Berlin, Germany, July 27, 1940.

The following telegram has been received from the American Legation at Bern which is quoted for your information:

"Two weekly bus services operated by American Express and Blenk and Bent both Geneva now available from Geneva to Cerbere (French Spanish frontier). Train service from Cerbere to Lisbon tolerably good with sleeping car from Barcelona. Sale of places in buses for both services closes each Monday evening before departure at 6:30 a.m. Wednesday. Price of transportation only is 150 Swiss francs. Heavy baggage must be deposited at bus agencies by 5 p.m. Tuesday. Fifteen kilograms carried free, excess one Swiss franc per kilogram. French Consul Geneva authorized to issue transit visa to American citizens already possessing Portuguese and Spanish visas and presenting introducer letter from our Geneva Consulate. Whenever possible advisable that passports be validated for transit through France, Spain, Portugal and Portuguese and Spanish transit visas obtained before departure from place of residence."

The following additional information concerning travel has been received by mail from the American Consul General at Helsinki, Finland:

"Your memorandum correctly states that the steamers from Petsamo to the United States are sold out months in advance. The Thorden Line, a Finnish company with headquarters in Helsinki, endeavors to maintain a fortnightly service from Petsamo, but the port facilities are so inadequate that it is impossible to maintain a scheduled service. The two largest vessels on this run are the Matilda Thorden and the Carolina Thorden which take about two weeks between Petsamo and New York, while the other Thorden boats take about three weeks. The two ships named have good passenger accommodations for twelve persons each and the other ships have a smaller number. However, all of these ships have been carrying a much greater number of passengers up to 150 or more. It is understood that sleeping accommodations"
The following telegram has been received from the American Legion at 7 a.m. on the 16th of October:

"Two weeks ago we received a cablegram from Germany, stating that the German government has been informed of the American move to the United States to aid our cause. We have been given permission to return to Germany, and the date is set for next week. The German government has promised cooperation and assistance in any way possible to aid in the American cause."

Your immediate attention to this matter is requested.
accommodations are arranged on cots in the between-decks cargo space. The passage from Helsinki to New York costs approximately $220. It is necessary to leave Helsinki about four days before the sailing of the ships and passengers go immediately on board as there is no hotel in Petsamo. Passengers go from Helsinki to Rovaniemi by train and from there to Petsamo, a distance of 531 kilometers, by bus. The Thorden Line informed us this morning that they cannot promise any passages prior to December.