

Refugees (Jewish)

May 7-December 9, 1943

Book 688
Part I

Refugees (Jewish)

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 14, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

In regard to your letter of May seventh, following the Bermuda Conference, I suggest on page #4 -- Paragraph #1, that we do not give unlimited promises but that we undertake with Britain to share the cost of financing from time to time any specific cases.

As to Paragraph #2, I do not think we can do other than comply strictly with the present immigration laws.

I agree that North Africa may be used as a depot for those refugees but not a permanent residence without full approval of all authorities. I know, in fact, that there is plenty of room for them in North Africa but I raise the question of sending large numbers of Jews there. That would be extremely unwise.

On Page #6 p Paragraph #2, I think we should defray a part of the cost of moving. Can this come out of Lehman's funds?

As to Paragraph #3, I agree with you that we cannot open the question of our immigration laws.

I agree with you as to bringing in temporary visitors. We have already brought in a large number.

I have okayed the telegram, which I return herewith.

F.D.R.

(COPY:DY)

C O P Y

Department of State
Washington

May 7, 1943

My dear Mr. President:

The American and British Delegates to the recent Bermuda Conference on Refugees have unanimously recommended a program of positive action involving a number of specific steps which should be taken in an effort to alleviate the plight of European refugees. I am enclosing a copy of a summary or outline of the recommendations for your information.

You will note that the recommendations fall within two general and distinct categories; (a) those requiring action by the American and British Governments, and (b) those requiring action by all governments through the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, which was organized at Evian, France in 1938. With reference to the first category, the most urgent and important of the items recommended at Bermuda concerns the evacuation of some 5,000 persons from Bulgaria via Turkey to Palestine. This recommendation has been approved with the understanding that the Government of the United States would contribute half of the necessary expenses, the payment of which has been arranged in the amount of several hundred thousand dollars.

Another important recommendation requiring action by the Government of the United States, as well as by the British Government, relates to the movement of some 20,000 refugees from Spain to North Africa, not only to relieve the Spanish authorities of the present burden, but also in order to make it possible for Spain to receive more and more refugees who in turn may be evacuated to North Africa. This raises at once a question of major policy. Temporary refuge in North Africa is not approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The opinion of the Combined Chiefs of Staff has therefore been requested. General Giraud, after discussing the matter with General Eisenhower, has agreed that after the completion of the movement to North Africa of some 14,000 of these refugees, who are French, the remainder, which consists of the so-called stateless Central Europeans, may be welcome to North Africa where many of them may be able to contribute something to the common military effort.

With reference to the second category of recommendations of the Bermuda Conference, namely, those requiring action by the Intergovernmental Committee which was organized at Evian, France in 1938, I attach a draft of a suggested cablegram to be sent to our Embassy at London proposing that the British Chairman of the

(The President okayed this telegram and it was sent as #3128 of May 15, 1943 to London) (Preceding appeared as marginal note)

Intergovernmental Committee call a meeting thereof in Washington in the near future in order that the program recommended at Bermuda may be put into effect as soon as possible.

Mr. Myron C. Taylor, who is the American member of the Intergovernmental Committee and of its Executive Committee, and who is no doubt desirable to you as the person to continue the work with which he has been identified, has raised certain questions of purpose and authority to the effect that a meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee, or the Executive Committee thereof, would be futile unless the American and British Governments are prepared to lead the way for the other governments and to make definite commitments regarding the assumption of our share of the cost of evacuation, transportation, maintenance, and eventual repatriation of a large number of persons, which may run into millions of dollars. We would also be obligated to find not only temporary places of refuge but permanent places of settlement for refugees.

These questions require decisions of high policy, about which I must consult you.

1. The unknown cost of moving an undetermined number of persons from an undisclosed place to an unknown destination, a scheme advocated by certain pressure groups, is, of course, out of the question. However, as a practical matter it may be possible for the Government of the United States to undertake its share of cost in financing from time to time the movement of a specific number of persons from a particular place to a designated destination, as determined upon by the Intergovernmental Committee.

2. The immigration quotas of the United States are sufficient to accommodate a large number of Central European refugees who are able to qualify individually under the immigration laws. Any attempt to bring refugees into the country without compliance with the immigration laws, or in excess of quota limitations, would be likely to result in throwing the whole refugee question into Congress, where there is a prevailing sentiment for even more drastic curtailment of immigration into this country in time of war when our own citizens are going abroad to lay down their lives, if necessary, for their country.

3. So far as the United States is concerned, admission under the quota includes the privilege of permanent residence. However, it is not believed that places of permanent settlement in other countries would be as readily offered as temporary asylum or refuge.

This question was explored and discussed at great length at Bermuda and the conclusion was reached that the desire of refugees

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to settle permanently must be subordinated to the wishes of the country of asylum if any appreciable number of them are to be saved.

The following questions are therefore posed with respect to the first phase of the implementation of the program drafted at Bermuda:

1. Do you agree that North Africa may be used as a depot for those refugees who can be evacuated from Spain without interference with military operations and with the full approval of the military commanders in that area?

This would approve the recommendations of the Bermuda Conference to save as many as quickly as possible, providing them with temporary asylum in Africa and obtaining commitments for their post-war return to their home countries.

2. Should we undertake to defray a part of the cost of moving these and other particular groups from one place to another from time to time, and if so, what funds will be available for that purpose?

3. I cannot recommend that we open the question of relaxing the provisions of our immigration laws and run the risk of a prolonged and bitter controversy in Congress on the immigration question - considering the generous quantity of refugees we have already received.

4. I cannot recommend that we bring in refugees as temporary visitors and thus lay ourselves open to possible charges of nullifications or evasion of the national origins principle embodied in the quota laws.

The above-indicated course would obviate either of these last two possibilities.

May I have your directives for determination of the recommendations of the refugee program formulated at Bermuda.

Faithfully yours,

Signed--Cordell Hull

Enclosures:

1. Summary of recommendations.
2. Telegram to London.
3. Copy of the Report of the Bermuda Conference.

AUG 11 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

There is attached a draft of a reply to the letter of July 23 addressed to you by the American Jewish Congress, relating to the proposal of the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Congress for the evacuation of thousands of Jewish refugees from Rumania.

For your information, on July 23 Mr. Wise wrote me enclosing a copy of his letter to you and I replied that the Treasury was prepared to license the transaction. The matter of the issuance of this license has been cleared with Secretary Hull.

(Signed) H. Morgenthau, Jr.

Secretary of the Treasury

Orig. file ret'd to Paul

WPM:JH:meu
7/11/43

Sent by S.S. Agent 3:55 p.m.
8/11/43

Dear Stephen,

I spoke to Secretary Morgenthau about your letter of July 23 concerning the proposal of the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Congress for the evacuation of Jewish refugees from Rumania.

He mentioned that you had written to him at the same time and that he already has advised you that the Treasury is prepared to license the transaction. I am informed that the matter is now awaiting a further exchange of cables between the State Department and our mission in Bern regarding some of the details.

Sincerely,

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
President,
American Jewish Congress,
40 West 68th Street,
New York, New York.

AFL:bbk - 8/11/43

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Key
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 30, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR

H. M. Jr.

For preparation of reply.

F. D. R.

Enclosure

AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
330 West 42nd Street New York City

Dr. Wise's personal address
to which replies should be
sent is: 40 West 68th Street,
New York City

July 23 1943

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Chief:

It gave me deep satisfaction to find while with you yesterday that out of the depth of your understanding sympathy with Hitler's victims you welcome the proposal which is now before the State and Treasury Departments to permit funds to be forwarded to Switzerland by Jewish organizations of our country. These funds are, of course, to be held in escrow by our Government representatives or such people as they may designate, and would not be handed over to officials (as may survive) of the satellite powers until after the war. These officials, with whom the arrangements will be undertaken, will create such conditions within the Hitler territories as shall enable many Jews in those countries to survive, to escape deportation and ultimately to come out of those countries, continued residence in which would mean torture and death. The whole arrangement is to provide especially for the saving of many little children. We feel that these funds may make possible the salvation of thousands of otherwise doomed beings, especially in Roumania, Slovakia and France, without, I repeat, one penny falling into the hands of enemy representatives for the duration.

I am happier than I can say to think that this proposal, which deals in a feasible and concrete way with an unspeakable situation, commends itself to you, and that you will be good enough to discuss it with the Secretary of the Treasury, whose subordinates are dealing with the problem.

I cannot make clear enough what it would mean to us, and indeed to all civilized people, if you once again, and for the last time, uttered a solemn warning to the representatives of the Nazi regimes in the Hitler conquered territories with respect to the crimes committed against civilians, especially Jews marked out, as you know,

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slaughter as no other people. Is not the recent announcement of the Commission on the Crimes in the Fascist countries a suitable occasion for such warning as is likely to have a deterrent effect, especially upon Nazi officials within the satellite states?

Faithfully yours,

(Signed) Stephen

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE SECRETARY

August 7, 1943.

Memorandum for the Secretary
of the Treasury

In comment on your letter of August 5, I would say that the Treasury itself is entirely free to act on this matter and to grant the necessary licenses if it should so decide. In the latter event the State Department would be pleased to send the appropriate notification through State Department channels to our Legation at Bern, informing them of the projected arrangement.

Any view that this would make funds available to the enemy is not correct; the funds would remain blocked in Switzerland until the end of the war.

CH

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON



August 5, 1943

OK
CH
Dear Cordell,

The President has asked me to prepare a reply to the attached letter addressed to him by Stephen Wise of the American Jewish Congress, relating to the proposal of the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Congress for the evacuation of thousands of Jewish refugees from Rumania.

Randolph Paul, who acts for me on all matters relating to Foreign Funds Control, tells me that your Department was informally advised on July 16 that the Treasury was prepared to take the necessary action to implement this proposal. On July 31 we so advised the American Jewish Congress.

If it meets with your approval, I would like to submit to the President the attached draft of reply to Dr. Wise.

Very truly yours,

Henry M. Smith
Secretary of the Treasury.

THE HONORABLE

The Secretary of State.

Enc.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE AUG 12 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Randolph Paul

James Wise came to see John Pehle on Wednesday, August 11, 1943 and showed him a letter, dated August 6, 1943, which Rabbi Wise had received from Sumner Welles. A copy of such letter is attached for your information.

Wise said that he believes the source of the information contained in the letter with regard to the number of Jewish victims to be a reliable one. James Wise indicated that Rabbi Wise had seen the President recently and asked him to make a public statement warning the satellite countries, particularly Hungary and Rumania, where the great bulk of the Jews still living in Europe reside, of the result of their continued persecution and execution of Jews. Rabbi Wise is hopeful that the President and Churchill may make a joint statement on this matter.

With respect to the remittance of \$10,000 to Switzerland, to aid in the escape to Switzerland of certain Jewish social workers from the Italian occupied zone in France, Wise said that a cable was being sent to Switzerland asking what the money is to be expended for and how the expenditures are to be made. He will get in touch with Pehle as soon as a reply is received.

Incidentally, Wise pointed out that at the same time as Mussolini resigned, all of the anti-Jewish legislation in Italy was revoked.

