

RELIEF ASSISTANCE

*Exchanges of notes at Washington February 18 and 24, 1947, and at
Bucharest February 20 and 22, 1947*

Entered into force February 22, 1947

Terminated upon fulfillment of its terms

Department of State files

The Secretary of State to the Romanian Minister

FEBRUARY 18, 1947

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Minister of Rumania, and, with reference to recent conversations between the Minister and various officials of the United States Government concerning emergency famine conditions in Rumania, has the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a statement which has been released to the press by the President of the United States.

The United States representative in Bucharest is being instructed to inform the Rumanian Government of this action and to request that, in view of the urgency of the matter, the Rumanian Government furnish the assurances desired by the United States Government within forty-eight hours. The nature of the assurances the United States seeks, some of which have already been made known to the Minister orally, may be recapitulated as follows:

In the first instance, the United States Government wishes an expression of the willingness of the Rumanian Government to furnish to the Rumanian Red Cross such facilities and assistance as that organization will require in effecting the immediate handling and distribution, under supervision of the American Red Cross, of 4,500 tons of rations and 2,500 tons of beans to the starving people of Moldavia without delay and without political, racial, social, or religious discrimination. Secondly, with regard to allocations of cereal grains for purchase by Rumania and in order that such allocations, as well as remaining indigenous food, may be utilized effectively to prevent the recurrence of the present emergency situation, the United States Government requests that it be assured, with equal urgency, that so long as the existing famine continues: