for practical reasons it will be advantageous for you to remain unofficially at your post as an American Consul without exequatur and as a delegate of the High Commissioner at Constantinople. Vice Consul Imbrie has a similar status at Angora, and in case of necessity you will so remind the local authorities. If difficulties arise report to the Department as well as to the High Commissioner at Constantinople, to whom the substance of this instruction is being sent for his information and guidance.

PHILLIPS
The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 9, 1922—5 p.m.

[Received 9:23 p.m.]

171. Smyrna situation most alarming. Greek troops in panic and pouring into city. Population fears violence between time Greek troops ordered to evacuate and temporary arrangements of Turks. Repeated threats by Greek officers to burn town. Aidin and Nazilli already burned. On September 6th American, English, French and Italians consuls telegraphed Greek Minister of War, Theotokis, asking for assurances Smyrna would not be burned or pillaged. Theotokis replied he could give no such assurances. Greek fleet left Smyrna Friday afternoon. Greek administration of city ceased 10 o’clock p.m. Friday and Allies took over city. Allied consuls will meet Mustafa Kemal at Kasaba to-day to arrange for surrender of Smyrna. Greek High Commissioner Sterghiades taken on board Iron Duke. Greek general headquarters withdrawn to Chesme, opposite island of Chios. British withdrawing women and children. Three United States destroyers now at Smyrna. My chief of staff, Captain Hepburn, in charge. Reports from Mudania indicate possibility Brousse burning and Greek evacuation being extremely likely.

Request copy of this cable be given immediately Military Intelligence, War Department.

Bristol

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 10, 1922—5 p.m.

[Received 6:15 p.m.]

173. Smyrna occupied by Mustafa Kemal. Constantinople comparatively tranquil and Allied authorities apparently have situation well in hand. Some minor disorders last night due to intense enthusiasm and excitement local population.

Following from Near East Relief and Red Cross representatives at Smyrna repeated for the Department’s information.

"Refugees estimated at 150,000 at present about 20 percent need sporadic assistance. Expected in week food supply will be desper-
ate as all food supplies reach city by sea. As imports have ceased, unless immediately reopened, entire population of 700,000 face starvation. All necessary supplies here except food, therefore flour and milk will be most needed. No other relief work under way contemplated except American committees. Greeks did not burn their supplies but threw them open to population; these stores therefore [dissipated?]. No evacuation of refugees by Greek Government, therefore only those able to secure commercial passage have left. Have conferred with General Murcelle Pasha, senior Turkish officer present, who welcomes our relief offers and promises assist and he states within 2 days city will be fully occupied and patrolled by sufficient troops to allow imports without risk. Signed Davis and Jaquith."

Bristol

863.48/87: Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

WASHINGTON, September 11, 1922—5 p. m.

63. Your 111 September 8, 6 p. m. and 112 September 9, 10 a. m.* Continue to keep Department fully informed of development of situation in Greece. Detailed information regarding Smyrna situation has been communicated to Red Cross and Near East Relief and latter has already made available $25,000 for assistance to refugees. These organizations are now consulting regarding possible cooperation to assist other agencies to meet emergency in Asia Minor and Department will advise you of any decisions which may be reached.

This information is for your confidential guidance only lest expectation of American relief should incline Greek Government to relax its own efforts toward meeting refugee problem.

Phillips

863.48/83: Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol)

WASHINGTON, September 12, 1922—5 p. m.

119. Your 168, September 6, noon.

Following from Hill, American Red Cross:

"Your cables. Cannot determine course of action until Davis' reports received together with information as to International Relief

*Latter not printed."
measures contemplated. From meager reports available only action by government authorities could adequately relieve situation. AmCross ready expend $25,000 as direct contribution for temporary emergency work on the ground. For record would prefer separate accounting direct to headquarters. Hill.”

You may draw on Department for $25,000 which has been deposited by Red Cross for relief work as above indicated.

PHILLIPS

665.48/02: Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 13, 1922—1 p. m.

[Received 10:13 p. m.]

179. The Department’s attention is earnestly called to the extreme gravity of the condition of refugees at Smyrna and elsewhere, and to the attitude which the Allies assume toward the situation.

It is estimated that a total of 300,000 are entirely destitute. Situation extremely critical owing to approach of season of rain and cold. It is probably useless for these people to attempt to return to their homes. Their villages have been destroyed, and they would face hostility of Turkish population which witnessed devastations of Greek army. All reports agree that to send refugees back would be sheer murder.

The Greeks and Allies appear to avoid responsibility and to assume that Americans will take over situation. I was asked by the British High Commissioner, on September 5, to take charge of situation through our relief agencies. He has never indicated what measures of relief would be adopted by the British or other Allies, although I asked to be informed on that point.

General Harington\(^\text{10}\) sent representatives yesterday to inform me of desperate plight of refugees at Rodosto in Thrace who had been evacuated from Mudania. He asked whether help could be sent to them by American relief agencies. I told Harington’s representative frankly that I felt obligation rested upon Greeks and Allies to undertake that task. When I was told that the British had no organization

\(^{10}\) Allied Commander at Constantinople.
for that purpose I replied that the time had come to form one, and that neither had we an organization for that purpose.

If American relief agencies should enter upon wide measures of relief in the present emergency, as seems probable, I earnestly recommend that Department assist them by urging upon the Allied Governments their responsibility for a share in the task.

BRISTOL

767.68/310 : Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 14, 1922—noon.
[Received 5:10 p.m.]

181. Wireless just received from my chief of staff at Smyrna states city is burning and that all American naturalized citizens and that women of native born Americans have been evacuated to Athens on destroyer Simpson in charge of Consul Horton. No details are given.

BRISTOL

868.48/95 : Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 14, 1922—1 p.m.
[Received 5:35 p.m.]

183. Following delayed telegram from Davis repeated for information of Department and American Red Cross:

"Eleventh. In interview today with Noureddin Pasha, commander of Turkish forces Smyrna, placed before him in name of American committee your views regarding restoration of refugees to their homes immediately under full protection to life and property. He replied that complete destruction of country by retreating Greek Army made this forever impossible and refugees must leave country or be taken away, frankly stating safety of life could not be assured. Believe this is final decision Nationalist Government as solution of race problem. This opens large question with many pros and cons and do not feel prepared to comment at this time but it makes certain the need of large relief work here. Representatives of American institutions and business men cooperating splendidly and immediate needs of refugees being covered. Davis."

BRISTOL
The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPE, September 14, 1922—2 p.m.

[Received 6:10 p.m.]

184. Following from Davis repeated for the information of Department and American Red Cross:

"Twelfth. Only way to picture this refugee situation imagine refugees, some single, families, groups few to five thousand hidden in institutions or huddled here, there, moving, panic stricken, when irregulars begin shooting them. We are urging authorities to protect and place them in camp. These answer will do but animosity of troops so great difficult and urge us place before foreign governments necessity of taking them away. Until this done one of worst refugee problems possible contemplate will continue here. Authorities say have not enough food for army so unable to help feed refugees. Unable as yet report on situation on islands probably can soon. Grave. Davis."

Latest information from Mudania to the effect refugee situation here [there] fully as bad as Smyrna.

BRISTOL

182. My 181, September 14, noon. Following from Smyrna:

"Fire started 1 p.m. 13th in Armenian quarter, European section town almost completely destroyed, Consulate completely destroyed. Codes, funds and important documents saved. Consul searching for temporary quarters. Fire still raging, all American-born accounted for, 10 at Paradise with American and Turkish guard, 14 naturalized Americans missing. All men-of-war in harbor loaded with refugees. Edsall sailed 8 a.m. for Salonika with 600, Winona sailed 4 p.m. today for Piraeus carrying about 400 refugees consisting of scholars, employees and attendants of American benevolent, business and consular organizations. Upon return Edsall propose send Litchfield Constantinople. Signed Hepburn." 11

BRISTOL

11 Capt. A. J. Hepburn, senior U. S. naval officer at Smyrna.
The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 15, 1922—4 p.m.

[Received September 15 (16†) — 3:10 p.m.]

186. Following from Smyrna repeated for the Department's information:

"14th. Recommend Allies be urged to bring strong pressure to bear on Greece forcing her to accept refugees in Thrace or Macedonia. Conduct of Greek troops during retreat has rendered their locating in Asia Minor impossible. At same time immediate decision should be requested regarding transportation via Allied warships and transports, estimated number 300,000. Hepburn."

BRISTOL

The Acting Secretary of State to the Ambassador in Great Britain (Harvey)

WASHINGTON, September 15, 1922—5 p.m.