[Handwritten signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

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WASHINGTON

in reply refer to
E 862.4011/2280

August 6, 1943

My dear Rabbi Wise:

Mr. Richard Lichtheim and Mr. Gerhard Riegner have submitted, through the Legation at Bern, what they consider to be a correction of statements recently made in the press in this country to the effect that about four million European Jews are now under Axis domination, and they have requested that the following information be transmitted to you:

They believe that the number of Jews in continental Europe, excluding Russia, is between 1,500,000 and 2,000,000. They are distributed as follows:

Hungary and annexed territory.....	750,000
Rumania.....	250,000
France.....	100,000
Transnistria.....	60,000
Italy.....	50,000
Holland.....	50,000
Theresienstadt.....	45,000
Bulgaria.....	45,000
Belgium.....	25,000
Germany and Poland.....	A few hundred thousand, mostly in hiding or in labor camps
Sweden, Spain, Switzerland and Portugal.....	50,000
Scattered in various countries....	50,000

The number of victims has reached about 4,000,000.

Messrs. Lichtheim and Riegner have also requested that you be advised as follows:

"Anti-Jewish

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Ph.D.,
President, American Jewish Congress,
330 West Forty-second Street,
New York, New York.

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"Anti-Jewish terror in the German occupied zone is growing each day, and great danger is envisaged for the large number of Jews in the Italian occupied zone in France in view of recent events in Italy and the expected withdrawal in the near future of Italian troops from that zone. It is suggested that, to obtain protection for the Jews from retreating Italian troops, you intervene with the Holy See. In order to aid the escape to Switzerland from the endangered zone of certain Jewish social workers who are outstanding personalities, we are urgently in need of at least \$10,000. Please reply by cable immediately."

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Sumner Welles

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE AUG 12 1943

TO The Secretary
FROM Mr. Paul

Mr. Luxford mentioned to me your request for a memorandum regarding some of the background on the proposal for the evacuation of Jewish refugees from Rumania.

In the latter part of June, the State Department forwarded to us certain cables received from Bern, Switzerland relating to this matter. In substance, the World Jewish Congress in Switzerland is attempting to work out a way to evacuate up to 70,000 Jews from Rumania at a cost of approximately \$170,000. These funds would be paid to the Rumanian officials in local currency by well-to-do Rumanian Jewish merchants who would be reimbursed at black market rates either in dollars or Swiss francs to be blocked and held in trust for them until after the war. The entire operation would be directed from Switzerland by an agent of the World Jewish Congress, who, in turn, would work through underground channels with prominent members of the Jewish Congress in Rumania.

Shortly thereafter Dr. Mahun Goldmann and James Wise of the American Jewish Congress called to discuss this matter in a preliminary way with us. On July 15 a conference was held with Messrs. Reams, Meltzer and Kuppinger of the State Department concerning this proposal. Mr. Reams, Foreign Service Officer, presently assigned to the European Division, and also assigned as State Department's refugee expert, threw cold water on the proposal on the grounds that it would be probably impossible to work out as a practical matter satisfactory arrangements with the Rumanian authorities and that the transportation of any persons evacuated could only be arranged with German consent which would not be forthcoming. He further pointed out the fact that under the provisions of the British White Paper, only about 30,000 Jews can be admitted to Palestine and he said he did not know of any other areas to which the remaining Jews could be evacuated since the Turkish Government has refused entry to Jewish refugees and so far as the North Africa area is concerned, the military authorities have, for military reasons, been unwilling to permit their entry into Africa. As a matter of fact, it was indicated that the United States Chiefs of Staff had decided that refugees could not be admitted even in Dakar for military reasons, but

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that it was believed that the President was about to overrule this decision.

Mr. Meltzer, on the other hand, stressed the point of view that this proposal was not based on a government to government arrangement with Rumania but rather on underground methods and that it was difficult to say at this point that such methods might not be successful in at least getting some Jews out of Rumania. Reams stated that within a very few days they expected to get a complete report from the American Ambassador in Turkey which might throw some light on the problem and it was agreed that as soon as this report was received we would discuss the matter again.

This matter was again discussed here in the Treasury with Mr. White and myself and it was agreed that we would license the transaction on the basis of the facts before us and on July 16 we advised Meltzer of State, informally, that the Treasury was prepared to approve the transaction. Shortly thereafter Meltzer of State sent a draft of a proposed cable to our Mission in Bern over to us for approval. We approved this cable in substance, making a few suggestions as to language. The proposal submitted to Bern in the cable was in effect the following:

A blocked account would be established in the United States by the American Jewish Congress for reimbursement of those persons who advanced funds in connection with the evacuation of the Jewish refugees from Rumania and from France. No funds would be paid from such account until the end of the war but portions of it would be earmarked from time to time in the name of the individuals who had actually advanced funds under the proposal. Under the plan no foreign exchange would be made available to the enemy.

On July 23 we received a letter from Dr. Stephen S. Wise of the American Jewish Congress with which he enclosed a letter which he had sent to the President urging approval of the proposal. On July 31 we advised the American Jewish Congress that we were prepared to take the necessary action to implement the proposal. Shortly thereafter the President transmitted to us the letter which he had received from Dr. Wise for a suggested reply. It was our feeling that the President speaking as the head of this Government should be able to give Wise an authoritative statement on this matter. With this in mind we got in touch with Meltzer of the State Department to obtain State's approval for telling Wise that both State and Treasury were sympathetic to the proposal and that Treasury was prepared to license it and that the details were being worked out

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between Bern and Washington at this time. We told Meltzer that we were anxious to get an immediate reply. Meltzer was sympathetic but pointed out that the matter was one which was meeting with considerable opposition within the State Department and that Dr. Feis was carrying the ball on the matter. After several unsuccessful efforts to obtain a definite statement from Mr. Meltzer we called Dr. Feis. Dr. Feis said he was going to raise the question with Secretary Hull and would call us back the next day. Next day Dr. Feis advised us that the matter was still on Secretary Hull's desk and made it clear that he had done his best to get the proposal approved.

We told Dr. Feis that unless we could get an immediate reply from State we would have to so advise the President. He suggested that the best way to get the result we wanted would be for you to call Secretary Hull about the matter. You decided to send Hull a letter instead. Before receiving Hull's reply, Meltzer called DuBois and told him that he had been instructed by the State Department to say that State Department had no comments to make on the proposal but that State would raise no objection to the Treasury Department issuing a license in respect to the transaction. Meltzer made it clear that he felt that the State Department's method of handling the matter made no sense and further indicated his bitter resentment of the way the matter was being handled. He told DuBois that he would like to discuss the matter in detail with him after he, Meltzer, "was in the Army".

It is perfectly apparent to us from our dealings with the State Department on this issue that there is a very bitter fight going on in the State Department regarding the whole refugee question. While it is difficult to pierce the veil of secrecy surrounding the issue in State, there is reason to believe that the Foreign Service Officer group are the ones resisting proposals for assistance to the refugees. In this connection, Drew Pearson had an article in his column in the Washington Post on August 9 discussing the fight going on in the State Department regarding the Jewish refugee problem. In such column he indicated that Major General Pat Hurley had agreed with Ibn Saud, the powerful Arab leader that the Jews should be driven from all Arab lands, including Palestine. The article goes on to state that upon Hurley's return to this country the State Department prepared a new policy for the approval of the White House

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and the British Government and that this policy would bar any further discussion of Palestine and the Jews until after the war. He said that the parties pushing this in the State Department were Wallace Murray, Hull's political adviser on the Near East, Adolf Berle and Harold Hoskins, who formerly worked for Berle, although he is now in the Army. Pearson indicated that London had turned down the proposed policy but that following pressure from Washington they had yielded; that meanwhile news of the maneuver had leaked out and some of the President's advisers including Judge Rosenman and Baruch emphatically opposed closing the door to any discussion of the question at this time and that Wise came to see the President regarding the matter. The article goes on to say that Wise persuaded Roosevelt to postpone decision for a while. Meanwhile, the State Department has been trying to get Secretary Stimson to go along with Hull but that Stimson has indicated that he favors a frank discussion of the problem and so far has not yielded. A copy of Pearson's article is attached.

From the opposition with which the instant proposal has been met by some factions within the State Department it is possible to tie Pearson's article into the State Department attitude on the Rumanian refugee proposal.

Of course the line adopted by the Foreign Service Officers in North Africa is certainly consistent with the theory that they are the ones opposing assistance to the Jewish refugees. In this connection you may be interested in the attached memorandum prepared by Mr. DuBois while he was in North Africa, after having discussed with Consul General Wiley the question of releasing Jewish refugees from the concentration camps in North Africa. On January 18, 1943, Wiley stated his strong opposition to the immediate removal of the Jews from the camps. You can get the full flavor of that conference only by reading DuBois' memorandum.

There is also attached a copy of the cable sent by State to Bern which you requested Luxford to obtain for you.



January 18, 1943

Conference with Consul General Wiley
re Jewish Refugees.

I conferred with Consul General Wiley today with respect to the telegram from the Treasury relating to the remittance of 2,000,000 francs by the J.D.C. for the initial expenses of the release of 1,500 refugees.

He stated that it was not true that the refugees would be released upon the receipt of the "initial expenses" of their release; that a Joint Commission had been established to deal with the whole problem of the release of prisoners, including the Jewish refugees referred to, "Red" Spanish refugees, Polish refugees, Belgian refugees, Czech refugees, Russians, etc.; that this Commission was composed of the British Consul General, American Consul General, one representative of each, a psychological warfare representative and Dr. Strode (banned by Rockefeller Foundation to Red Cross); that the whole problem was a very difficult one and had to be carefully studied; that in general the prisoners would only be released after it was decided what should be done with the groups involved (as groups); that plans would have to be made for taking care of the refugees after they had been released before their release; that Elie Gozlan referred to in Treasury cable was a Frenchman (Jewish) heading up the organization referred to; that Gozlan had misunderstood the arrangements contemplated; that he did not believe that Gozlan was fully trustworthy; that Schwartz, European head of the J.D.C., had been requested to come to Algiers and was expected soon; that it would be better to deal with Schwartz rather than with Gozlan.

When I asked Wiley how long he thought it would take before the refugees would be released he replied three or four months; that a considerable study of the problems involved would have to be made.

I expressed to Mr. Wiley my failure to understand why it was taking so long to solve a problem which it seemed so important to solve as rapidly as possible; that he knew probably better than I the great amount of criticism which had been leveled at our position in this matter; that this type of criticism tended to hurt the war effort; and that it would seem to me that it would pay solely from

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the standpoint of the war effort for the Allies to spend a certain amount of time, effort and money to solve the problem without delay. Wiley agreed that considerable criticism had been leveled and that the problem should be solved as soon as possible but claimed the solution was difficult and would take time.

I questioned him about the possibility of having the Army hire these refugees as they were hiring the Arabs. Wiley stated that the possibility of placing them in labor battalions had been discussed but the British had finally turned it down. I explained that I was not speaking of regimentation but of voluntary employment. Wiley indicated that there should not be such concern over regimentation; that Americans were being conscripted every day. I explained why I thought the democratic method of selective service was different from telling a group of prisoners that their "choice" was to remain in prison or go in the Army. Wiley then stated that the voluntary employment of the refugees differed from the employment of Arabs in that if the Army no longer needed the Arabs they could go back to their former way of life; and that there was also the problem of finding a place for the refugees to live. I voiced the view that it would be worth the effort and expense to hire the refugees even if they did not put in a full day's work "earning their money" and to supply them with living quarters; that even if they slept in pup tents they would probably enjoy life more and from our selfish point of view we would at least avoid the harmful criticism.

