REQUEST FOR RECORDS DISPOSITION AUTHORITY
(See Instructions on reverse)

TO
GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS SERVICE, WASHINGTON, DC 20408

1 FROM (Agency or establishment)
Department of the Army

2 MAJOR SUBDIVISION
US ARMY INFORMATION SYSTEMS COMMAND

3. MINOR SUBDIVISION
Camp Kilmer Refugee Reception Center
Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (AS-OPS-MR)

4 NAME OF PERSON WITH WHOM TO CONFER
Marvin H. Kabakoff

5 TELEPHONE EXT
3-693-7216
8-273-7216

In accordance with the provisions of 44 USC 3303a, the disposal request, including amendments, is approved except for items that may be marked “disposition not approved” or “withdrawn” in column 10. If no records are proposed for disposal, the signature of the Archivist is not required.

B DATE
12 Feb 88

C SIGNATURE OF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE
Robert Print

D TITLE
Army Information Retention Manager

7 ITEM NO

8 DESCRIPTION OF ITEM
Located at the National Personnel Records Center (Military), St. Louis, Missouri, are Army organizational records generally dating from the late 1940's through the 1960's. These records are now being reviewed for the purpose of determining their ultimate disposition. The submission of this SF115 is a part of this effort.

This schedule covers only those records located in NPRC created by the U.S. Army Refugee Reception Center at Camp Kilmer.

Unless otherwise noted, the disposition numbers cited correspond to those in AR 340-18.

9 GRS OR SUPERSEDED JOB CITATION

10 ACTION TAKEN (NARS USE ONLY)

STANDARD FORM 115 (REV 8-83)
Prescribed by GSA
FPMR (41 CFR) 101-114
Items in this Schedule

Series recommended for permanent retention:
1. General Correspondence
2. Legal Correspondence
3. Publications
4. Military Historians Files
5. Daily Journals
6. Public Relations Files
7. Press Kits
8. Identification Cards and Lists
9. Personnel Status Reports
10. Ration Requests and Accounts
11. Welfare Fund Files

Series containing permanent and disposable records:
12. Hospital and Dispensary General Correspondence
13. Medical Records
14. Property Cards and Lists

Series recommended for disposal:
15. PX Book Registers
16. Camp Kilmer Access Files
5.

1. **General Correspondence, 1956-57, 16 ft.**

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the Camp Kilmer Refugee Reception Center, covering all aspects of Operation Mercy. The series contains a wide variety of materials, portions of which are arranged by the War Department Decimal Filing System, while other portions are unarranged. The majority of the records are correspondence files relating to activation and deactivation of the Center; procedures to be used in handling the refugees; relations with other Army organizations, Federal agencies, and civilian sponsoring agencies; budget and accounting matters; meetings and conferences on the refugees; supplies; and educational and health services. The series also contains a final report on Operation Mercy; a variety of refugee strength reports, lists, flight and ship manifests, and statistics. Records of VIP visitors to the camp are also included, showing the organization involved, purpose of visit, and coordination arrangements. This series documents the day-to-day activities of the Refugee Reception Center, with attendant problems and successes.

*Permanent.* Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

2. **Legal Correspondence, 1956-57, 1 ft., 401-01**

Letters, reports, memorandums, and other correspondence relating to legal matters affecting the Hungarian refugees. Included are legal agreements with civilian agencies; investigations of complaints on camp conditions; forms on legal advice given to individual refugees, with information on the problem involved; correspondence on legal jurisdiction over refugees; and requests by refugees for marriage licenses.

*Permanent.* Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

3. **Publications, 1956-57, 10 in., 227-16, 227-01**

Publications of the Camp Kilmer Refugee Reception Center relating to Operation Mercy. Included are General Orders, Circulars, Memorandums, SOP's, and Bulletins, all documenting procedures for the reception and processing of the Hungarian refugees. Some publications are printed in both English and Hungarian.

*Permanent.* Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

4. **Military Historians Files, 1956-57, 2 ft., 228-01**

Written historical reports from each section of the Refugee Reception Center documenting procedures and activities of all Army aspects of Operation Mercy, as well as one cu. ft. of photographs on the preparation of the Center, refugees, activities, visits of VIP's, etc.

*Permanent.* Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.
6.

5. **Daily Journals, 1956-57, 2 in.**

Documents reflecting chronological record of activities at Kilmer in support of refugee operations.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

6. **Public Relations Files, 1956-57, 3.5 ft.**

Letters, SOPs, reports, memorandums, photographs, sound recordings, and other materials used or created by the Public Information Office at Camp Kilmer Refugee Reception Center in order to inform the public about Operation Mercy, and to document public reaction. Included are news releases and procedures for public outreach; operations reports from the TV-Radio unit at Kilmer; tape recordings, to be used on radio and TV, of interviews with refugees, or about activities at Kilmer; news clippings relating to Kilmer and Operation Mercy; and newspapers and magazines in Hungarian, but published in the United States. Also included are almost 2 ft. of photographs to be used for publicity purposes. Subjects include refugees and military involvement with them; camp activities; refugees being helped by military personnel and thanking them; and the deactivation of Camp Kilmer in June, 1957.