290. Reports from Admiral Bristol dated September 13 and 14 indicate that refugee situation at Smyrna and ports on Sea of Marmora is most critical with 300,000 destitute refugees at Smyrna and 40,000 without food, shelter or even water at Mudania and similar conditions at Rodosto. He telegraphs that British High Commissioner had requested him to care for Smyrna situation through American relief organizations and in reply to inquiry failed to give indication that relief measures by Greece or Allies would be adopted. General Harington has also asked whether American relief would care for refugees in Rodosto.

Admiral Bristol informed Harington, and Department entirely concurs with his views, that he considered it the duty of Allies and Greece to undertake their share of the task.

American Red Cross and Near East Relief have made available $25,000 each with emergency supplies and equipment which are being administered in Smyrna through representatives of these organizations.

Following telegram is being sent to Admiral Bristol:

"Your 184 September 14 2 p. m. and all previous cables carefully considered. After consulting fully with American Red Cross and Near East Relief Department is of opinion that situation clearly
beyond the scope of any private charity, only government action by Allies with aid of transport for possible evacuation refugees can bring about adequate relief. American private relief organizations ready to cooperate to help meet immediate emergency if some plan for adequate relief is developed and put into operation at once. Private relief feels that it would be idle even to attempt temporary ameliorating of situation unless permanent cure in sight. All money available could be used up in first 2 or 3 weeks and situation would be just as pressing at the end of that time unless this breathing spell were used to put into action some comprehensive scheme to reduce and ultimately solve the problem. America anxious to help but feels responsibility clearly on governments which have equipment and military and naval organizations on the ground that can be put to work.

Without assuming any commitments Department desires you in consultation with your Allied Colleagues and their military and naval representatives to draw up and submit immediately a joint and comprehensive plan for Smyrna emergency.

This telegram is being repeated to London, Paris and Rome for the information of those Governments."

Communicate above orally to British Foreign Office and repeat to Paris as 284 and Rome as 135 for similar action.

PHILLIPS

868.48/118 : Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 18, 1922—7 p.m.

[Received September 19—6 a.m.]

190. Department's telegram 122 of September 15, 5 p.m. Text quoted in telegram no. 290, Sept. 15, to the Ambassador in Great Britain, p. 423.

"September 15. After conference with prominent British, French, Italian, and American naval officers now at Smyrna, it was decided that the only solution is the evacuation of refugees. Accordingly the Italian Admiral will try to get permission from Kemal for Greek ships to enter Smyrna harbour for evacuation. Need for immediate evacuation is also being brought to attention of home governments. In event Kemal refuses, the thing to avoid is delay in action. Estimate 150,000 refugees to be evacuated."
The naval representatives at Smyrna arrived at this decision after several conferences initiated by Captain Hepburn, my chief of staff, when it began to appear that attitude of Allied navies present was to take no action to meet the emergency. Have encountered same disposition in British High Commissioner (see my 179 of September 13, 1 p.m., and my despatch 433 of September 13\textsuperscript{13}). In accordance with Department's telegram referred to above, I will await results of this conference before taking further steps to confer with my colleagues lest Smyrna negotiations be delayed by action here. If agreement cannot be reached with Turks, and Smyrna negotiations are delayed, I will then approach Allied colleagues on question of meeting situation at Smyrna by joint and comprehensive plan.

Last night the French High Commissioner, General Pellé, left unexpectedly for Smyrna in company of French Admiral, who had arrived here only an hour before their departure.

I am entirely in accord with Department's view that private charity is quite unequal to the situation. Necessity for relief in regions devastated by retreating Greek forces is evident from reports of my officers in Brousse area and reports from other sources. American relief activities should be restricted, in my opinion, to Anatolia in giving aid to refugees awaiting evacuation, and the task of evacuating these refugees and providing for them at their ultimate destinations should be urged upon Greek and Allied Governments. It is probable that transporting and settling refugees will require protracted relief and that there will be little prospect of early remedy of situation. Conditions in Smyrna and Mudania districts have been ameliorated by unofficial operations already under way. The Allies should be brought to see responsibility not only for relief of refugees but also for prevention of even more serious occurrences. Not only do they have at hand naval and military organizations and equipment useful in relief operations, but they are also in some sense responsible for the present lamentable state of affairs. Kemal's threat to advance against Constantinople is causing apprehension in the city, and it would take very little to create a panic. In considering local situations at Mudania and Smyrna, the possibility of a far greater disaster should also be kept in mind.

I shall be careful to inform Department fully of further action taken under instructions received from Department.

\textsuperscript{13} Latter not printed.
The Acting Secretary of State to the High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol)

WASHINGTON, September 19, 1922—3 p.m.

183. Department's 122 September 15, 5 p. m.\(^{14}\) and 181 September 19, 10 a. m.\(^{15}\)

Press reports today indicate that only relief work being carried on in Smyrna is by Near East Relief, Red Cross and your destroyers and that only foreign forces ashore are American sailors. Please confirm this report and advise Department immediately (1) what relief stores are available for distribution if funds were forthcoming; (2) whether any provision could be made for caring for refugees in Greece or the Aegean Islands if facilities for evacuation were at hand.

Advise Department frankly and fully of facilities which you need in order that this Government may do its full part and more if necessary in helping to meet tragic situation at Smyrna as described by press reports received yesterday and today.

PHILLIPS

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 19, 1922—4 p.m.

[Received 9:05 p.m.]

192.Referring to my telegram number 190, September 18, 7 p.m. Following from Smyrna repeated for the Department's information:

"Seventeenth. Official proclamation by the Turks. Refugee men from 18 to 45 prisoners of war. All others may be evacuated up to October 1st. Deportations continuing. Disorder still prevalent. Case of shooting witnessed on water front stopped. Americans continuing coming in city. Four to-day. All on board excepting American Consul and two Blackler women at Budja orphanage. Relief committee ashore during the day. Fifty thousand in readiness for evacuation north end of city. Relief again organized. Turks furnishing hard-tack to certain extent; fire still burning but not considered dangerous. Edsall".\(^{16}\)

BRISTOL

\(^{14}\)Text quoted in telegram no. 290, Sept. 15, to the Ambassador in Great Britain, p. 423.

\(^{15}\)Not printed.

\(^{16}\)The U.S.S. Edsall.
868.48/115: Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 19, 1922—3 p.m.
[Received 9:44 p.m.]

193. Referring my telegram number 192, September 19, 4 p.m. Following repeated from Smyrna for the Department’s information.

“Eighteenth. Italian Admiral conferred with Kemal who said would not take responsibility allow Greek ships Smyrna. He will ask Government and inform Admiral. Military Governor and staff left with regiment; new Governor Colonel Madja Bey. American citizen Mr. Tara killed about 4 days ago at his house; will bury to-day. U.S.S. Edsall”.

BRISTOL

868.48/118: Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 20, 1922—6 p.m.
[Received September 21—3:10 a.m.]

194. Department’s 131, September 19th. See my telegram 190, September 18th. Department’s 122, September 15 was garbled and thus delayed in transmission.

Yesterday government officers conferred with Italian and British High Commissioners; French High Commissioner is in Smyrna. I met with no encouragement for drawing up joint plan for Smyrna emergency. Therefore, in the meantime having received information that refugees could be evacuated from Smyrna, I directed our destroyers to assist in every way possible and another destroyer will be despatched as soon as possible to assist in this work.

At Italian High Commission I was assured that the high commissioners would take up the question of the Smyrna emergency at their meeting in the afternoon and I was authorized to convey this information to the British High Commissioner and when I saw him he stated he did not know there was to be a meeting in the afternoon. The Italian High Commissioner stated he had just received a telegram from his Government with reference to the Department’s telegram 122, but there were no instructions so he would have to wait for further instructions. I pointed out that the necessity for prompt action was imperative and requested that the Allied High Commis-

* Not printed.
sioners inform me as soon as possible their decision in regard to evacuating these refugees and the place to which they should be evacuated as these were the political questions that only the Allies could decide. I was asked to make a suggestion and I pointed out that I could not presume to do this and [gave expression?] to the desire to have a permanent curiosity [settlement?] as a result of action taken. In the same manner I asked what steps the Allies would take for the relief of these refugees and I was informed it was hoped the United States would step forward in her usual bountiful way and provide the necessary relief. I remarked that we had already spent $70,000,000 here on refugees and the situation steadily got worse with more refugees and we could not continue to assume such obligations without any end in sight. However, I was sure that we would cooperate with the Allies to take care of that situation.

At the British High Commission I was informed that no instructions in accordance with Department's 122 had been received and without such instructions action could not be taken. I have noted the substance of the aforesaid despatch and discussed the situation. In this discussion and merely as information I was informed that the Greek patriarch had applied to Rumbold 23 to feed 50,000 refugees at Rodosto for ten days until other means of relief could be provided. Rumbold had conferred with the military and naval commanders who had no provisions for this feeding and so he informed the patriarch that he could do nothing for these refugees at Rodosto. He had informed his Government of the action taken and they had approved. He went on to explain that on account of the great economy required of his Government they could not take up any such question of relief work where money was involved.