Wiley stated that there had been so much criticism of things done that "they" (he and others) were becoming "hard skinned" about it and that "the only guide was whether or not their conscience was clear about this and similar matters". I expressed the view that the test should not be one's conscience in issues such as this but what was best in the interests of the war effort.

J. E. DuBois, Jr.
U. S. Treasury Department.

Post Aug 9/43

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

By Drew Pearson

IT HASN'T leaked out yet, but former Secretary of War Pat Hurley and the State Department have got themselves into the middle of a hot debate over Palestine and the Jews which has got Zionist leaders very much upset.

The debate concerns a proposed statement to be issued by the United States and British governments barring any further discussion now of Jewish settlement in their ancient home, Palestine.

Prime Minister Churchill and Foreign Minister Eden have been against barring further discussion of the Palestinian question, but the State Department has been pushing them vigorously.

The question arose following the visit of Pat Hurley, now a major general to Arabia where he called on the famous Arab chieftain, Ibn Saud.

Ibn Saud, now recognized as the most powerful of all Arabs, gave Hurley some strong words against the Jews in Palestine, saying he was determined to drive them from all Arab lands. Hurley reported that he had told Ibn Saud diplomatically that he was in agreement.

New Policy

FOLLOWING this and after Hurley's return to this country, the State Department prepared a new policy for the approval of the White House and the British Government. The policy would bar any further discussion of Palestine and the Jews until after the war.

Those in the State Department who prepared and pushed this new policy are:

1. Wallace Murray, Hull's political adviser on the Near East who also has been an ardent champion of the King of Italy and future Italian rule by the House of Savoy.
2. Adolf Berle, Assistant Secretary of State and an original Brain Trustster, who began some time ago to "build up" a series of buffer states in Hungary and Poland against Russia.
3. Harold Hoskins, former chief detective and investigator for Berle, now in the Army, who was raised in Syria, where his father was an official in the Syrian Protestant College, Beirut, and a great expert on the Arabic language. When in the State Department, Hoskins an admirer of the Arab, was sent by Berle to Capitol Hill to interview Congressmen who had signed the Zionist petition for a Jewish army.

This new State Department policy, when sent to London, at first got a rebuff from Churchill and Eden. Following pressure from Washington, however, they finally yielded.

Plan Spreads Alarm

MEANWHILE, news of this maneuvering leaked out and alarmed some of the President's close advisers, including Judge Sam Rosenman and Bernie Baruch. While many of them do not necessarily believe in Jewish settlement in Palestine, they do emphatically believe that the door should not be closed to discussion of the question, just as they believe it is important and healthy for all peace problems to be discussed.

As a result of State Department activities, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise came to see the President several days ago. When he entered the executive office, the State Department's proposed policy was lying

on the President's desk awaiting his approval.

Rabbi Wise persuaded Roosevelt to postpone decision for a while, and the matter is still in abeyance. Meanwhile, the State Department has been trying to get Secretary of War Stimson to go along with Hull. Stimson, however, has replied that he favored a frank discussion of the entire problem, and so far has not yielded.

Note: Hard-hitting Senator Langer of North Dakota, has served notice that if the State Department puts through its plan to stifle discussion of the Palestine situation, he will demand an investigation. "The Jewish people," Senator Langer says, "have suffered tremendous hardship in Germany and have a right to migrate to Palestine, their ancient home, where, in real fact, they have aided the Arabs as much as themselves."

Embarrassing Moment

VICE PRESIDENT WALLACE, the farmer who got his first taste of society when he came here from Iowa, has now become a reasonably congenial dinner-out. But one gathering he didn't enjoy recently was during the height of the Jesse James row, when he had to attend a dinner in honor for high Canadian and Australian legislators.

At the dinner were Sam Rayburn, Speaker of the House of Representatives; Honorable Thomas Vign, Speaker of the Canadian Senate; Honorable D. O. Watkins, leader of the Australian delegation in the Empire Inter-Parliamentary conference; Vice President Wallace, who presides over the U. S. Senate, and Justice Hugo Black.

The ladies' present included Mrs. Wallace, beautiful Mrs. Black, lovely Mrs. A. Mitchell Palmer, widow of Woodrow Wilson's Attorney General, stenographer Mrs. Blair Hamilton, sister of Senator Carter Glass and Assistant Treasurer of the United States, and gracious Mrs. Nellie Taylor Ross, former Governor of Wyoming, now Director of the Mint.

It was a very official, very starchy gathering, during which Wallace had his mind on the life-and-death battle he was waging with Jesse James. The visiting legislators, however, blissfully ignorant of the crisis inside the Roosevelt cabinet, piled Wallace with questions about American parliamentary procedure.

"I suppose you have been in the Senate a long time?" asked Colonel Vign, speaker of the Canadian Senate.

"No, I was never in the Senate," answered Wallace.

Colonel Vign looked a little puzzled, not realizing that the Vice President of the United States presides over the Senate but is not elected to it. But he proceeded with his quest for information.

"Your joint sessions of Congress, they are held in the House of Representatives, I understand."

"Yes," replied Wallace. "And how do you get over there?"

"We walk."

Wallace then explained how the sergeant-at-arms sent word when the House of Representatives was ready to receive the Senate, and how the Senate marched in a body over to the other chamber.

"I was up in the Senate for two hours this afternoon," continued Speaker Vign, "and I failed to see you mediate."

"No I wasn't there," replied the Vice President. Then in a whispered aside to Mrs. A. Mitchell Palmer, he added:

"I was down in Jimmy Byrnes' office, talking to him and his hands with Uncle Jesse."

Registered, Unclassified

(dictated over the telephone by Mr. Meltzer 8/11/43, 5:15 p.m.)

No. 1389, August 6, 1943, 5 p.m.

Reference: Your telegram 2461, 8/20/43; Department's telegram 1249, May 25; your telegram 3657, June 14.

Treasury is prepared to issue a license required for the following arrangements. These arrangements are in connection with proposals made by representatives of the American Jewish Congress for evacuation and relief of Jewish refugees in France and Rumania:

(a) There would be established in a bank in the United States (not Switzerland) a blocked account by deposit of funds by private groups in the United States for reimbursement of persons in occupied and other areas who would furnish local currency or services necessary in relation to the evacuation of Jewish refugees (a) from France to Spain or North Africa and (b) from Rumania. There would be allocated in favor of the persons furnishing such currency or services certified by an agent of the World Jewish Congress acceptable to this Government the funds in such blocked account. It would be stipulated by Treasury:

(1) Until the end of the war and in no event without the approval of said agent of the World Jewish Congress no funds would be paid from such account for any purpose.

(2) It would be only in connection with the evacuation expenses that this arrangement would be available. The establishment of such account or the employment of funds under such arrangement for relief in contradistinction to evacuation would not be permitted by Treasury.

(3) A prohibition of assignments of interest or expectancies in such account would be imposed.

(b) Treasury requests your opinion and that of Dr. Riegner as to whether such a program would permit the acquisition of the required francs and lei. According to Treasury the following should be borne in mind:

- 2 -

(1) During the war there must not be made available any foreign exchange in enemy or enemy-occupied territory.

(2) There must be reduced to an absolute minimum the possibility of funds ultimately reaching persons who have neither furnished local currency or services. You should also indicate the amount of funds which it is believed by Dr. Riegner would be necessary for initial operations which should be deposited to the United States account referred to in paragraph (a).

(c) If this program in your opinion and that of Dr. Riegner will not permit acquisition of the required local currency it is requested by Treasury that you submit your suggestions as to alternative means which would make such acquisition possible and which would not conflict with the conditions listed above.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

Secretary Morgenthau

FROM Randolph Paul

We have just received copies of two cables from our mission in Bern, which are attached for your information, regarding the desperate plight of Jewish children in France. It appears that beginning last autumn approximately 4,000 children, ranging from 2 to 14 years of age, were taken from their parents in France and deported to undisclosed destinations in windowless box-cars, without food or water. The French police, under German orders, is attempting to take a "census" of approximately six thousand other Jewish children who have been abandoned in France. Many of these children have been hidden in various peasant homes by private organizations. It is understood that approximately half of such children are presently in the Italian occupied part of Southern France.

It is understood that local financial means are inadequate to properly take care of the children evacuated to Southern France. Furthermore, it is stated that large numbers of Jewish children, presently hidden in areas near Paris, might be evacuated to the less hostile districts if financial means were available to provide transportation and subsequent support of the children. A paramount restriction on these operations apparently arises from the present limitations upon the ability of the relief organizations to obtain working funds in the area. One of these limitations results from the Government's blanket prohibition of financial transactions involving trade or communication with persons in enemy territory.

In view of the broad humanitarian considerations involved, we have reexamined our general trading with the enemy policy in order to determine whether and to what extent exceptions can be made to permit operations designed to bring relief to particularly oppressed groups in enemy territory. The important considerations appear to be the following:

There are a number of organizations, not subject to our jurisdiction, based in England or neutral European countries, which are conducting operations in enemy territory through underground channels and which have been successful in financing such operations without benefit to the enemy. Such groups have generally operated under the close supervision of one of the United Nations and appear to be conscious of the necessity of not permitting operations which would benefit the enemy.

2. There are certain organizations within this country which have the facilities and contacts for operating in enemy territory and which could conduct successful relief operations within such territory without benefit to the enemy if authorized to do so.
3. We have now had sufficient experience in administering our trading with the enemy controls to be able to permit certain well defined groups to conduct limited types of relief operations in enemy territory, subject to appropriate safeguards designed to prevent benefit to the enemy, without jeopardizing our basic position with respect to trade or communications with enemy territory.
4. In view of the announced policy of the enemy to annihilate certain minority groups--either by slaughter or starvation--operations which would bring some measure of relief to such groups would have the effect of thwarting the Axis and of furthering a fundamental objective of the United Nations. As a matter of fact, the current war outlook is such that some will argue that such relief operations should now be undertaken for this purpose even if the enemy obtains certain limited benefits thereby. The trend of the United Nations policy in this respect is definitely towards such liberalization.

In the light of these considerations it is believed that Treasury should permit certain responsible groups to enter into arrangements for bringing some relief to refugee

in enemy territory, subject to the following safe-

- a. The relief organization must be responsible and must be able to demonstrate that it has the facilities and contacts to operate in enemy territory;
- b. The organization must conduct its operations in such a manner as to ensure that no foreign exchange or other substantial benefit will accrue to the enemy.
- c. The entire operation should be placed under the scrutiny of our mission in an appropriate neutral country; and
- d. Any local currency or credits required for such program must be obtained from acceptable sources not connected with enemy interests.

If you approve, we will, on a case by case basis, insofar as Treasury is concerned, permit appropriate operations in accordance with the foregoing program.

ASX

Approved:

W. M. Smith
Aug 26th 1947.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT
INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

27

DATE

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Randolph Paul

Attached is a very important memorandum about our policy on financial relief in occupied areas. Pehle and I would like to discuss it with you as promptly as possible.

To: Secretary of State - Cable No. 4643, August 2, 1943

From: Bern

Reference: No. 3465, Bern, June 9.