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7. **Press Kits, 1957, 1 ft.**

Packets of materials on all aspects of Operation Mercy sent to newspaper editors by the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. Topics covered include the refugees themselves; the use of Camp Kilmer and the role of the Army; the organization and work of the President's committee; and the Federal and voluntary agencies involved. The volume reflects numerous copies of the same press kit, but only one copy would be transferred as a permanent accession.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

8. **Identification Cards and Lists, 1956-57, 30 ft.**

Various types of identification cards and lists, all in alphabetical runs, and containing, variously, the following kinds of data on the Hungarian refugees: name, identification number, photograph, sex, alien transient status, date and place of birth, dates of arrival at and departure from Kilmer, education, occupation, job skills, barracks location, sponsoring agency, next of kin, address in Hungary, name and address of relatives in the United States. Included in the series are cards on improper departures, refugee processing check lists, and 8 ft. of IBM cards, one for each refugee.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.
9. **Personnel Status Reports, 1956-57, 1 ft.**

Personnel status reports for both Hungarian refugees and for military personnel. The former document the actual number of refugees at Kilmer at a given time, showing arrivals and departures. The latter document the staffing necessary to handle the sudden influx of refugees.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

10. **Ration Requests and Accounts, 1956-57, 1.2 ft., 1423-04B**

Records consisting of ration requests and reports, showing the numbers of meals served and the amounts of specific food items needed and used, as well as statistics on food use. Although normally disposable, these records document the Army's provision of food for the Hungarian refugees, and could be used in planning for future refugee operations.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

11. **Welfare Fund Files, 1956-57, 1.5 ft., 314-09**

Records of Central Welfare Fund, Chaplain Fund, and Refugee Benefit Fund, consisting of financial data, check vouchers, bank statements, and cancelled checks documenting how money from these funds was spent to provide services and equipment for the refugees. Also included are lists of property and equipment acquired. Although normally disposable, these records here reflect certain needs of the refugees and methods of meeting them.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

12. **Hospital and Dispensary General Correspondence, 1956-57, 1 ft., 901-01**

Reports, memorandums, and other correspondence from the dispensary at Camp Kilmer containing data on medical services provided to Hungarian refugees, and from the hospital at Ft. Dix, relating to U.S. military personnel. Included are an excellent Final Report of Medical Service Activities for Operation Mercy, morbidity reports on both Hungarians and military personnel, and statistical reports of outpatient treatment furnished for the refugees. These records document the kind and amount of medical care that the U.S. Government provided for the refugees.

a. Records relating to Hungarian refugees.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. Records relating to U.S. military personnel, and consisting of admission and disposition sheets from Ft. Dix, and clearance certificates.

**Destroy** immediately upon approval of this schedule.
8.

13. **Medical Records, 1956-57, 9.4 ft.**

Records documenting individual medical treatment provided for the Hungarian refugees. The majority of the series (8 ft.) consists of individual outpatient records for people treated at the Kilmer Dispensary. Other materials include dental treatment records; card files on tuberculosis patients; medical test reports on individuals, for tuberculosis or for use as pre-marital tests; dispensary admission and disposition sheets; and morbidity reports. With the exception of the last item, which provides medical statistics, these medical records possess no archival value. Documentation of medical activities of Operation Mercy is available from morbidity reports and from records found in Hospital Correspondence (Item 12). These individual medical records can be scheduled as civilian or foreign national outpatient records, which have a retention period of 25 years (AR 340-18-919-02,919-03).

a. Morbidity reports and other statistical compilations.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. Individual medical and dental records.

**Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.**

14. **Property Cards and Lists, 1956-57, 3.3 ft.**

Cards for each refugee receiving linens (blankets, sheets, pillows, and pillowcases), containing refugee's name and signature, date of birth, dates of arrival and departure, identification number, sponsoring agency, and list of items received. All of this information, except the last, which varied only according to the number of each item, is duplicated in Identification Cards and Lists (Item 8). Also included in the series are property vouchers and supply lists providing statistics on the amounts of linens needed to accommodate the refugees.

a. Property vouchers and supply lists.

**Permanent.** Offer to NARA immediately upon approval of this schedule.

b. Individual Property Cards.

**Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.**

15. **PX Book Registers, 1956-57, 2 ft.**

Registers of refugees receiving PX coupon books, with signatures, identification number, and barracks. Each refugee was given a free book every month, and had to sign this register upon receipt of the book.

**Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.**
16. **Camp Kilmer Access Files, 1956-57, 1.7 ft.**

Applications for permanent badges for employees of civilian welfare agencies having offices at Kilmer to process refugees, and visitors pass registers, signed by all visitors to camp. Many of these visitors were relatives of refugees at the camp. Statistical data on both visitors and civilian employees may be found in General Correspondence; hence, there is no need to retain these registers and applications.

*Destroy immediately upon approval of this schedule.*