The relief committee of our chapter met with me today and we decided to continue our emergency relief work at Smyrna and to send a relief unit to Rodosto for immediate relief and report further relief necessary. The Armenian and Greek Patriarchs are to be requested to send ships as soon as possible to evacuate refugees from Smyrna. They are also to be informed that our relief measures are only to cover the present emergency and we will expect them to provide beyond this for the Greek and Armenian refugees. Thus Greek ships that cannot enter Smyrna will be loaded by destroyers at Mytilene or some other island near by. We are taking up the question of utilizing Ship[ping] Board ship or other vessels that may be available. The refugees have all been evacuated from Moudania and we have sufficient supplies for the immediate necessities at Smyrna. The Turks are evacuating the refugees from Smyrna into

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23 Sir Horace Rumbold, British High Commissioner at Constantinople.
the interior. We have no information as to what is being done with these refugees. We will attempt to follow up these refugees and render assistance if necessary. Later there will undoubtedly be necessary relief work amongst Allied [Anatolian] inhabitants in those areas that were devastated by the Greek Army during its retreat. Our committee of which the members are representatives of all the American institutions, agree that immediate relief measures should be taken to meet the present situation but with the understanding that Greece and the Allies should be induced to assume all future responsibility for the relief of these refugees and final disposition of them. It is our belief that our American people should not be induced to contribute money to relieve Greece and the Allies of their responsibility. However, we should receive full support for the emergency relief that we are now carrying out. Without waiting for the Allies to act and in view of the unexpected evacuation of refugees to the interior from Smyrna, we will take all possible steps to meet the present emergency and the latter facts induced me to give orders to use the limited number of destroyers I have available to assist in the evacuation.

I will see General Pelle as soon as he returns and follow up Rumbold and Garroni to draw up a joint plan for future action.

BRISTOL

868.48/117: Telegram

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Acting Secretary of State

ATHENS, September 20, 1922—10 p. m.
[Received September 21—3:25 a. m.]

119. High Commissioner Constantinople telegraphs: "Impossible Near East Relief send unit as all its resources devoted to Smyrna situation at present. I consider responsibility for care of refugees after they leave Asia Minor rests solely on Greek Government and Allies." These destitute refugees being landed daily Greek territory. Greek Government and organizations helping them but task is much too big. Money and food badly needed. I recommend urgently American relief organizations send assistance to Greece.

Greek Government giving some supplies Armenian children here from American Smyrna missionary institutions and Queen has offered villa for American Smyrna refugees.

CAFFERY

* Marquis C. Garroni, Italian High Commissioner at Constantinople.
The Acting Secretary of State to the High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol)

WASHINGTON, September 21, 1922—7 p. m.

140. Your 194 September 20, 6 p. m.

Department summarizes for your confidential information steps which have been taken to prepare for more extended emergency relief work in Near East:

(1) The President has asked Congress to appropriate $200,000 for the relief and possible repatriation of destitute American citizens.

(2) In addition to $25,000 already advanced, American Red Cross has informally indicated willingness to make further advance possibly to a total of $100,000.

(3) Near East Relief has addressed general appeal throughout the country for an emergency fund and in addition to funds resulting from this appeal will probably be able to make advances to possible total of $200,000.

(4) Rockefeller Relief has been approached and there is prospect of advances from this source.

(5) Efforts are being made towards organization of a Committee in New York to centralize all American relief work for this particular emergency.

(6) American Relief Administration is communicating with its Moscow representative with a view to ascertaining whether food cargo on S. S. Clontarf en route to Odessa and possibly now in the Mediterranean could be turned over for Smyrna relief if funds to purchase cargo were available.

(7) Young Men’s Christian Association has advanced $10,000 and there is possibility of further advances.

The above is tentative for your personal guidance alone and does not indicate final commitments of these various organizations but will give you an idea of the efforts which are being made in this country to meet the situation. The Department is concentrating its efforts on (1) immediate relief and repatriation of Americans; (2) centralizing and coordinating relief of various private agencies; and (3) keeping these agencies fully informed of the activities of your committee.

Success of the Department’s efforts will depend largely upon full information from you as to exact problem which must be met, the facilities which are now available for meeting it and your needs for the immediate future.

Department concurs in your recommendations that American efforts should be immediately concentrated on evacuation and care of refugees during and previous to such evacuation but desires at the same time to be kept fully informed of status of these refugees after
evacuation has been carried out in order that it may help to guide relief societies in defining their policy.

Department is still hopeful that you will succeed in drawing up with Allies a general plan for relief but in absence of such a plan you will submit as specific information as is possible as to what you need to cope with the situation.

PHILLIPS

868.48/129 : Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Acting Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 22, 1922—10 a. m.

[Received 8:10 p. m.]

202. Department's telegram no. 133, September 19, 3 p. m. See my telegram 194, September 20, 6 p.m.

Department is being promptly, freely and frankly advised as it is possible under the present ever rapidly changing conditions. I sympathize with the Department's anxiety for news and desire that our Government take its part to relieve this tragic situation. The situation changes so rapidly and completely from day to day that it is practically impossible to give any comprehensive plan for relief. Thus we have attempted to meet the situations as they have arisen and have done so with much success. Just at present we have sufficient relief stores available to meet the situation and the flour situation in Constantinople is good. For the present our funds are sufficient. We received information they are ready to receive refugees at Saloniki and Cavalla without limit to number, also five or six hundred can be sent to each of several islands in the Aegean Sea. The Greek Government in order to care for these refugees may require additional funds. If Greece were to demobilize her army including the army in Thrace she could devote such war expenses to her demobilized troops and the refugees that she has created devastating Anatolia. If Greece should demobilize and place herself on a peace [footing] I should strongly recommend assisting her with funds to care for her demobilized army and her refugees from Anatolia. This will provide that the Greek Government could handle all relief work in her own country and our relief organizations would not be drawn into operations in Greece that would mean large expenditures of money and with more or less permanent activities.

Referring to previous correspondence on the 7th instant which stated critical situation developed in Smyrna I had meeting of the
Disaster Preparedness Committee and we organized a Disaster Relief Committee for Smyrna. That committee proceeded to Smyrna on same destroyer as my chief of staff, Captain Hepburn, who was to use our naval forces to assist that committee. Major Davis representing our chapter and Mr. Jaquith representing Near East Relief, went to Smyrna and the representatives there of the Y. M. C. A., the Young Women’s Christian Association and of the American Foreign Missions Board became members of this committee and further members amongst American business men were selected to serve on the committee. Thus there has been in Smyrna a Disaster Relief Committee representing all American interests that have been carrying on relief work. Funds were raised locally in addition to funds supplied by the Near East Relief and the Red Cross and other American institutions. Other nationalities have not organized any relief work in Smyrna. Another similar committee was organized and sent to Moudania and Brousse and rendered emergency relief and assisted to evacuate all refugees. The Greek and Armenian Patriarchs furnished vessels and the French military forces landed in Moudania and French naval vessels rendered assistance in evacuating refugees.

Another committee was sent today on sub-chaser to Rodosto to render immediate relief and make investigations for further action. It is tentatively proposed to evacuate the refugees from there to Cavalla and Salonica and this place may become a sphere of future military operations. This evacuation would take place after the Smyrna situation is cleared up. I saw Hamid Bey today and urged him in the strongest way to protect refugees at Smyrna. I am making plans to protect Americans and American interests in Constantinople against any untoward eventualities.

Bristol

868.48/117 : Telegram

The Acting Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

WASHINGTON, September 22, 1922—7 p. m.

66. Your 119, September 20, 10 p.m.

Bristol recommends that immediate American relief activities be concentrated on evacuation of refugees and caring for these refugees prior to and during evacuation. Department concurs with these recommendations but is keeping both Near East Relief and the American Red Cross informed regarding conditions of refugees after their evacuation to Greece and desires you to report fully in this regard. Meanwhile Department understands that American Red Cross has received appeal directly from Greek Red Cross which
is being considered and that Near East Relief is contemplating possible extension of its work to Greece.

You will readily appreciate that the Department cannot urge American relief societies to assume what might be an indefinite obligation to care for refugees after their evacuation from Anatolia and is inclined to agree with Admiral Bristol that responsibility in this regard rests primarily upon Greece and the Allied Governments. Bristol is being instructed to repeat to you, for your confidential information only, Department's 140, September 21, 7 p.m., summarizing efforts which have been made here to organize emergency relief work.

Repeat this telegram to Constantinople as Depts 144.

PHILLIPS

888.48/141 : Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 25, 1922—5 p.m.

[Received September 26—3:40 a.m.]