P A R A P H R A S E

There is constant deterioration of situation of Jews in France. Members of many old families from 18 months babies to the very aged have been deported, among families are listed Brunswick, Cremieux, Mosse, Picard, Rheinach, Balahregue. A transfer from Vienna to Paris has just been accomplished of the infamous anti-Semitic Commisar Brunner. At Drancy where the shipment of individual parcels is now forbidden and clubbings are frequent, German guards have replaced French. Jewish people especially have suffered in Toulouse, Perpignan, Lyon, Avignon, Clermont and Marseille. Large numbers of those aided by car in Marseille have been arrested and their children interned. Crossing the Rhone border line between German and Italian occupied zones frequent arrests occur in trains. Under dramatic circumstances the entire Jewish community of Bayonne was expelled. Being held for transfer to Drancy are the children in Paris and part of those in Marseille. Due to pillage by occupants general poverty is extending. There is grave lack of ordinary medicines and real famine is threatened. Italians refuse to permit wearing of yellow star in their occupation zone which is more or less satisfactory although decree has been signed. In the Italian zone where our organized assistance is permitted, large numbers of foreign Jews are living in assigned residence at Saint Gervais, Meleve, Salarches. There is grave concern presently over report that Italian troops are withdrawing from the Savore and Haute Savoie leaving behind Italian customs authorities only. There has been transfer of 200 children from Paris to the Italian Zone where the operation for the 500 remaining is being continued, which number could be doubled if finances were available. Three thousand children are now placed with families in southern France, 1200 in homes, 1000 in Jewish families. There has been an increase in medico social aid to 16,200 adults, plus 5000 in camps. The greatest difficulty is in reaching 4000 in foreign labor groups. Financial means are inadequate.

To: Secretary of State

Cable Number: 3465, June 9, from Bern (Section One)

P A R A P H R A S E

Regarding refugee children in Southern France, D. Donald A. Lowrie of the Worlds Alliance YMCA at Geneva reports:

Nearly 4000 children, between ages of 2 and 14 have been deported since autumn 1942 through Paris to unrevealed destination locked in windowless box cars 60 to 1 car without a single adult escort, without food, water hygienic provisions. A census is being attempted by French police, under German orders, of about 6000 abandoned children remaining in France (5000 Jewish and 1000 Spanish) who are being secreted mostly in peasant homes by members of private welfare organizations under the patronage of church leaders both Protestant and Catholic. Condition of children generally is wretched and the work is carried out with extraordinary difficulty and at great risk. Families in the Italian occupied zone have taken half of these 6000 but what is to be done with the remaining 3000 is becoming an acute problem. In spite of reluctance of authorities of Switzerland or Spain to receive and care for these children and the vigilance of border police of all countries concerned, resort to their clandestine transportation is envisaged, but their transportation and concealment is more and more dangerous.

Nothing has been done since my 929, February 11, indicating Laval promised to consult with the German although my 340, January 15, reported rejection by Laval Government of State Department's humanitarian proposal to continue arrangements for regularized departure from France of 5000 children.

/s/ HARRISON

Cable 3465, June 9, from Bern (Section Two)

Since there has been no indication that either the German or French authorities might be inclined to a favorable response and developments have been anything but propitious, it would seem of no avail to request Swiss authorities to renew representations on the subject.

If clandestine departure were effected, providing temporary asylum for them either in Spain, Portugal or Switzerland, it is assumed that interested welfare organizations would be in a position to undertake the care and feeding of at least some of these children if official sanction were given. Were it found practicable to give some assurance to either Spain or Switzerland, or both, regarding the current provisioning of the children and their subsequent disposal that these governments might be willing to relax their restrictions against clandestine entry of those unfortunates if it is demonstrated that any considerable proportion of them might succeed in leaving France.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Randolph Paul and John Pehle

SEP 3 1943

Attached hereto is a suggested reply to the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe.

You will note from the attached clipping from The New York Times of September 2 that this Conference has now injected the Zionist issue into the problem. It would seem doubtful whether it can be expected that this Organization is going to accomplish any real results.

J. B. L. C.
R. E. P.
By J. B. L. C.

SEP 3 1943

Dear Mr. Bergson:

I have your letter of August 26, 1943, with regard to the plans of the EMERGENCY CONFERENCE TO SAVE THE JEWS OF EUROPE. I note that you have discussed your plans with the Secretary of State, Assistant Secretary Long and others.

I need not reiterate to you my interest in any intelligent plan which offers any reasonable hope of success for saving the Jewish population of Europe, which is rapidly being annihilated. You may rest assured that I am already doing everything in my power, consistent with my position in the Government, to facilitate the rescue of these oppressed people.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) H. Mergenthau, Jr.

Mr. Peter H. Bergson,
Co-Chairman,
Emergency Conference to Save the
Jews of Europe,
1 East 44th Street,
New York, New York.

REP. 9-2-43
JWP:rh

Of ring of Palestine as Homeland Demanded by Jewish Conference

A resolution calling for the reconstruction of Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth, the immediate withdrawal of the British White Paper of 1939 which placed restrictions on Jewish immigration and land ownership, and the opening of the gates of Palestine to Jewish immigration under the control of the Jewish Agency, was adopted last night by the American Jewish Conference at the hotel Waldorf-Astoria.

The resolution, hailed with delight by the Zionist elements of the Conference as placing American Judaism on record for the first time in support of their aspirations, and received with dejection by the non-Zionists present, was adopted without debate by an overwhelming majority of the 502 delegates to the conference.

Dr. Stephen S. Wise, president of the American Jewish Congress, who was presiding, at first merely declared the resolution had been

advised by an overwhelming vote, but when he was pressed from the floor to be more specific he said he had observed only four dissenting votes.

Taking cognizance of rumors that had been prevalent that the delegates of the American Jewish Committee, headed by former Supreme Court Justice Joseph M. Proskauer, the recognized leader of the non-Zionists at the conference, might withdraw, Dr. Wise assured the conference that they would not do so. He announced that Mr. Proskauer would, however, have a statement to make to the session.

Recalling that the American Jewish Committee had entered the conference only on the assurance that its right to dissent would not be limited, Mr. Proskauer announced that he and his fellow delegates from the committee could not be bound by the conclusions reached by the resolution.

Statement by Proskauer

His statement follows:

"With profound regret that, as an American Jewish Committee member and my two fellow-delegates from that organization, I must register dissent from the resolutions which have been introduced and which I have no doubt will receive the vote of this conference.

These resolutions at this critical time call for vesting in Jewish authority the full power to regulate and direct immigration into Palestine and presently call for the creation of a Jewish Commonwealth. Quite apart from the validity or invalidity of these proposals were they to be considered in the interval between the cessation of hostilities and a peace conference, we believe that at this time, when the gravest and most delicate military and world-wide political questions are involved, the present issuance of these proposals contained in the resolutions is unwise because it may carry with it embarrassment to the governments of the United Nations, and is calculated to jeopardize the status of Jews and even prejudice the fullest development of the Jewish settlement in Palestine itself.

At this time it is our duty to concentrate on victory for the United Nations. We are convinced that it is inadvisable to bring to the foreground of public attention at this time political matters that may divide the peoples of the United Nations and create added difficulties.

And it is for that reason that we endeavored, without success, in the Palestine Committee, to secure the passage of a resolution deferring action on this matter until some subsequent session of this conference to be called by the presidium.

We yield to no one in our devotion to the cause of Judaism and to the protection of the rights of Jews throughout the world. We have demonstrated a deep and abiding concern for the welfare of Palestine and its full and proper development. We have asked for the abrogation at once of the White Paper, and have requested that the gates of Palestine be immediately opened for the freest entry of the victims of Nazi brutality. But because of the war considerations and the impossibility of foreseeing the quickly changing world scene, we deemed it wise to ask for the continuance of an international trusteeship to safeguard the Jewish settlement in Palestine and the fundamental rights of its inhabitants to prepare the country to become within a reasonable period of years a self-governing commonwealth under a constitution and a bill of rights that would protect the basic rights of all.

In entering this conference, the American Jewish Committee acted on the condition that the then so-called "Assembly" should be called the "Conference" and that the right of any participating organization to dissent from and, so dissenting, not to be bound by the conclusions of the conference was recognized. Pursuant to that provision, for myself and for my two fellow-delegates and the American Jewish Committee, and for the reasons I have mentioned, we regretfully dissent from concurrence with these resolutions.

The resolution was introduced by Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver of Cleveland, chairman of the conference's Palestine Committee, and was seconded by Henry Monahan of Omaha, Neb., chairman of the executive committee that convened the conference and president of B'Nai Brith.

Its passage had been clearly foreshadowed from the time it was reported by the committee late in the afternoon, when non-Zionists were unable to muster the strength to have a minority report submitted from the committee. Under the convention rules, ten signers were required for this purpose out of the committee's membership of sixty-two.

Pledges to Jews Cited

The resolution reported by the committee cited the Balfour Declaration of 1917, the Mandate subsequently given to Great Britain by the League of Nations and its unanimous approval by the United States Congress, and declared that on the basis of "this international covenant" the Jewish people had demonstrated a constructive capacity for the reconstruction of their historical homeland in Palestine.

Calling for the fulfillment of the Balfour Declaration and the Mandate, the resolution asserted that their "interest and underlying purpose" was to reconstitute Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth. It attacked the White Paper, pointing out that the Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations had refused to recognize its legality or its moral validity.

The resolution promised that scrupulous regard would be shown for the preservation of the religious, linguistic and cultural rights of the Arab population of Palestine, and for the civil and religious equality of all inhabitants. It also promised the inviolability of the Holy Places of the various religions.

An appeal to Soviet Russia to allow the Jews of the Soviet Union freedom of worship and the opportunity to participate in the establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine was offered at the afternoon session by Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, executive director of the Commission on Army and Navy Religious Activities of the National Jewish Welfare Board.

"Concerning the future of the Jews whose fate will be bound up with that of Soviet Russia, I would herewith publicly address an appeal to that government," Rabbi Bernstein said in the course of a discussion of the post-war status of Jews.

"Let Russian Jews, I plead, turn as they will to the Torah of their fathers. It is no opiate for the people—it is social vision and social justice. Let your Jews, I plead, share the hopes as they have shared the sorrows of their brothers in other lands. They will

be better citizens of the Socialist State because of a deepened sense of brotherhood and because of the broadening of their horizons.

"Let your Jews, I plead, share the gratification and the obligations touching the Jewish national home in Palestine."

The credentials committee of the conference disclosed that it had refused to consider the appeal of the Jewish-American Section of the International Workers Order for admission to the conference. The general committee of the conference previously had ruled that the International Workers Order, which has often been attacked as a Communist front organization, was not a national Jewish organization; hence was not entitled to representation at the conference.

Text of Jewish Resolution

The resolution on Palestine adopted last night by the American Jewish Conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel follows:

We, Jewish citizens of the United States dwelling in security in this our beloved land, which, because of its democratic institutions and just laws "gives to bigotry no sanction and to persecution no assistance," and dedicated in undivided loyalty to the noble spirit of our country, are gathered here as an American Jewish Conference, a democratically elected body representative of American Jewry to cope with the tragic problems of our fellow-Jews all over the world. We make the following declaration of principles as to the relation between the Jewish people, the Homeland in Palestine and the world need for post-war reconstruction.

The Jewish problem has been made one of the central elements in the present assault on civilization. In a world-wide Nazi-Fascist conspiracy its exploitation has constituted the initial phase of the assault. Its solution is an integral part of the conditions needed for an enduring peace.

