October 18, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

On Saturday October 16, Mr. McIvor advised me that he had just received a call from Mr. Heard at State to the effect that cable-6269 dated October 6 from Bern had been received at State and that it appeared to involve a relief matter in which Treasury was interested. Mr. Heard stated to Mr. McIvor that he thought this information should be passed on to people in Treasury who are interested in relief questions, but that Mr. Heard preferred not to be called back on the matter.

This matter was called to Mr. Pehle's attention today and he telephoned Mr. Livesey at State because it was believed that the cable in question was in reply to the cable which Treasury had sent to Mr. Livesey on September 23 for despatch to Bern. Mr. Livesey stated that he believed that the cable under discussion was one which had been addressed to State alone and for that reason it had not been referred to the Treasury and was being handled by the appropriate people in the State Department. It was his recollection that the cable stated our Minister in Bern, acting under standing instructions, had discussed the matter with his British colleague who felt off-hand that the British would oppose the issuance of the license which Treasury had authorized. However, the British Minister in Bern decided that he would raise the question with London. Mr. Pehle told Mr. Livesey that he felt that this matter was one in which the Treasury was very interested, that in fact the Secretary himself was personally interested in these matters, and because the Treasury was so concerned, he asked Mr. Livesey to advise the people at State who are handling the matter that Treasury is very interested in cable-6269 and in any reply that might be sent. He also asked that a copy of cable-6269 be made available as soon as possible to the Treasury.

October 19, 1943

Mr. Heard of the State Department called me today and advised me that State's control copy of cable-6269 had been referred to him and that he had arranged for a copy to be sent through regular channels to the Treasury Department. I asked him when we might expect to receive our copy and he stated that we might expect to receive it either later today or tomorrow. Mr. Heard suggested that, after we received our copy, we discuss the matter of a reply with him.