217. I had a conversation with my Allied colleagues this morning, Rumbold, Garroni and Pellé. Rumbold informed me that the British were sending 15 ships immediately to Smyrna to assist in the evacuation. His Government has offered to subscribe 50,000 pounds sterling on condition that other nations contribute; also 100,000 francs have been immediately donated to be used by [Nansen] for immediate relief. The British, French and Italians have no funds here at their disposal for immediate relief. Garroni and Pellé thought that enough ships were provided for evacuation purposes and they do not contemplate sending any ships. Garroni and Pellé stated they would ask their Governments for funds to provide emergency rations for evacuation purposes. I informed my colleagues that our relief organizations had chartered two ships to assist in evacuation and American merchant vessels were being diverted to Smyrna for the same purpose and we would consider obtaining other ships to assist in evacuation. I informed them that we had a Disaster Relief Committee in Smyrna which represented all of our relief organizations in this part of the world and they were rendering immediate relief in the form of emergency rations and in obtaining shipping for evacuation; and that we were at present issuing 20,000 rations per day in Smyrna. I stated that we had funds from our private relief organizations to assist in this work but did not consider it necessary to give them detailed information
of funds available however I did inform Rumbold that I had received a telegram badly garbled but which indicated that our Government had appropriated funds for relief purposes. I also informed him that through our influence 10 Greek vessels were in Smyrna by permission of the Turkish Mussulman authorities and engaged in evacuating refugees as fast as possible. In order to expedite evacuation these refugees were being taken to Mytilene Island, also that our destroyers were assisting in this evacuation. I pointed out the necessity for immediate action in evacuating these refugees from Smyrna before the time limit October 1st set by the Nationalist authorities after which no refugees could be evacuated. I stated that we had received unofficial information that Greek Government would receive refugees at Salonica and Cavalla without limit, and limited numbers on several islands in the Aegean Sea; and at the present time there were 80,000 refugees on the island of Mytilene that should be evacuated to Salonica and Cavalla or other Greek ports.

The conference decided unanimously to instruct our naval representatives at Smyrna to approach the Nationalist authorities and obtain permission to extend time beyond October 1st for the evacuation of the refugees; to expedite all evacuation measures and for this purpose to evacuate to Mytilene Island and later to Cavalla, Salonica and other Greek ports. It is necessary to have ships provisioned to feed refugees in passage during evacuation and Rumbold undertook to give the necessary directions to British vessels. I stated that we were sending bread and flour to Smyrna, Rodosto and Mytilene and pointed out the difficulty of baking bread in these places and thus the necessity for sending bread. It was decided that our naval representative[s] in Smyrna should be instructed to cooperate in carrying out the evacuation from Smyrna with the greatest dispatch and later the evacuation from Mytilene to the mainland and they should inform us of steps taken and the necessity for immediate rationing and relief of these refugees until they are landed in Greece. It was agreed that in accordance with the probability [that] oriental Thrace might be returned to Turkey that the Greek refugees in Silivri, Ereğli and Rodosto should also be evacuated later.

It was agreed that the question of necessary relief and disposition of refugees in Greece should be handled by the Greek Government and other nations interested. Rumbold informed me on the side that funds for relief work would probably have to be supplied by England and America, intimating that we could not expect any assistance from Italy and France. However, as the situation develops here I will press my colleagues to obtain funds for our immediate relief work here.
This despatch will be communicated to our Minister at Athens for his information and necessary instructions will be issued to our naval detachment and our relief organizations will continue their activities. There was a meeting our Disaster Relief Committee in the Embassy to-day to coordinate all relief work. Thus far contributions from different associations total $85,000. I will request further contributions from Red Cross as may be necessary.

BRISTOL

868.08/142 : Telegram

The Ambassador in Great Britain (Harvey) to the Secretary of State

LONDON, September 26, 1922—5 p.m.

[Received September 26—5 p.m.]

434. Your 290 September 15, 2[5] p.m. Following note received from the Foreign Office:

“His Majesty’s Government are gratified to learn from the communication which you made to this Department on the 16th instant of the interest taken by the United States Government in the distress unhappily prevalent among the Greek refugees of Asia Minor and of the invaluable help already rendered by private American relief organizations. I have now the honor to request that you will inform the Government of the United States of the attitude of His Majesty’s Government.

In general it is the opinion of His Majesty’s Government that relief measures both for those refugees who remain in Turkey and for those who have been removed to Greece should be conducted by private organizations and they have brought the facts of the situation to the knowledge of the British Red Cross and other British relief societies of which some already have organizations in the Near East and one has issued a fresh appeal for funds. The British Red Cross has also suggested to the International Committee of the Red Cross and to the League of Red Cross Societies the desirability of international action particularly in Asia Minor where the attitude of Mustafa Kemal makes it practically impossible for British, French or Italian relief organizations to undertake any work. His Majesty’s Government recognize the supreme importance of the coordination of all efforts and consider that this coordination could most easily be obtained by the exercise of general supervision by the Associated High Commissioners at Constantinople. With this in view they welcome the instructions issued to Admiral Bristol to consult his Allied colleagues and to prepare with them a comprehensive plan of relief. Sir H. Rumbold has been instructed similarly.

His Majesty’s Government are supporting to the full the efforts which are being made by the Associated admirals and consuls at Smyrna to arrange for the embarkation of the refugees. They have intimated to the Greek Government that they are prepared at once
to charter British cargo vessels for the removal of the refugees provided that Mustafa Kemal will consent to this.

So far as the provision of funds is concerned His Majesty’s Government have adopted the proposals of the Assembly of the League of Nations. That is to say they have agreed that 100,000 francs shall be put immediately at the disposal of Doctor Nansen and in order that more extensive measures may be adopted they have undertaken to contribute up to 50,000 pounds sterling provided that other countries each advance an equal sum.

I have, etc."

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Harvey

868.48/150: Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, September 28, 1922—3 p.m.

[Received 8:54 p.m.]

225. Department’s 152 September 25, 5 p.m.\(^{29}\) Kemal’s reply September 25th to Italian Admiral refused responsibility permitting Greek vessels enter Smyrna pending reference to his Government. (See my 183 [193] September 19, 5 [3] p.m.) On September 22 the commanding officer of our destroyer at Smyrna received in answer to his request official notification from the Turkish authorities to effect that Greek vessel could enter Smyrna for evacuation purposes providing not flying Greek flag; not to come alongside quay and no officers or men allowed on shore. American destroyer carried this information same night to Greek vessels which were then at Mytilene. September 24th seven Greek vessels arrived at Smyrna and evacuated 15,000 refugees. (See my despatch number 216 September 25, 2 p.m.\(^{29}\)) The Turkish troops assisted efficiently in embarking these refugees and 50 of our sailors also helped relief workers in handling refugees. September 25th no Greek vessels arrived at Smyrna but on September 26 my senior officer Smyrna informed me 43,000 refugees evacuated to Mytilene that date and that he expected more ships the 27th. Nationality of ships referred to is not stated. On September 25th following [apparent omission] from the High Commissioners reported in my 217 September 25, 5 p.m., and as stated therein I issued instructions my naval representative Smyrna to approach Nationalist authorities and endeavor to obtain permission to prolong time for evacuation of refugees beyond October 1st and to expedite all evacuation measures. Thus far no information of arrival any British vessels to assist evacuation.

\(^{29}\) Not printed.
Referring to last paragraph Department's above mentioned telegram question of projected time limit for evacuation still pending. All men from 18 to 45 have been separated from other refugees. Part have been employed both in city and outside cleaning debris and restoring railroad but impossible to obtain reliable information as to disposition of majority. There were also other refugees deported to the interior but it is impossible to estimate the numbers.

I will inform Department immediately on receipt of information concerning prolongation of time limit.

BRISTOL

863.48/142: Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Ambassador in Great Britain (Harvey)

WASHINGTON, September 29, 1922—5 p.m.

297. Your 434 September 26, 5 p.m.

Inform British Foreign Office of this Government's great interest in the step which His Majesty's Government has taken to assist in the relief of refugees in Asia Minor. It has taken occasion informally to bring to the attention of American relief societies the initiative of the British Government in this regard as well as the latter's expressed willingness to take further steps and to make substantial advances of funds should other countries also contribute toward the relief work.

Through the instrumentality of various American relief societies, funds and supplies representing a contribution of approximately $300,000 have been made available for the relief of refugees. This sum is in addition to a governmental appropriation of $200,000 to be expended under direction of Secretary of State through Consul Heizer which will be available for the relief and repatriation of destitute American citizens and their relatives. American emergency relief units have been sent to Rodosto, Mudania and Brussa, as well as Smyrna, a number of vessels have already been chartered for the evacuation of the refugees, and American destroyers are participating in this work.

Also advise Foreign Office that a copy of their note is being communicated to the American High Commission[er] at Constantinople who has already informed this Government of the plans of the British Representative at Constantinople to facilitate the work of relief and stated that he was in close consultation with his Allied Colleagues in coordinating this work.