In the first World War the civilized nations pointed to a solution of the Jewish problem through the reconstruction of the Jewish Homeland in Palestine with which the Jewish people has been bound up historically and religiously throughout the centuries. This was expressed in the Balfour Declaration issued by the British Government, after consultation between the Allied and Associated Powers, on Nov. 2, 1917, and in the mandate for Palestine accorded to Great Britain in 1922, with the consent of the fifty-one member nations of the League of Nations and with the unanimous approval of the Congress of the United States.

Progress in 25 Years

On the basis of this international covenant the Jewish people set itself to the task of recreating its historic Homeland in Palestine. In the course of twenty-five years it has demonstrated a constructive capacity which has already had a profound effect both on the hopes and outlook of the Jewish people, and on a country which had for centuries been regarded as one of the desolate areas of the world. The progress of all sections of Palestine, Arab as well as Jewish, under the stimulus of the developing Jewish Homeland is one of the most notable phenomena of our time; the contribution of democratic Jewish Palestine to the victories of the armies of the United Nations in the Near East has been a significant vindication of the policy initiated by world opinion and carried out in the labors and sacrifices of the Jewish people.

This period of reconstruction, however, has coincided with a general deterioration of world order and international morality. Chief among victims of this deterioration have been the millions of Jews in Europe. Yet despite the fact that the conditions which made imperative the re-establishment of the Jewish Homeland a quarter of a century ago have been intensified beyond the darkest of forebodings, the rights internationally guaranteed to the Jewish people with respect to Palestine have been progressively whittled down on grounds of administrative and political expediency until, with the promulgation of the White Paper of May, 1939, the solemn promises made to the Jewish people were virtually nullified and the last hope of mil-

lions of homeless Jews threatened with extinction.

The American Jewish Conference, meeting at a time when the policies of the peace are in the making, and conscious of its historic responsibility and of its position as representative of American Jewry and spokesman for the silenced Jewish communities of Europe, calls for the loyalty and faithful fulfillment of the covenant entered into between the nations of the world and the Jewish people.

Demands Are Set Forth

We call for the fulfillment of the Balfour Declaration and of the mandate for Palestine whose intent and underlying purpose, based on the "historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine," was to constitute Palestine as the Jewish Commonwealth.

We demand the immediate withdrawal in its entirety of the Palestine White Paper of May, 1939, with its unwarranted restrictions on Jewish immigration and land settlement. The White Paper is a violation of the rights accorded to the Jewish people under the Mandate for Palestine. It was characterized by Mr. Winston Churchill in the House of Commons as "a breach and a repudiation of the Balfour Declaration." The Permanent Mandates Commission of the League of Nations refused to recognize its legality or its moral validity.

The conference demands that the gates of Palestine be opened to Jewish immigration, and that the Jewish Agency, recognized under the mandate as the authorized representative of the Jewish people, be vested with authority to direct and regulate immigration into Palestine, to develop to the maximum the agricultural and industrial possibilities and the natural resources of the country, and to utilize its uncultivated and unoccupied lands for Jewish colonization and for the benefit of the country as a whole.

The measures here urged constitute the essential prerequisites for the attainment of a Jewish majority and for the re-creation of the Jewish Commonwealth.

Cooperation With Arabs

In the pursuit of its objective of a Jewish Commonwealth, the Jewish people has steadfastly held before it the ideals which shall integrate Jewish Palestine within the new democratic world structure. The Jewish people pledges itself to scrupulous regard for and preservation of the religious, linguistic and cultural rights of the Arab population of Palestine, and to the civil and religious equality of all its inhabitants before the law. The inviolability of the holy places of the various religions shall be guaranteed.

The Jewish people reaffirms its readiness and desire for full cooperation with its Arab neighbors in Palestine, and, in the work of its own national redemption, welcomes the economic and political development of the Arab peoples of the Near East.

On the basis both of the part it has played in the history of civilization, and of its present achievement in Palestine, the Jewish people believes that the Jewish Commonwealth to be established will represent another fundamental contribution to the social and political ideals of the world. It will finally answer the agonized cry of the most martyred of peoples, and enable it to take its rightful place in that progressive order of mankind which, we pray, may issue from the present struggle.



EMERGENCY CONFERENCE TO SAVE THE JEWS OF EUROPE

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JULIUS BROWNFIELD
SAM WYLA BROOKS
ALDO FRANK
NATHAN GUT M. GILLETTE (Is.)
ELIJAH GAZEN
ETHEL GARFIELD HAYS
ELIJAH RANDOLPH HEARST
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ER STOUT
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BISHOP HENRY ST. GEORGE TUCKER
ENDRICK WILLEN VAN LOON
WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE
MUEL ZEMURRAY

Participants in Panels of Experts (Partial List)

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NORMAN ANGELL
JUDY ANCHER
Foreign Director, Near Eastern Foundation
CHIMBOP ATHENADORAS
Greek Orthodox Church
LAS B. ANTILL Maritime Attorney
AND PHILIP DAVID BOKSTABER
Former National Chaplain
Jewish War Veterans
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DR. LOUIS L. CAPOZOLZI (N.Y.)
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NAND CORSE
Chairman, State Industrial Board (N.Y.)
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BRIN GALEPIN Food for Small Democracies
ANGUS GUNTHER
ETHEL GARFIELD HAYS
CONRAD HOFFMAN
U.S. Exec. War Prisoners' Aid
N. HERBERT HOOVER
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L. REMMETH MILLER
United Czechoslovak Relief
HERBERT S. MOORE
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SAM ANSEL MOWBER
ROTHY PARKER
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W. WILL ROGERS, JR. (Cal.)
A. SERGIO News Analyst
SHIDHARANI
ST. SIEGRIST
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(Retired)
STOUT
THUR SZYK, Artist
REV. HENRY ST. GEORGE TUCKER
Travelling Bishop, Episcopal Church
AND UNSET Nobel Prize Winner
ENDRICK WILLEN VAN LOON
AMES A. WAGNER, Daily Mirror
JAMES G. WATSON
Municipal Court, New York City
OMAS J. WATSON
Pres. United Yugoslav Relief
BY BRENT WHITEHEAD
S. ZOLTA WOLCZCHOWSKI
Relief Dept., Polish Embassy
ZAKITSKY
Pres. United Nations Int. Union
MUEL ZEMURRAY
Pres. United Fruit Company

1943 AUG 27 AM 9 50

1 EAST 44th STREET
New York 17, N. Y.
MUrray Hill 2-7237
26th of August
1943

Honorable Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
Secretary of the Treasury
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

In the time that has elapsed since we had the privilege to present you with our plans for the rescue of the Jews of Europe, we were formally received by Secretary of State Hull and Assistant Secretary Breckinridge Long, and these plans were submitted to them. We have also had the opportunity to discuss this problem with Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Attorney General Biddle, both of whom promised their support.

Meanwhile, weeks pass and many more thousands of innocent Jews in Europe uselessly lose their lives and, practically nothing is being done even in the way of a determined attempt to rescue them.

This week the State Department announced the formation of a special United States Commission to save European art and monuments. It is very laudable indeed, but at the same time there is no action on our repeated requests that a specific governmental agency be created to save 4,000,000 European Jews whom Hitler has sentenced to death.

We are writing to you, Mr. Secretary, as a member of the Government, with the hope that you will undertake to urge your colleagues to proceed with the creation of the necessary machinery — a specific governmental agency — to save the remaining millions of the Jews of Europe.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for the courtesy and consideration you have shown in receiving Dr. Rabinowitz and myself and for the fine sentiments you expressed towards this cause.

Respectfully yours,

Peter H. Barysen
Co-Chairman

P.S. We take the liberty to enclose an editorial from the New York Journal-American on this subject.

OTEL COMMODORE

NEW YORK

JULY 20TH TO 26TH, 1943

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE August 11, 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Captain Kades

On August 4th you asked me to listen to certain proposals relating to the relief of European Jews advanced by Mr. Peter Bergson (who was accompanied by Mr. B. E. Rabinowitz) in your office, and thereafter to take Messrs. Bergson and Rabinowitz to my office for a more detailed discussion of such proposals. Mr. Bergson had secured an appointment with you based upon his connection with the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

Mr. Bergson left with me a typewritten summary of recommendations made by the Emergency Conference and also a collection of clippings concerning the Conference. Both of these documents are attached hereto.

During the discussion in your office and again in my office, Mr. Bergson emphasized that his primary purpose in coming to you was to ask you to assume the leadership in a movement to put these proposals into operation. You stated to Mr. Bergson that, although you were deeply interested in seeing to it that every possible step was taken to stop the needless slaughter of Jews in Europe, you did not feel it would be proper for you as Secretary of the Treasury to be the spearhead of the Emergency Conference. At the end of the discussion in my office, Mr. Bergson indicated that he was going to get in touch with you again. With this possibility in mind, I thought it might be well to indicate some reasons why I feel you should not sponsor the program.

In the first place, under the heading of "Military and Punitive Measures", the program still contemplates the establishment of the Jewish Army, notwithstanding Mr. Bergson's statement to the effect that that issue had been set aside as a "luxury". It is contemplated that this Army will be used not only for "the most dangerous military operations against the Axis in general", but also in reprisals for anti-Semitic atrocities. As you know, a separate Jewish military

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force is inconsistent with War Department policy and the use of special troops for reprisals strike me as following a Nazi pattern of thought.

In the second place, under the heading of "Treatment of Jews in Axis Countries", the program contemplates the furnishing of food and medical supplies to Jews in Nazi territory under governmental auspices. Although the purpose probably is to put Jews on a subsistence level equal to that of non-Jews in Axis countries, it is my feeling that any governmental (as distinguished from private) aid should be extended to all under-nourished, regardless of religion or race. Moreover, if Jews are singled out as a class for relief, it might be provocative of anti-Semitism among non-Jews who are at present anti-Nazi.

In the third place, it is implicit throughout the program that negotiations be carried on by the Government with the Axis countries. In view of our attitude of unconditional surrender, I believe that to negotiate for any such purpose, either with the Axis countries or their satellites, might be misunderstood as inconsistent. It would play into the hands of Goebbels' propaganda line that we are in the war only to save the Jews, rather than to liberate all oppressed peoples from the persecution which is a phenomenon of Nazism.

The only point in the program which seems to me to have much merit is that an office be established to consider this problem in the Government. As Mr. Bergson pointed out, there is not a single governmental official who is devoting his attention exclusively to this matter. It is common knowledge that the Intergovernmental Committee, established as a result of the Evian Conference, has been a flop. I have heard, however, that Mr. Myron Taylor is interested in re-activating the Intergovernmental Committee and, if you are satisfied as to Mr. Bergson's motives and character, if he gets in touch with you, you may want to put Mr. Bergson in touch with Mr. Taylor. Any governmental agency dealing with the problem of Jewish refugees probably belongs in the State Department.

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I have shown the proposals of the Emergency Conference, the newspaper clippings, and this memorandum to Fred Smith (who prepared your message to the meeting) and he concurs in my recommendation that you should not sponsor within the Government this particular program. Both of us feel that the only solution lies in victory.

R.L.K.

Attachments

3

The Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe
Having Met in New York City on July 20th - 25th, 1943, Has
Decided upon the Following Recommendations:

PREAMBLE

In this global war in which we are engaged and which will decide the fate of humanity for generations, human tragedies have occurred on an unprecedented scale. But the plight of the Jewish People in Europe stands out unique. Non-Jews in Axis-dominated countries undergo unbelievable sufferings, enslavement, semi-starvation and death. But, Jews alone have been singled out for mass destruction as a people. Their complete extermination is the professed policy of Germany. Moreover, the escaped patriots of occupied countries have been enabled, by the formation of auxiliary forces of the United Nations, to partake in the battle against Hitler's armies on other fronts. This opportunity for resistance preserves the moral dignity of peoples. But the Jews alone have been deprived of this opportunity.

