

4. progress regarding the preparation of supply programmes for the military relief period with estimates of physical quantities required and such estimates of probable cost as can now be anticipated;

5. basis of distribution of relief and rehabilitation supplies during the military period; extent and nature of payment required from recipients and the purposes for which such payments are used or manner of their disposition; post-war claims, if any, upon ex-enemy countries;

6. arrangements regarding the provision and financing of relief supplies during the period of military responsibility in liberated territory the governments of which are in a position to pay.

When the information desired on the above matters has been obtained it would be possible to formulate appropriate recommendations regarding Canadian participation in the provision of relief during the military period. Ends.

I should be grateful if you would seek clarification of the points mentioned above from the State Department, and from the British officials in Washington who are concerned with this problem. It is hoped that it will not be necessary to make a direct inquiry from London. Ends.

1028.

DEA/2295-AH-40

*L'ambassadeur aux États-Unis au secrétaire d'État  
aux Affaires extérieures*

*Ambassador in United States to Secretary of State  
for External Affairs*

DESPATCH 494

Washington, February 26, 1944

Sir,

As previously indicated, I have taken up with the Department of State and the British Embassy the points mentioned in your teletype EX-688 of February 17th, concerning the financing of relief during the military period. I hope shortly to have their replies to the questions asked. Meanwhile, I am in a position to give certain information on your questions.

(1) It is impossible, of course, to state exactly what the length of the periods of military responsibility will be, but for purposes of programming, six months has been generally assumed. During that period the activities of the military will cover all forms of relief and rehabilitation.

On these points General Hilldring, in charge of civil affairs at the War Department, testifying before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations on February 10th stated:

“Senator Vandenberg. What would be the average period, if there is any pattern, that the Army would normally desire to maintain control of relief and rehabilitation behind the lines before turning it over to the civilian agencies? Is there any pattern?”