Repeat your 434 September 26, 5 p.m. and the above to High Commission, Constantinople.

HUGHES
The Secretary of State to the High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol)

WASHINGTON, October 9, 1922—5 p.m.

183. The President yesterday issued the following statement regarding relief work in the Near East:

"A recognized and most appealing emergency exists in the Near East. After full conference it is unanimously agreed that the American Red Cross and the Near East Relief, two governmentally recognized agencies, are the logical instrumentalities through which this relief may be extended and it is a manifest duty that they should take care of the situation. It has been decided that these two organizations will take care of the situation jointly. In a campaign of most cordial cooperation they will command the facilities for most efficient ministration.

In order to meet the situation there is created a special fund to be known as 'Near East Emergency Fund.' This special fund is to be raised by a nation-wide appeal, which appeal is endorsed and will be engaged in by the American Red Cross, the Near East Relief, the Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., the Federal Council of Churches, the Knights of Columbus, the American Relief Administration, the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and other organizations having interest in the Near East.

Money may be sent to Eliot Wadsworth, treasurer, of the American Red Cross, Washington, D. C.; Cleveland H. Dodge, treasurer, Near East Relief, 151 Fifth Avenue, New York; or the Literary Digest, 354 Fourth Avenue, New York. A special emphasis and appeal for funds will be made during the roll call of the American Red Cross in November. Checks in each instance shall be made payable to the Near East Emergency Fund.

A special committee has been named to assist in the emergency joint appeal, consisting of the heads of the organizations above mentioned. This special committee consists of Mr. Will H. Hays, chairman; Judge John Barton Payne, of the American Red Cross; Dr. James L. Barton, of the Near East Relief; R. J. Cudihy, of the Literary Digest; John L. Flaherty, of the Knights of Columbus; Dr. John R. Mott, of the Y. M. C. A.; Mrs. John French, of the Y. W. C. A.; Dr. Robert E. Speer, of the Federal Council of Churches; Felix Warburg, of the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and Herbert Hoover, of the American Relief Administration.

The relief already afforded will be followed at once by the most prompt ministration which the American Red Cross and Near East Relief can bestow in coordinated efforts, proceeding on the assumption that the heart of the American people will respond generously in enabling these agencies of relief to meet the crying emergency."

Repeat to Athens as Depts 70.

Hughes
868.48/178a : Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

WASHINGTON, October 9, 1922—7 p.m.

71. Following from American Red Cross.

“American Red Cross is prepared to send mission to Athens to assist in administration of relief measures on behalf of refugees from Smyrna if approved by Greek authorities, and if these authorities are prepared to afford full protection for personnel and provide necessary storage and transportation facilities for supplies."

Communicate above to Greek authorities as coming from the Red Cross and cable prompt reply.

Repeat above to Bristol for his information only.

HUGHES

868.48/176 : Telegram

The Ambassador in Great Britain (Harvey) to the Secretary of State

LONDON, October 10, 1922—3 p.m.

[Received 7:43 p.m.]

451. Department’s 297 September 29, 5 p.m. Foreign Office informs me that the British High Commissioner at Constantinople and Minister at Athens are being instructed to urge local representatives of British relief societies to cooperate to the fullest possible extent with the American relief organizations concerned.

Above repeated to Constantinople and Athens.

HARVEY

868.48/180 : Telegram

The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, October 11, 1922—noon.

[Received October 12—1:55 a.m.]

260. For Ost, Near East Relief, New York.

“Number 14. Peet,21 Gates, Jaquith met with Admiral Bristol today for the purpose of taking immediate action upon serious situation of the Greek, Armenian orphans in Constantinople. Admiral Bristol expressed deep concern for the safety of the orphans.

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21 William W. Peet, treasurer and business manager, American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions in Turkey.
The Allied decision to withdraw from Constantinople makes safety of orphans first consideration. In view past felicitations [sic] and statements made in newspapers by high officials in Smyrna there is no place, after defeat of the Greeks, in Turkish Empire for Greeks. Hatred against Armenians at Smyrna more bitter than against the Greeks. Conditions here offer no hope for safety or opportunity become self-supporting. Necessity of evacuation during the last few days Kuleli, Beylar Bey, Karagousian and other buildings on the Asiatic shore. Difficulty and practical impossibility secure houses or permanent shelter for Harput and Smyrna orphans forces the committee to unanimous decision to request Admiral Bristol to secure permission for the entrance of 5,000 Armenian children into America; to charter steamship New York for this purpose; and to take immediate necessary step toward immediate fulfillment of this decision. Admiral Bristol has given his hearty approval and support to the above request. Greek orphans should be removed to Greece, this can be arranged locally. Boys could be distributed on farms, girls in domestic employment. Confident New York can handle distribution; probably easily possible from Philadelphia, Near East guaranteeing State Department support and distribution in America. We are proceeding to make necessary arrangements with S. S. New York and will be ready to make removal within ten days. Confident American public opinion will support wholeheartedly such movement as only hope for the real future of these children together with immediate safety. Confident you will recognize that only most critical situation would make such a move on our part seem imperative. Deeply appreciative Admiral Bristol's whole-hearted cooperation and even insistence on such a program. Request complete arrangements with State Department. Cable immediately as every day vital. Jaquith."

Bristol

868.48/179: Telegram

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

ATHENS, October 11, 1922—9 p.m.

[Received 10:31 p.m.]

140. Department’s 71, October 9, 7 p.m. Greek authorities express deep gratitude on their behalf Red Cross and promise all desired facilities.

Caffery...
The Chief of the Division of Near Eastern Affairs, Department of State (Dulles) to Mr. C. V. Vickrey of the Near East Relief

WASHINGTON, October 13, 1922.

My Dear Mr. Vickrey: I am enclosing for your information a copy of Mr. Jaquith's telegram No. 14 sent from Constantinople on the 11th instant through Admiral Bristol.

The question of the possible transfer of the orphans mentioned in this telegram has been brought to the attention of the Secretary. It would appear, however, that these persons could not all be brought in under the Turkish quota and that there is no authority to permit the entry of aliens in excess of quota without Congressional action.

Sincerely yours,

A. W. Dulles

868.48/184: Telegram

The Ambassador in Great Britain (Harvey) to the Secretary of State

LONDON, October 14, 1922—10 a.m.
[Received 3:09 p.m.]

464. Following from Constantinople:

October 13, 11:00 a.m. Repeat to Secretary of State as my 265 October 13, noon. Yesterday held a conference with my colleagues (Rumbold, Garroni, Pellé and Uchida) and Doctor Nansen to hear certain propositions and requests of latter. He stated that for the solution of the refugee problem in Greece it was necessary to get them located in Greece so they could become self-supporting. Therefore the men of the families from 18 to 45 years of age that the Turks had retained in Anatolia should rejoin their families in Greece to work for the support of their families. He states that it seemed certain that these women and children and old men would not be permitted to return to Anatolia, therefore the Turks should allow the men to rejoin their families in Greece. It was pointed out to Nansen that these men retained in Anatolia were practically every one Ottoman subjects and men of military age, therefore so long as war existed between Greece and Turkey, the Turks were legally justified in holding these men and utilizing them in labor battalions. . . . Nansen seemed certain that guaranteeing [guar-anty] not to utilize these men in Greece for military purposes could be obtained from Greece. There was a discussion regarding
the exchange of Turkish prisoners and of Turkish hostages deported from Anatolia by the Greeks for these Ottoman Greeks retained in Anatolia. The British, French and Italian High Commissioners were unanimous in their abstaining from any direct action upon Nansen’s proposal, but Nansen replied that he simply wanted to be supported and be able to state to the Turkish officials that he did have the support of the Allied and Associated High Commissioners. I suggested that so far as the exchange of prisoners was concerned this was an affair between Greece and Turkey and so far as my Government was concerned I was sure that it would not approve of our entering into any such negotiations. The three Allied Commissioners then assured Nansen of their support; and when I was asked regarding my attitude I stated that I felt my Government purely on a ground of humanity, if this was distinctly understood, would lend its support to Nansen in trying to have the Greek men retained in Asia Minor rejoin their families that have become refugees in Greece, however, it was necessary from [for] me to communicate with my Government which I would do immediately and inform them and Nansen of my Government’s decision. Uchida stated the same thing that I had. I suggested and it was accepted that this question of releasing these Greek men from Anatolia should be one of the first things taken up at the coming Peace Conference on the ground of humanity; while at the same time an exchange of prisoners and hostages might also be arranged. It was agreed by every one that these men should rejoin their families before the spring planting.