Here is a challenge to the moral sense of mankind which cannot be shirked save by gross violation of the dictates of justice and charity toward our fellow man. Moreover, the very dignity of mankind is at stake. Action cannot be postponed till after the war. In the case of the Jews, rehabilitation after the war will come too late. There may be only corpses to rehabilitate.

Today, the question that confronts humanity is whether the rulers of Germany, who have already exterminated two million Jews, non-combatants all, shall be allowed to destroy the remaining four million Jews of Europe.

To prevent this mass slaughter is not only consistent with our professed war aims. It is an inescapable obligation of the United Nations, a test case of the integrity of their purpose.

There are many precedents for such action of rescue in the midst of the war. A number of political refugees have been admitted on a temporary basis to America and other countries. The population of Greece was saved from starvation under arrangements made with the Axis countries.

Conscious of the responsibility which a civilized humanity would bear were it passively to watch the continued slaughter of the Jews of Europe, the Emergency Conference is compelled to state that none of the steps undertaken by the United Nations, none of the agencies created by them to date, has served to save the doomed Jews of Europe to any appreciable extent.

The Conference has, therefore, probed into ways and means of saving these human beings from impending doom. It has sought for methods of achieving this end, which would be at once feasible and effective, and which would not conflict with the prosecution of the war.

As a result of its deliberations, the Emergency Conference has arrived at these three basic conclusions:

1. That saving the Jewish people of Europe constitutes a specific problem which should be dealt with as such, and not as part of the general refugee problem.
2. That most of the four million surviving Jews of Europe can be saved from annihilation prior to the cessation of hostilities, without detriment to the successful prosecution of the war.
3. That a specific governmental agency should be created for that purpose.

The Following are the Specific
Recommendations of the Conference:

I. GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY

The government of the United States is urged to create an official agency specifically charged with the task of saving the Jewish people of Europe.

The other United Nations should be invited to participate in this agency, with a view to its ultimate conversion into a United Nations agency; but, because of the urgency of the problem, action should not be postponed pending the adherence of other nations.

II. TREATMENT OF JEWS IN AXIS COUNTRIES

A. The satellite governments of the Axis should be urged through the intermediary of the International Red Cross, of neutral countries, or of the Vatican, to guarantee treatment of Jews in accordance with the minimum standards guaranteed to other inhabitants. These minimum standards should particularly include freedom from execution without just cause or on a discriminatory basis, freedom from forcible deportation, equal food rations, and equal access to medical and health resources. The carrying out of this undertaking should be supervised by the International Red Cross or by neutral governments mutually agreed upon.

There are good grounds for the belief that the satellite governments of Germany, convinced as they are of the inevitable defeat of the Axis, will agree to this request.

B. If necessary, importation of limited quantities of food and medical supplies should be permitted into Axis-held territory with a view to providing the Jews the same amount of nourishment as is received by non-Jews. These supplies should be distributed under the supervision of the International Red Cross or of neutral governments, following as far as possible the precedent established in feeding the people of Greece.

III. EMIGRATION OF JEWS FROM AXIS-HELD TERRITORY

All Axis countries should be urged through the intermediary of the International Red Cross, of neutral governments or of the

Vatican to permit Jews to leave the territory controlled by the Axis.

IV. REFUGEE IN NON-BELLIGERENT TERRITORY

A. The non-belligerent countries in Europe -- Sweden, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey -- should be urged to grant temporary asylum to all Jews escaping Axis-controlled territory. The governments of the United Nations should undertake to assist in feeding and clothing these refugees, and should further undertake to make arrangements for their evacuation from the non-belligerent countries of refuge during hostilities, and within a reasonable period after the cessation of hostilities.

B. The governments of the United Nations are urged to operate their foreign exchange controls so as to make possible financial assistance to Jewish refugees in non-belligerent territory.

V. REFUGEE IN TERRITORY CONTROLLED BY UNITED NATIONS

A. Every government and authority associated with the United Nations should be urged to grant temporary asylum in territories under its control to all Jews who may escape or have escaped Axis-controlled territories, and whom it may be impracticable to maintain in non-belligerent territory; it being understood that such admission shall not constitute a claim to permanent residence after the end of hostilities.

B. Special attention should be paid to the practicability of the admission of Jewish refugees to Palestine. Indeed, Palestine is close to Axis-controlled territory; it can be reached without diverting shipping space; its Jewish community has repeatedly expressed readiness to welcome an unlimited number of Jewish refugees; and the country has already proven its capacity to absorb Jewish refugees in large numbers. The opening of Palestine to Jewish refugees from Axis-held territories is particularly important since the continued prohibition of their entry into Palestine, internationally designated as the Jewish national home, serves as precedent for other United Nations and neutral countries in similarly barring their entry.

C. All non-belligerent countries should be requested to grant transit facilities to all Jewish refugees from Axis-controlled territory who might be en route to any territory controlled by the United Nations, whether as refugees as immigrants or as repatriates.

VI. TRANSPORTATION

The following facilities, available at present without interference with the war effort of the United Nations, should be made use of in transporting Jewish refugees from Axis-controlled territory to their places of refuge:

A. Road and rail communications operating between Axis-held territory and Turkey and between Turkey and territory controlled by the United Nations.

B. Road and rail communications operating between Spain, Switzerland, Sweden, and Axis-controlled territory.

(Note) Experts associated with the Relief and Transportation Panel of the Emergency Conference, estimate that available neutral shipping alone can transport 50,000 person per month from European countries. The number of people which can be transported by rail and road exceeds this figure many times.

C. Neutral shipping at present lying idle in United States' ports.

D. Idle tonnage of neutral registry in other ports.

VII. MILITARY AND PUNITIVE MEASURES

A. In line with the announced policy of the United Nations that all atrocities and crimes against humanity committed by the Axis powers be met with just reprisals immediately, and with punishment of the guilty after the war, it should be specifically declared that such reprisals and punishment will also be inflicted for any atrocities and crimes committed by Axis countries against the Jews.

B. This policy should be officially brought to the notice of the Axis governments and - through the use of the radio, leaflets, and other appropriate means - to the knowledge of their populations.

C. More particularly, all Axis governments and authorities should be informed that they will be held strictly accountable for the death through murder, torture, deportation, starvation or denial of medical help of all Jews in territories under their control.

D. The same policy of just reprisals already applied by the United Nations should be immediately extended to any authenticated case of anti-Jewish atrocities.

E. Special use should be made in such reprisals, and in the most dangerous military operations against the Axis in general, of available Jewish manpower not yet included in the armed forces of the United Nations.

Attention is called in this connection to the fact that there is already in existence a Jewish Palestinian military force consisting of approximately 23,000 persons.

It is also estimated that there are available perhaps 100,000 stateless Jews outside of the United States who have not been used for military service, many of whom have had previous military training.

It is, therefore, recommended that full military use of this source of manpower be made, preferably in Jewish military units.

(Note) The experts associated with the Military Affairs Panel of the Emergency Conference, go on record unanimously to the effect that the recommendations made herein to rescue the Jews of Europe will not cause any adverse military repercussions or in any way impede the war effort of the United Nations. In fact they will greatly help the war effort.

VIII. PUBLIC OPINION

In addition to the above measures urged upon the governments of the United Nations, it is essential that public opinion in America be fully and frankly informed of the facts of the situation:

- A. The extent and horror of the special tragedy endured by the Jewish people of Europe, and by them alone, as being marked by the Nazis for mass slaughter;
- B. The desperate urgency of their need for help;
- C. The common responsibility of the peoples of the United Nations to end this blood-bath; and
- D. The many avenues of rescue actually available which could be put to immediate use by the governments of the United Nations.

IX. ORGANIZATION

The Emergency Conference resolves to transform itself into an Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, to further the policies herein recommended and to continue in function until the emergency is over.

More particularly, the Committee shall submit the above recommendations to the President and other public officials of the United States, shall seek to secure the cooperation of the Congress of the United States, and shall call for the continued support of the American people.

Whoever shall do the will of my Father which is in heaven, the same is my brother, and sister, and mother.—Matthew XII, 50.

(The text for today as suggested by Bishop Howard D. Haggis, D.D., pastor, First Reformed Episcopal Church, New York. The next text will be suggested by Rev. Howard Cinnamon, pastor, Fourth Avenue Methodist Church, Brooklyn.)

'For Honor of Humanity'

THE frightful plight of the Jews in Europe is NOT a Jewish problem. It is a vital, world-wide, HUMAN problem that must be solved by the heart and brains of the peoples of the free world.

With the consciousness, therefore, of the great and imperative duty that lies before us as HUMAN BEINGS, the Hearst papers print this noble, forceful and practical "Preamble and Recommendations" of the Non-Sectarian Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

After stating the almost incredible fact that "THE JEWS ALONE HAVE BEEN SINGLED OUT FOR MASS DESTRUCTION" in Germany and in German-enslaved lands and that this extermination is "THE PROPOSED POLICY OF GERMANY" the "Preamble" makes this address to Americans:

"There is a challenge to THE MORAL SENSE OF MANKIND which cannot be shirked save by gross violation of the dictates of justice and charity toward our fellow-man. Moreover, the VERY DIGNITY OF MANKIND IS AT STAKE. Action cannot be postponed till after the war. In the case of the Jews rehabilitation after the war will come too late. There may be only corpse to rehabilitate.

"Today, the question that confronts humanity is whether the rulers of Germany, who have already exterminated two million Jews—non-combatants all—shall be allowed to destroy the remaining four million Jews of Europe.

"To prevent this mass slaughter is not only consistent with our professed war aims. It is AN INESCAPABLE OBLIGATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS, a test of the integrity of their purpose."

AS NONE of the steps undertaken by the United Nations so far has resulted in halting the slaughter and torture of Jews and in view of the fact that saving from annihilation the four million Jews that remain in Europe constitutes a SPECIFIC refugee problem that must be dealt with now, the Emergency Conference recommends that—

1. The Government of the United States, with other United Nations participating, urge to create an official agency to specifically deal with the remaining of Jews in Europe.

2. The good offices of the International Red Cross and the Vatican be invoked to seek to guarantee in satellite Governments of the Axis "treatments of Jews in accordance with the minimum standards guaranteed to other inhabitants."

3. Plentiful food and medical supplies be sent to Jews in Axis-held territory, to be distributed by the International Red Cross or neutral countries.

4. The Vatican, the Red Cross and neutral countries to urge the Axis countries to permit Jews to leave their territories. Non-belligerent countries to be urged to grant temporary asylum to all Jews escaping from Axis-controlled territory.

5. Special attention to be paid to the practicability of the admission of Jewish refugees to Palestine, internationally designated as "The Jewish National Home."

6. Military measures and "reprisals" to be taken against the Axis Powers that have tortured and massacred Jews and punishment to be meted out to those who are responsible.

To these humanitarian ends the Emergency Conference seeks to secure the co-operation of Congress and the American people—which SHOULD BE GIVEN.

The Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe has for Honorary Chairmen, among others, Herbert Hoover, Louis Bromfield, Senator Johnson, of Colorado; William Allen White, William Green, President of the A.F.L.; Bishop Henry St. George Tucker and Secretary of the Interior Harold I. Ickes.

IN A NOTABLE letter from Mr. Michael Potter, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Emergency Conference, to Mr. William Randolph Hearst, he makes this statement showing the power of ACTION:

"Time and again we have seen that protests, threats and retaliations have checked the Germans from perpetrating or repeating various crimes: the storm of indignation protest which swept the world prevented repetition of another Lidice; Mr. Churchill's threat to retaliate in kind stopped Germany from using gas on the Russian front, and the Germans unbacked the British prisoners of war when Britain retaliated by shacking the German prisoners."

Closing his letter, Mr. Potter makes this further revealing statement and appeal to Mr. Hearst:

"The closing of the gates of Palestine in the face of the fleeing refugees is a dark blot with which the United Nations must in time reproach themselves. Do we have to give in to the ravings of the Nazi-farmer Grand Mufti of Jerusalem who daily broadcasts from Berlin warning the British that the Arabs will revolt if Jews are admitted into Palestine? Is that sufficient reason to ignore an international pledge signed by 51 nations and counter-signed by the United States to reconstruct a Jewish National Home in Palestine? It is as if Goebbels' propaganda has also succeeded us to excuse our own inaction in this matter.

"Only a crusade on the part of all the honest-thinking free men can change this situation and wipe this blot from the face of humanity.

"We appeal to you to take up this fight. It is a fight for the HONOR OF HUMANITY."

This is, indeed, a fight for the HONOR OF HUMANITY, for the savage, the satanic treatment of the Jews in Germany, Italy and the Axis-controlled lands of Europe will be an eternal stain on the whole human race if that part of it which today retains the LIGHT OF THE GALLILEAN in its soul does not IMMEDIATELY take steps to wipe that stain out.

The Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe should be supported by all Americans regardless of creed, race or color.

A Moving Appeal to America and Our Allies to Rescue a Doomed People

THE Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe, having met in New York City on July 20-21, 1943 has decided upon the following recommendations:

PREAMBLE

In this global war in which we are engaged and which will decide the fate of humanity for generations, human tragedies have occurred on an unprecedented scale. But the plight of the Jewish people in Europe stands out unique. Non-Jews in Axis-dominated countries undergo unbelievable sufferings, enslavement, starvation and death. But Jews alone have been singled out for mass destruction as a people.

Their complete extermination is the professed policy of Germany. Moreover, the occupied patriots of occupied countries have been enabled, by the formation of auxiliary forces of the United Nations, to participate in the battle against Hitler's armies on other fronts. Thus opportunity for resistance preserve the moral dignity of people. But the Jews alone have been deprived of this opportunity.

Here is a challenge to the moral sense of mankind which cannot be shirked save by gross violation of the dictates of justice and charity toward our fellow-man. Moreover, the very dignity of mankind is at stake. Action cannot be postponed till after the war. In the case of the Jews rehabilitation after the war will come too late. There may be only corpse to rehabilitate.

Today, the question that confronts humanity is whether the rulers of Germany, who have already exterminated two million Jews—non-combatants all—shall be allowed to destroy the remaining four million Jews of Europe.

To prevent this mass slaughter is not only consistent with our professed war aims. It is an inescapable obligation of the United Nations, a test case of the integrity of their purpose.

Principles Evolved As Guide to Action

There are many precedents for such action of concern in the midst of the war. A number of political refugees have been admitted on a temporary basis to America and other countries. The population of Greece was saved from starvation under arrangements made with the Axis countries.

Visions of the possibility which a civilized humanity would bear were it positively to watch the continued slaughter of the Jews of Europe, the Emergency Conference is compelled to state that some of the steps undertaken by the United Nations, some of the agencies created by them in date, has agreed to save the doomed Jews of Europe by any approach is vital.

The Conference has, therefore, probed into ways and means of saving these human beings from impending doom. It has sought for methods of achieving this end, which would be at once feasible and effective, and which would not conflict with the prosecution of the war.

As a result of its deliberations, the Emergency Conference has arrived at these three basic conclusions:

1. That saving the Jewish people of Europe constitutes a specific problem which should be dealt with as such, and not as part of the general refugee problem.

2. That most of the four million surviving Jews of Europe can be saved from annihilation prior to the cessation of hostilities, without detriment to the successful prosecution of the war.

3. That a specific governmental agency should be created for that purpose.

American Government Asked to Take Lead

The following are the specific recommendations of the Conference:

I.—GOVERNMENTAL AGENCY.

The Government of the United States is urged to create an official agency specifically charged with the task of saving the Jewish people of Europe.

The other United Nations should be invited to participate in this agency, with a view to its

ultimate conversion into a United Nations agency; but, because of the urgency of the problem, action should not be postponed pending the achievement of other nations.

II.—TREATMENT OF JEWS IN AXIS COUNTRIES.

1. The satellite Governments of Axis countries should be urged through the intermediary of the International Red Cross or the Vatican, to guarantee treatment of Jews in accordance with the minimum standards guaranteed to other inhabitants. These minimum standards should particularly include freedom from execution without just cause or on a discriminatory basis, freedom from torture, deportation, equal food rations, and equal access to medical and health services. The carrying out of this undertaking should be supervised by the International Red Cross or by neutral Governments mutually agreed upon.

There are good grounds for the belief that the satellite Governments of Germany, France, Italy and the Axis countries, if they are of the inevitable interest of the Axis, will agree to this request.

2. If necessary, importation of limited quantities of food and medical supplies should be permitted into Axis-held territory with a view to providing the Jews the same amount of foodstuffs as is provided by neutral countries. The transportation of the Jews should be facilitated under the supervision of the International Red Cross or of some Government, following as far as possible the precedent established in feeding the people of Greece.

III.—EMIGRATION OF JEWS FROM AXIS-HELD TERRITORY.

All Axis countries should be urged through the intermediary of the International Red Cross, or neutral Governments or of the Vatican to permit Jews to leave the territory controlled by the Axis.

IV.—REFUGEE IN NON-BELLIGERENT TERRITORY.

1. The non-belligerent countries in Europe—Sweden, Ireland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey—should be urged to grant temporary asylum to all Jews escaping Axis-controlled territory. The Governments of the United Nations should undertake to assist in feeding and clothing these refugees, and should further undertake to make arrangements for their evacuation from the non-belligerent countries of refuge during hostilities, and within a reasonable period after the cessation of hostilities.

2. The Government of the United Nations are urged to operate their foreign exchange controls so as to make possible financial assistance to Jewish refugees in non-belligerent territory.

V.—REFUGEE IN TERRITORY CONTROLLED BY UNITED NATIONS.

1. Every Government and authority associated with the United Nations should be urged to grant temporary asylum in territories under its control to all Jews who may escape or have escaped Axis-controlled territories, and whom it may be impracticable to maintain in non-belligerent territory if being understood that such admission shall not constitute a claim to permanent residence after the end of hostilities.

2. Special attention should be paid to the practicability of the admission of Jewish refugees to Palestine. Indeed, Palestine is close to Axis-controlled territory, it can be reached without diverting shipping space; its Jewish community has repeatedly expressed readiness to welcome an unlimited number of Jewish refugees; and the country has already proven its capacity to absorb Jewish refugees in large numbers.

The opening of Palestine to Jewish refugees from Axis-held territories is particularly important since the continued prohibition of their entry into Palestine, internationally designated as the Jewish National Home, serves as provocation for other United Nations and neutral countries in similarly barring their entry.

3. All non-belligerent countries should be requested to grant transit facilities to all Jewish refugees from Axis-controlled territory who might be en route to any territory controlled by the United Nations, whether as refugees, as immigrants, or as repatriates.

VI.—TRANSPORTATION.

The following facilities, available at present without interference with the war effort of the United Nations, should be made use of in trans-

porting Jewish refugees from Axis-controlled territory in these places of refuge:

1. Road and rail communications existing between Axis-held territory and Turkey and between Turkey and territory controlled by the United Nations.

2. Road and rail communications connecting between Spain, Switzerland, Sweden and Axis-controlled territory.

3. SEVERAL European countries with the relief and transportation passed of the Emergency Conference estimate that available neutral shipping space can transport 30,000 persons per month from European countries. The number of people which are being transported by rail and road exceeds this figure many times.

4. Neutral shipping as present being able to United States ports.

VII.—MILITARY AND PUNITIVE MEASURES.

1. In line with the announced policy to the United Nations that all aggression and unprovoked humanly conducted by the Axis Powers be met with just retributive measures, and with punishment of the guilty after the war, it should be specifically declared that such aggression and punishment will also be followed in the case of aggression and crimes committed by Axis countries against the Jews.

2. The action should be taken to force the members of the Axis Nations and other countries to the use of their naval and air transport facilities to assist in the escape of their populations.

3. More particularly all Axis Governments and authorities should be urged to take steps to prevent the use of their aircraft to transport Axis troops through neutral, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian or French air bases, both by day or by night, to territories under their control.

4. The same policy of just retributive measures applied to the United Nations, should be automatically extended to any action of unprovoked aggression.

5. Special use should be made of such retributive and punitive measures to punish the Axis countries against the Axis countries of possible Jewish non-combatants and persons connected with the armed forces of the United Nations. Attention is drawn to the fact that the United Nations have already lost over 100,000 Jewish soldiers and sailors, and that the Axis countries have lost over 2,000,000 persons.

6. It is also suggested that there be no limitation placed on the number of Jewish refugees of the United Nations who have not been sent to military service areas of white States and persons, military troops.

7. It is, therefore, recommended that the United Nations should be urged to take steps to prevent the use of their aircraft to transport Axis troops through neutral, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian or French air bases, both by day or by night, to territories under their control.

8. The United Nations should be urged to take steps to prevent the use of their aircraft to transport Axis troops through neutral, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian or French air bases, both by day or by night, to territories under their control.

VIII.—PUBLIC OPINION.

In addition to the above measures urged upon the Governments of the United Nations, it is essential that public opinion in America fully and frankly informed of the facts of the situation.

The extent and horror of the present tragedy suffered by the Jewish people of Europe, and the extent of the suffering caused by the Axis Powers, should be made known to the American people.

The desperate urgency of these needs should be made known to the American people.

The urgent responsibility of the United Nations to the United States and the American people should be made known to the American people.

IX.—ORGANIZATION.

The Emergency Conference is urged to transfer itself into an Emergency Committee to save the Jewish People of Europe, to further the policies herein recommended and to maintain in function until the emergency is over.

More particularly, the Committee shall submit the above recommendations to the President and other public officials of the United States, shall seek to secure the co-operation of the Congress of the United States, and shall call for the continued support of the American people.

The Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe should be supported by all Americans regardless of creed, race or color.

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CLIPPINGSJuly 21/43

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Daily
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VOL. IV - No. 29

Wednesday, July 21, 1943

NEWS YOU CAN'T GET ELSEWHERE

Plans Offered to
Save 4 Million Jews

Italians

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Dim-out Deadline Tonight . . . 9:23

NEW YORK

Plans Offered to Save 4 Million Jews

Rep. Rogers Blames Britain and U. S. A. for Failure to Act

An emergency conference called to do what the Bermuda Conference failed to do—provide a definite plan of rescue for the 4,000,000 Jews left in Europe—is under way in New York today.

It was keynoted at the opening session last night by Rep. Will Rogers (D., Cal.) who said the most alarming thing about the refugee problem "is the United Nations' failure to do anything about it."