Nansen then informed the conference that Hamid Bey had told him the day before that in accordance with the agreement between Moscow and Angora all Russians in Constantinople would have to leave the city when the Angora Government comes into power in Constantinople. At the present time the League of Nations, American Relief Administration and American Red Cross plan to evacuate about 7,000 Russians, who are dependent, to Varna in Bulgaria and there establish them in a camp from which place they are to be distributed to places where they can become self-supporting. This plan was evolved when it was understood that the other Russians living here and gaining a livelihood would not be compelled to leave when the Turks reoccupied Constantinople. Under the present condition laid down by Hamid Bey twenty to thirty thousand Russians would have to be evacuated. Nansen stated that either the other countries must be made to change their policy and receive these Russians or else the attitude of Turkey toward the evacuation of these Russians should be changed. As regards the first proposition Nansen had been trying for over a year to get the countries in Europe to take these Russian refugees without success except in
very small numbers. Servia, for instance, recently refused to have any more Russians because they have so many and the Russians are giving them trouble. It was agreed that Nansen should try to get the Turks to change their attitude by pointing out that Turkey would thus stand alone in the world as not extending hospitality to foreign races. Further was agreed, and the Allied representatives undertook to make representations to their governments, for this matter to be taken up at the peace conference. Bristol.

Harvey

868.48/184: Telegram

The Secretary of State to the High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol)

Washington, October 21, 1922—2 p. m.

208. Department approves your statement to Nansen as indicated in your October 13, 11 a. m. through Embassy London that on grounds of humanity this Government would of course welcome action by the Kemalists authorities to permit Ottoman Greeks now held in Anatolia to rejoin their families in Greece.

Hughes

868.48/215: Telegram

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

Athens, October 31, 1922—11 a. m.
[Received 6:30 p. m.]

157. Doctor Hill, Red Cross representative, has arrived and is studying refugee problem.

Last week Minister for Foreign Affairs asked me if Red Cross would consent to take entire charge of Ministry of Public Assistance; but I replied my opinion that American relief organizations would assume no responsibility whatever in connection with refugee problem, but were willing to lend assistance to Greek authorities in caring for refugees. Doctor Hill now concurs.

Doctor Nansen arrived last week and attempted to get approval of Greek Government for formation of general supervisory committee for all refugee work in Greece under the jurisdiction of League of Nations. I informed Greek Cabinet my opinion American relief organizations perfectly willing to work in harmony with League of Nations committee, but that impossible for American relief organizations to work under the supervision of Doctor Nansen. Greek authorities thereupon informed Nansen his scheme for supervisory committee unacceptable. Doctor Hill now concurs.

Caffery
The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

CONSTANTINOPLE, November 2, 1922—10 a.m.
[Received November 3—1 a.m.]

287. For Department’s information. The following telegram, dated October 28, 5 p. m, has been sent to Legation at Athens with request it be repeated to Department:

“General Harington, the commander-in-chief of the Allied forces, is in direct control of evacuation of eastern Thrace. Almost all Greek civilians have been withdrawn, and in most orderly manner. Allied supervision has maintained, as far as possible, strict impartiality toward whole civil population.

There was slight misunderstanding at first on part of French and Italians regarding evacuation of Greek civilians, but it was remedied by British, French, and Italian officers composing Allied commission charged with investigation and regulation of measures of evacuation. There has been no interference with civil population in taking with them their goods and their stores of food. Only a small quantity of food has been removed, but practically all livestock and means of transport has been carried away, and the remaining population is stripped of cattle useful in transport or cultivation. While, therefore, the food supplies have been voluntarily abandoned by the departing Greeks and Armenians, the cattle have been forcibly carried off. Attempt will be made by Allied commissions to restore stock to eastern Thrace where it belongs.

I believe the above information is entirely reliable as I received it from General Harington. Information from local sources may be less trustworthy and given out for propaganda. I suggest, therefore, that American relief agencies in Greece be warned against giving it full credence. I understand that reports from Greece estimate 800,000 refugees evacuated from Anatolia. This does not agree with record of numbers we actually evacuated. Our own figure is about 300,000 evacuated from all ports from Mudania to Alaya, and it is hardly credible that half million more had already been evacuated before our destroyers took charge of operations on September 14.

Devastated regions of Anatolia are in great need of relief. Liaison work should also be undertaken regarding Turkish prisoners in Greece and Greek prisoners in Turkey. I suggest, therefore, that as soon as possible representatives of Near East Relief and of Red Cross come from Greece to Constantinople to confer with relief agencies here and with me for purpose of drawing up joint plan. I can arrange, if notified, to have representatives brought to Constantinople and returned by destroyer.”

BRISTOL
The Acting High Commissioner at Constantinople (Dolbeare) to the Secretary of State

No. 577  

Constantinople, November 25, 1922.

[Received January 4, 1923.]

Sir: I have the honor to enclose for the information of the Department copy of a report from the Senior Naval Officer at Smyrna, dated October 20, 1922, giving a summary of the evacuation of refugees from that city, and the agencies by which it was accomplished. Although it is a "supplementary report" this includes all previous reports and is a final statement.

I have [etc.]

Frederic R. Dolbeare

[Enclosure]

The Senior Naval Officer Present at Smyrna (Powell) to the Commander, U. S. Naval Detachment in Turkish Waters (Bristol)


1. The following is a supplementary report of evacuations from Smyrna and vicinity:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Evacuated by</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>British, Brit. Nationals</td>
<td>3000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French, French Nationals</td>
<td>7000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italians, Italian Nationals</td>
<td>11000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U. S. Destroyers</td>
<td>2080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winona</td>
<td>1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constantinople</td>
<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dotch</td>
<td>5000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Casey</td>
<td>600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Ships</td>
<td>40954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek Ships</td>
<td>140046</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total evacuated from Smyrna 213480

Greek Charter under British Control, British ships commandeered by British PN-TO, and one British ship Disrelcom guarantee.

U. S. Control.

Greek Ships 140046

Chesme—British ships and in U. S. Destroyer 6700 Assisted by French Destroyer.

Vourla—Greek ships 10400 U. S. Control and in U. S. Destroyers.

Aivali—Greek & British Ships 15200 U. S. Control
Cape Helles .......................... 3800 In British Ship—Sabino
Kuluk—Greek Ships .................... 1052 U. S. Control
Makri,—Greek Ships .................. 2000 U. S. Control
Adalia—Greek Ships ................. 8005 U. S. Control
Port of Alaya—Greek Ships ......... 600 U. S. Control
Rhodes—Greek Ships .................. 1350 U. S. Control

Total from vicinity of Smyrna ........ 49107

GRAND TOTAL .......................... 262587

HALSEY POWELL

767.88119/203: Telegram

The Special Mission at Lausanne to the Secretary of State

[Paraphrase]

LAUSANNE, November 25, 1922—6 p. m.
[Received November 25—4:23 p. m.]

20. We have received a request from Venizelos to support a plea he is ready to make for the release of an alleged hundred thousand males, chiefly Greeks, now alleged to be detained by the Turks. Venizelos bases his plea on the ground that the males must join their families in order to support the women and children and thus solve general relief problem. He says that this is necessary for the reduction of relief expenses to which generous contributions have been made by America. The suggestion is made from other Greek and British sources that contributions from America in the form of direct relief have a tendency to keep the refugees in a continuing condition of helplessness. It is suggested, therefore, that a loan be made to Greece with possibly a commission in charge of its expenditure. On the second point we have indicated that we would inquire as to the views, if any, of the Department.

CHILD GREW

767.88119/203: Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Special Mission at Lausanne

[Paraphrase]

WASHINGTON, November 28, 1922—6 p. m.

15. Mission's No. 20 of November 25, 6 p. m. has just been received in corrected form. You may support in appropriate manner

*The Ambassador in Italy (Child) and the Minister in Switzerland (Grew) had been instructed to be present at Lausanne as observers during the sessions of the conference for negotiating peace between the Allies and Turkey.
plea on humanitarian grounds for the release of Ottoman Greek males in view of the defenceless position in which refugee women and children are left in the absence of their natural protectors. Further ground for support may be found in the large demand which the existing situation creates for American generosity.

The matter of a possible loan would call for further consideration should there be a definite request to bankers. The Department does not see how it will alter present state of helplessness to have Greek supervision of relief money expenditure.

Hughes

867.48/1444: Telegram

The Acting High Commissioner at Constantinople (Dolbeare) to the Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 5, 1922—9 a.m.

[Received 3:15 p.m.]

368, Department’s 268 [275] November 29, 2 p.m. [6 p.m.]24 Continuing my 361 November 29, 11 a.m.24

In eastern Thrace complete evacuation of non-Moslem population has ended relief work. In Constantinople Greek and Armenian committee are caring for their nationals. In Anatolia Near East is furnishing emergency relief to refugees assembling in Black Sea ports and has offered to provision any Greek vessels which may go to take them off. Similar situation at Mersine. At Smyrna, Disaster Relief Committee of Constantinople chapter, American Red Cross, has been issuing rations at the rate of 100 sacks of flour per diem to Turkish and Jewish refugees. League of Nations has sent 200 tons flour and International Red Cross one shipment of supplies, but neither one is maintaining relief work there. The Turkish Red Crescent is at work in the devastated regions but no statistics are available. The Constantinople chapter is endeavoring in cooperation with the relief agencies in Greece to arrange for the assistance of prisoners of war. I understand that this work is well organized among the Turkish prisoners in Greece but little has yet been done for the Greek prisoners in Anatolia.

Relief for the non-Moslem population of Anatolia is at present on an unorganized and emergency basis and it is as yet difficult to predict what proportions the movement of this population will assume. The organizations now at work here are without funds adequately to meet the situation which would arise should this migration become general.

24 Not printed.
Little has yet been done for the assistance of Moslem population in the devastated regions of western Anatolia. The committee at Smyrna with the assistance of the Near East is endeavoring to find homes among the local population 50,000 Moslem orphans. That committee composed of local American business men and educators feels that the constructive form of relief for the use of people would be the establishment of loan bank with American capital which would enable them to reestablish themselves on the land and get in a crop next season. A plan for this is now being developed.

In this report I have confined myself to refugee situation which has arisen as a result of the Greco-Turkish war and have not included the question of Russian refugees in Constantinople or of the Near East orphanages.

Repeated to Lausanne.

DOLBEARE

868.48/281: Telegram

The Acting High Commissioner at Constantinople (Dolbeare) to the Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, December 22, 1922—3 p.m.

[Received 5:50 p.m.]

392. 1. In addition to persons carried on regular steamers about 10,000 non-paying refugees from Samsoun and other Black Sea ports have been transported to Constantinople and transferred to Greek vessels here. This work has been supervised by American destroyer commanders and Near East [Relief] has given food.

2. Estimates indicate three to five thousand per week will come in from interior during the next month to these ports. Public announcement has been made that time limit is removed and all Christians desiring to leave Anatolia may do so. Local officials in these ports cooperate satisfactorily with our officers.

3. Constantinople representative of Angora Government states to me that Angora Government will not allow Greek refugee ships to proceed to Black Sea ports if accompanied by American destroyers. After consulting Admiral Long I stated our vessels could accompany when advisable but not escort, with a view to furnish practical assistance but not protection and merely as extension of services now being rendered in and near ports of embarkation. Repeated to Lausanne.

DOLBEARE

* Rear Admiral Andrew T. Long, U. S. Navy.
The Acting High Commissioner at Constantinople (Dolbeare) to the Secretary of State

CONSTANTINOPLE, January 4, 1923—2 p.m.
[Received 6:10 p.m.]

6. The Constantinople representative of Greek Government for refugees has received following telegram from his Government:

"Owing to transport of over 50,000 refugees from Pontus to Greece all districts are full up and many refugees remain unhoused, owing to spread of epidemics advisable stop all further shipments to Greece until it is possible thin out refugees whose number has now attained one million, it is impossible to accept more refugees. Please act immediately to prevent at once all fresh arrival of refugees from Constantinople or Pontus till further notice. Alexandris."

Should this decision of Greek Government be carried into effect a most serious situation will arise in Anatolia. Refugees who are estimated to be arriving from interior at Black Sea ports at rate of three to five thousand per week will congregate those ports without possibility of evacuation and without food or shelter. When such concentration becomes sufficiently large Turkish officials may very [properly?] commence deportations of these groups into interior in order to prevent epidemics at the ports and results of such deportations are already too well known to merit comment. It would seem therefore as if Greek Government should be urged to withdraw above-mentioned decision and that relief organizations be urged to cooperate in caring for future arrivals. The question is serious enough to demand immediate action. Pending instructions the High Commission is taking no action. Repeated to Lausanne and Athens.

Dolbeare

811.458/703 : Telegram

The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

WASHINGTON, January 5, 1923—5 p.m.

2. The President has received the following telegram from Athens:

"Accept my sincerest wishes for a Happy New Year with my best thanks for your generous assistance to the suffering people in Greece. George II."

You may informally advise the Foreign Office that this expression of thanks for American relief work is appreciated.

Hughes
The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

[Paraphrase]

WASHINGTON, January 6, 1923—4 p.m.

3. Referring to the decision of the Government of Greece not to admit any more refugees, as indicated in High Commission’s telegram of January 4 from Constantinople. As such exclusion is certain to cause hardship among Anatolian refugees, Department desires you to telegraph whether measure is justified by situation in Greece.

Subject has already been mentioned to Vouros,²⁶ and you may in your discretion acquaint Greek authorities informally with views of High Commission.

Colonel Haskell has just left for Greece. It is understood that he will endeavor to help in formulating plan whereby greatest possible number of refugees may be absorbed into economic life of Greece. The success of his efforts may, therefore, contribute to ability of Greece to admit further immigration of refugees.

Hughes

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The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

ATHENS, January 21, 1923—7 p.m.

[Received January 22—3:17 a.m.]

15. My 13 Thursday last.²⁷ Several Greek Ministers called on me in name of Greek Cabinet and asked me if American relief organization would make definite promise to take entire care of all Greek refugees now in Pontus region in case Greek authorities furnished ships to bring them here. The Ministers added that at a Cabinet meeting held that morning decision had been taken not to receive another refugee in Greece on account of the desperate situation which now prevails. I replied that I did not believe that the American relief associations could give any definite guarantees whatever but that it was my personal opinion that they would help to the extent of their ability to take care temporarily of these Pontus refugees if they were brought here now in Greek vessels. I said also that it was my personal opinion that Greek authorities would injure their own cause before world public opinion if under conditions now existing in Black Sea ports they refused to receive any more Pontus refugees but that I did not desire to interfere or influence their

²⁷ Not printed.
decision. Thereupon another Cabinet meeting was held which decided to resume sending ships for Pontus refugees at once.

CAFFERTY

767.68/358

The Secretary of State to Senator Henry Cabot Lodge

WASHINGTON, February 26, 1923.

MY DEAR SENATOR LODGE: I have received your letter of February
24 28 in which you brought to my attention the report in the Congressional Record of February 23 (p. 4339) 28a of the discussion of a Bill to admit certain refugees from Turkey, during which certain questions relating to this Government's policy in the Near East were raised. I take pleasure in submitting herewith information which may be helpful in answering the specific questions asked:

(1) "What is the condition of the building in Smyrna formerly occupied by the American consular staff?"

The fire which devastated a large section of Smyrna destroyed the quarter of the city where the majority of the foreign consulates were located. The building occupied by Consul General Horton and his staff as the American Consulate General was among those so destroyed. This fire occurred on September 13th last.

As the Consulate building was destroyed in the general conflagration it is not possible to attribute the destruction of this particular building to the individual act of any person or persons. As far as the Department is informed the authors of the fires, apparently of incendiary origin, which brought on the Smyrna conflagration have never been apprehended, nor their identity discovered. On this point conflicting evidence has been received by the Department and the various antagonistic racial groups in Smyrna have each ascribed the origin of the fire to the other. However, the Turkish military authorities in occupation of Smyrna can scarcely avoid responsibility for their failure to maintain order in Smyrna which undoubtedly was one of the contributory causes for the extent of the disaster.

(2) "Has cruelty been inflicted on American sailors or marines; and if so, when, by whom, and to what extent?"

No American marines were present at Smyrna during the disaster. One or more American destroyers were in Smyrna harbor during and subsequent to the fire, the number varying from one to three at various times. Landing parties of American bluejackets were stationed at various points throughout the city as a safeguard for American citizens and their property, in particular to guard the rendezvous where

28 Not printed.
28a Bound vol. 64, p. 4351.
Americans were assembled previous to their evacuation, and to protect the American Collegiate Institute at Smyrna, and other property of American citizens. The Department is not informed that any American sailors were injured during the fire. One bluejacket on guard at an American institution, the International College, near Smyrna was roughly handled by Turkish brigands, rescued by a Turkish officer and did not suffer any permanent injury.

(3) “What action has been taken by the Executive to protect American citizens from injury and death, and what action has been taken to protect the American flag from insult?”

This inquiry is in part answered by the preceding paragraph. American citizens were promptly evacuated from Smyrna on an American destroyer and an American Shipping Board vessel under the protection of a destroyer. The Department is not informed that the American flag suffered insult. Notwithstanding the extraordinary condition which prevailed in Smyrna, due to a fire of almost unprecedented violence, the termination of a military campaign which had aroused racial and nationalist feelings to the highest pitch and a general tendency to disregard the sanctity of life and property on the part of both victor and vanquished, the reports which the Department has received indicate that the American flag in Smyrna was respected and that it served as a rallying point not only for American citizens but to the oppressed and the needy. The record of American officials, of the American Navy, of American citizens and relief workers at Smyrna is one of which all its citizens can justly be proud.

The information before the Department indicates that the refugee problem which confronted Smyrna after the fire has been transferred to Greece where the refugees have now congregated, over 200,000 having been evacuated from Smyrna alone in September largely through the initiative of American naval and relief personnel.

The American Consulate General in Smyrna has never been closed and upon the burning of the old building new quarters were immediately found and the work of our officials in protecting our citizens and our interests was carried on uninterruptedly both during and subsequent to the fire.

I am [etc.]

CHARLES E. HUGHES

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288 Landing parties were as follows: At the American Theatre, the rendezvous where Americans were to be assembled preparatory to evacuation, a machine-gun detachment of 16 men; American Consulate General, 4 men, later increased to 8; International College at Paradise, 16 men; American Collegiate Institute, 8 men, later increased to 12; Y. W. C. A., 4 men, later increased to 12; Y. M. C. A., 4 men, later reduced to 2 men; refugee bakery, 4 men; vicinity of Griswold and Brusick factory, 4 men; vicinity of Magnifico residence, 8 men; vicinity of Lane residence (Bournabat), 4 men; vicinity of Washburn residence, 4 men. These bluejackets were under the immediate command of 4 commissioned officers detailed for shore duty.
CONTINUED IMPRESSMENT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OF GREEK ORIGIN INTO THE GREEK ARMY

368.117/129: Telegram

The Chargé in Greece (Hall) to the Secretary of State

ATHENS, February 15, 1922—noon.

[Received 8:45 p.m.]

17. Question of military service Greek Americans again in highly unsatisfactory state due to the failure Greek Government to carry out promises made. . . . Government now states that only those men whose exemption has been requested up to this time will be freed; this list includes 80 names, . . . In all future cases of men arriving or already in Greece no one exempt unless naturalized before January 15th, 1914. Neither service United States nor age will be considered if man owes military service here. Request Department to warn all naturalized Greeks against returning to Greece at this time unless naturalized before January 15th, 1914. If United States cannot stop these men from coming here extra help will have to be assigned to this Legation at once as present staff entirely unable to handle question which becomes greater with each arriving boat.

Hall

368.117/136

The Chargé in Greece (Caffery) to the Secretary of State

Greek Series No. 1009

ATHENS, May 2, 1922.

[Received June 7.]

SIR: With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of Greek-born American citizens being forced to serve in the Greek army, I have the honor to report that, since my arrival here, I have been able to secure the release of a number of these men from the Greek army. However, the Greek government informs me that these releases are not made as a matter of right, but as a favor, as under Greek law all men born in Greece owe military service to the Greek government.

In addition, the law passed January, 1914, stipulated that no Greek subject could be naturalized in a foreign country without previous permission of the Greek government.

I, of course, have informed the Greek Government that I could in no way admit the justice of their pretentions, and I am continuing to insist that no persons holding American passports be forced into the Greek army.

I have [etc.]

JEFFERSON CAFFERY

* For previous correspondence, see Foreign Relations, 1921, vol. II, pp. 164 ff.
The High Commissioner at Constantinople (Bristol) to the Secretary of State

No. 249

Constantinople, June 1, 1922.

[Received June 23.]

Sir: I have the honor to refer to my despatches No. 353, dated July 18, 1921, and No. 463, dated September 14, 1921, concerning the cases of impressment of American citizens into the Greek Army operating in Asia Minor. I have the honor to inform the Department that in spite of repeated representations made by the High Commission to the Greek High Commission, as well as by American Consular officers to the local Greek authorities in the occupied districts, cases of actual or attempted impressment are constantly occurring. In spite of the fact that the Greek High Commissioner has never insisted upon the right of the Greek authorities in any of the cases in question it is evident that the Greek military authorities have never received instructions to cease this practice. Besides the cases of actual impressment which have been brought to the attention of the High Commission, there are numerous others of naturalized Americans who have been threatened with impressment and have managed to avoid the same by leaving the district in which they were sojourning at the time.

I venture to renew my suggestion embodied in despatch No. 353, dated July 18, 1921, that the Department take steps to bring this matter to the attention of the Greek Government through the American Legation at Athens in an effort to have appropriate instructions sent through the Greek Ministry of War to the local Greek military commanders in Asia Minor. In the mean time the High Commission will not cease its efforts to aid in whatever way possible such individual cases as are brought to its attention.

I have [etc.]

Mark L. Bristol

The Secretary of State to the Chargé in Greece (Caffery)

No. 285

Washington, August 22, 1922.

Sir: Referring to previous correspondence concerning the impressment of American citizens into the Greek Army there is enclosed a

*Ibid., p. 175.
*Ibid., p. 175.
copy of despatch No. 249 of June 1, 1922, from the United States
High Commissioner at Constantinople. You are instructed to take
this matter up with the Foreign Office making urgent representa-
tions that appropriate instructions be sent by the Greek Minister of
War to the local Greek military commanders in Asia Minor that
they cease impressing American citizens of Ottoman or Greek origin
into the Greek Army.\textsuperscript{83}
I am [etc.]

For the Secretary of State:
ALVEY A. ADEE

**OBJECTIONS BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE TO A PRIVATE LOAN
TO THE UNRECOGNIZED GOVERNMENT OF GREECE**

868.51/381

*Mr. William G. Marvin\textsuperscript{84} to the Department of State*

**NEW YORK, December 29, 1921.**

[Received December 31.]

Dear Sirs: Two gentlemen representing the Grecian Government,
came into my office this afternoon and asked for my active support
in helping them effect a flotation of a loan for and on behalf of the
Greek Government, amounting to approximately fifteen millions of
dollars. They stated that the Government of Greece had sent a
Special Envoy to this country, Mr. Papafranco, and that he was
anxious to take up the matter of this loan with large bond houses
in New York City, one or two of whom are my clients.

I am laboring under the impression that the present Govern-
ment in Greece has not received the recognition of the United States
Government. If I am correct in this assumption there might be
some possible objection offered by our Government to the flotation
of the loan here by the Royal Bank of Greece and the Grecian Gov-
ernment authorities. I am therefore writing to ask you as to whether
the State Department would make any objection to the flotation
of such a loan, and if so, on what grounds. I have as yet underte-
taken no negotiations regarding this matter and will undertake none
until I receive your reply.

Yours very truly,

Wm. G. Marvin

\textsuperscript{83} With this instruction the correspondence in regard to the impressment of
American naturalized citizens into the Greek Army was temporarily dis-
continued.

\textsuperscript{84} Member of the law firm of Marvin & Pleasants, New York City.
The Secretary of State to Messrs. Marvin & Pleasants

WASHINGTON, January 30, 1922.

GENTLEMEN: The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 29, 1921, with regard to the flotation of a possible loan to the Government of Greece.

Inasmuch as the regime now functioning in Greece is not recognized by the Government of the United States, I beg to say that the Department of State could not look with favor upon such a loan.

I am [etc.]

For the Secretary of State:
HENRY P. FLETCHER,
Under Secretary

Memorandum by the Assistant Secretary of State (Dearing)

[WASHINGTON,] March 8, 1922.

Mr. Frederic C. Scofield came to see me this morning and left with me the attached letter. I told him that the Department could not look with favor upon a loan to an unrecognized government, and he then showed me that he had a copy of the Department's letter of January 30 to Marvin and Pleasants to this effect. I told Mr. Scofield that the Greek Government was not yet recognized, that, of course, the Department would be delighted to have $15,000,000 spent for coal, wheat, and machinery in the United States, but that there were a number of other elements in this situation, and that I was afraid that we could not answer him other than as in our letter to Marvin and Pleasants. I said that I supposed he knew the Near Eastern situation was still disturbed and that this Government was opposed to lending money for militaristic expenditure, and that it might be possible for Greece by making this loan in this country to release funds obtained elsewhere, and thus cause this loan in effect to be an aid in a military way. Mr. Scofield said that he knew the Department of Commerce would like to have $15,000,000 spent in this country for coal, wheat and machinery and that he hoped that this feature of this proposed financing would make it more acceptable to the Department.

*36 Member of the law firm of Wellman, Smyth & Scofield, New York City.
*37 Not printed; the letter, from Geo. R. Rock & Co., manufacturers' representatives, requested Mr. Scofield's firm to ascertain the Department's attitude on the $15,000,000 loan the Greek Government were seeking to place in the United States.
Until we shall have further word from Mr. Wadsworth and have adopted some policy with regard to recognition, I do not see how we can do anything further than to reply as we have done previously to all those who have consulted us about possible loans to Greece.

D[earing]

*Presumably Mr. Eliot Wadsworth, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.
*On Mar. 23 Mr. Scofield was informed by letter of the Department's policy, in terms similar to the Secretary's reply to Messrs. Marvin & Pleasants, supra.