Rogers called that failure a matter of "incompetence, laxity, cruelty and deliberate self-indulgence in the diplomatic policy of the United Nations."

"And we might as well put the blame where it belongs—on England and the United States," he said.

Stirling Speaks

A thousand delegates, representing all parts of the country, met at the Hotel Commodore. They heard Rear Adm. Yates Stirling, Jr., retired, another speaker, declare that the purpose of the conference was to keep Hitler and his Nazis from flinging "4,000,000 corpses in our faces as their last act of defiance."

Rogers declared that of the 7,000,000 Jews in Europe, only 4,000,000 are left and these are now scheduled to be "finished off."

The only way to get anything done, he said, is for interested groups to cause "agitation and more agitation" and bring pressure on the Government. He said the United Nations should use diplomatic pressure on Turkey to grant passage to Jews escaping from Europe to Palestine, and should broadcast that this escape route was open.

'Problem Will Die Out'

"The Arab problem will die out if the United Nations aggressively announce they are going to save the Jews," he said.

Rogers and other speakers declared that the Conference should plan an organization which should be recognized by the United Nations as an agency for rescuing the Jews at once.

The Conference, whose sponsors include leaders in many walks of civic life, explained its purpose in a formal statement:

"In spite of two conferences, at Evian (France) and Bermuda, which might have dealt with this problem, no plan of action has been suggested; no government machinery has been set up anywhere.

"This is one battleground in which the United Nations have accepted defeat."



Count Carlo Sforza, leader of Free Italians, and Charles Davila, former Rumanian Minister to Washington, pictured at the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe, at the Commodore last night.

Photo by Dan Keleher, PM

ALLIES URGED TO SAVE JEWS

Morgenthau Asks for Plan to Stop Slaughter.

The Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, which opened last night at the Hotel Commodore with speakers urging the United Nations to take concrete steps to rescue the Jews in occupied Europe from the prospect of wholesale slaughter, was attended by one thousand delegates from organizations throughout the United States.

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr., in a telegraphic message, expressed the hope that the conference would produce "a specific plan to relieve the critical situation which exists among the Jewish people who are facing complete extinction in Hitler's Europe."

Mr. Morgenthau said that every effort must be made to stop the slaughter which can be expected as a final gasping gesture of the dying Nazi regime. He added that along with other freedom-loving Americans, he was deeply interested in seeing that every possible step is taken to stop this needless slaughter, "and, as we all know, if anything is to be done, it must be done quickly. For the corrupt leaders of Fascism must recognize fully that the day of reckoning is not far off. With so substantial a group of outstanding people backing your reports, I feel confident that some plan, and some action, will certainly result."

Urges Diplomatic Pressure.

Urging that diplomatic pressure be employed against Axis satellite countries to force them to give the Jews passage to Turkey, from which they could be removed to reach havens elsewhere. Representative Will Rogers Jr. of California added that the opening of an escape gate for the Jews "must begin at our end. We must let it be known that they will be welcome."

"The Jewish problem is difficult but it can be solved," declared Mr. Rogers. "If we take it out of the dossiers of the diplomats and place it in the heart of humanity."

Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., retired, stressed the need for immediate action, asserting that "for every thousand Jews we save from the Nazi satellite countries, 500,000 may be saved from death in the rest of Nazi-held Europe."

"It has been proposed," said Admiral Stirling, "that a United Nations agency be set up to deal with this problem; such an agency to take the necessary steps to carry on the necessary negotiations through channels of its own, without violating the fixed policy of unconditional surrender."

Admiral Stirling and Representative Rogers upheld the idea of a Jewish army—to be composed of Palestinian and stateless Jews. There was applause from the delegates on the demand on this point by Arien Ben-Eliezer, a Palestinian delegate.

Messages of Support Read.

Count Carlo Sforza, former Italian Foreign Minister and leader of the Italian anti-Fascists abroad, declared that the Italian people were opposed to anti-Semitism and pointed out Mussolini's failure in attempting to introduce Nazi and anti-Semitism ideas in Italy.

Messages of encouragement and support were read from former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman, director of the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation; Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado, and Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine. Other speakers included Theodore Thackrey and William B. Ziff.

Dr. Maurice William, chairman of the conference, presided. Archbishop Athenagoras of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of North and South America, delivered the invocation, and Rabbi Phillip David Bookstaber pronounced the benediction.

The conference will continue daily through Sunday.

Allied Agency To Save Jews in Europe Urged

Admiral Yates Stirling Jr.
and Will Rogers Jr. Ask
Negotiations With Nazis

Pleas for the establishment of a recognized United Nations agency which would negotiate with the Nazis for the rescue of the remaining 4,000,000 of Europe's 7,000,000 Jews and resettle them in Palestine and elsewhere were made last night by Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., U. S. N. (retired) and Representative Will Rogers Jr., Democrat, of California.

In speeches at the Commodore at the opening of a five-day Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, Admiral Stirling and Representative Rogers joined in emphatic assertions that the time for talking about saving the still-alive Jews was over, and that concrete action now was needed.

"The Jewish problem is difficult but it can be solved if we take it out of the dossiers of the diplomats and place it in the heart of humanity," Mr. Rogers said. "There has been too much talk about this tragic situation."

Calls for Action Now

Mr. Rogers told the conference, the theme of which is "Action Now to Save the Jews of Europe," that it is essential to set up "some organization recognized by the United Nations to assist in getting the Jewish people out of Europe at once." He advocated a "national committee" and said that Palestine was "the logical place" for a haven, suggesting it be made a national Jewish state. Two thousand persons are expected to attend the conference.

Admiral Stirling, who said America and the other Allies for their "own self-respect," should help save the European Jews, warned of the Nazis' threat to "slam the door" on history before they quit.

"Hitler and his Nazi gang have sworn to make total extermination of the Jewish people of Europe their last hideous gesture," he said, "to fling 4,000,000 Jewish corpses in our faces as their last act of defiance. . . . If they succeed in doing that, if we let them get away with it, then we shall have to answer to our own conscience, and to the conscience of the whole world."

Would Challenge Brutality

A United Nations agency working to save the Jews could take the required steps "through channels of its own, without violating the fixed policy of unconditional surrender," Admiral Stirling added.

"Nations at war keep channels open with the enemy for many reasons," he said. "For example, the exchange of prisoners and the treatment of internmentals in enemy territory. Through such a United Nations agency the work of rescue could be initiated and carried through to a successful conclusion."

Pointing out that Palestine provided one good potential haven immediately, Admiral Stirling asserted that the Allies should challenge the anti-Semitic brutality of the Nazis now, so that "they will think twice before striking again."

In a telegram to the conference, Henry Morgenthau Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, said: "It is my earnest hope that out of your emergency conference will come a specific plan to relieve the critical situation which exists among the Jewish people who are facing complete extinction in Hitler's Europe. Certainly every effort must be made to stop the slaughter which can be expected as the final gasping gesture of the dying Nazis' regime."

For three days, starting today, the problems of rescuing the Jews will be discussed in panels on international relations, military affairs, public opinion, relief and transportation, and religion and the church. The panel discussions will end with public meetings on Saturday and Sunday.

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Agency Asked To Save Jews Of Europe

Warning that Nazi Germany, before its final defeat, will attempt to annihilate the 4,000,000 Jews remaining in Europe, Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr. (Ret.), today demanded the formation of a United Nations agency to rescue these victims of Hitler's fury.

Admiral Stirling was one of several outstanding citizens who addressed the 750 delegates attending the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, which will be in session at the Hotel Commodore through Saturday. William Randolph Hearst is an honorary chairman of the Conference.

"Hitler and his Nazi gang have sworn to make the total extermination of the Jewish people of Europe their last hideous gesture," Admiral Stirling declared, "to sling 4,000,000 Jewish corpses in our faces as their last act of defiance when they are finally compelled to quit the scene of history. If they succeeded in doing that—if we let them get away with it—then we shall have to

Continued on Page 7, Column 2.

Editors Lay Food Lack to Capital

By ERWIN D. SLA

International News Service Staff Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, July 21.

A survey of the Republican Congressional food study committee today revealed that 1,000 editors and publishers of trade publications blame "bungling, incompetency and regimentation in Washington" for the nation's food shortage.

Released by Rep. Jenkins (R-Ohio), committee chairman, the poll showed that more than half of the editors reported food shortages in their communities representing 47 States.

The committee said the majority of answers gave the following reasons for the civilian food shortage:

"Bungling incompetency, mismanagement and waste in Washington; announcing 'freezing' in advance; Government regulations and restrictions, AAA, OPA; too much red tape and too much regimentation; inefficient Government meddling and lack of foresight; Government overbuying and hoarding."

A reply from California asserted that "the Japanese camps are getting most of the meat in this vicinity."

Rome Second Nazi

By LEO V.

International News Service.
BERNE, July 21.—An air raid reported to have sounded in Rome today, after more than 100 Italian bombers had been reported to have been in the air.

By LEO V.

International News Service.
LONDON, July 21.—Precautions were taken today against a possible Italian air raid on the mainland of Rome and northern Italy, after reports that the Italian capital was bombed for the last night.

The Nazi-operated asserted British in already had attempted on the mainland of Bari, on the Adriatic, Berlin reports which

Demands Agency to Save Jews

Continued from First Page.

answer to our own conscience, and to the conscience of the whole world."

He advocated use of an agency, similar to one which warring nations use for the exchange of prisoners, through which the Jews could be removed to havens outside the Nazi-dominated continent. One place of refuge, he suggested, could be Palestine, which can be reached in an overland route through the Balkans and where there is now room for an estimated 600,000 additional refugees.

Admiral Stirling's words were supported by a telegram from Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., which was read to the gathering.

"Every effort must be made to stop the slaughter which can be expected as the final gasping gesture of the dying Nazi regime," the message read. "With so substantial a group of outstanding people backing your efforts, I feel confident that some plan, and some action, will certainly result."

Another speaker, Congressman Will Rogers, Jr., son of the late humorist, told the audience that "the Jewish problem can be solved if we take it out of the dossiers of the diplomats and place it in the hearts of humanity."

DEMANDS ACTION.

"There has been too much talk about this tragic situation," he said. "When this war began there were 7,000,000 Jews in Europe. Now there are about 4,000,000 left. This is a problem which cannot be solved through the exercise of vocal cords alone and routine protests."

"It is essential that out of this emergency conference should come some organization recognized by the United Nations to assist in getting Jewish people out of Europe at once."

"Certainly there are enough open spaces and unpopulated areas to accommodate 4,000,000 tortured human beings. Palestine is the logical place. It is nearer and over land instead of over water. Moreover, they should be allowed a National state because it is the best answer to the 'slanders' of anti-semitism and the best solution of the stateless Jew."

"Finally, there should be set up a National Committee recognized by the United Nations."

APPEASEMENT A 'CURSE.'

The Conference got under way with an invocation delivered by Archbishop Athenagoras, head of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of North and South America. The benediction was delivered by Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber, former chaplain of the Jewish War Veterans. Other speakers included Count Carlos Sforza, former Italian Foreign Minister, and William B. Ziff, writer.

After the prayers, the permanent chairman of the Conference, Dr. Maurice William, said:

"Appeasement has been the curse of humanity. Japan's success in China encouraged Mussolini, and Hitler thought he could conquer without bloodshed. Our people alone still remain the tragic victims of appeasement. We must refuse to appease Hitler. This conference must act."

Aria Ben-Eliezer, a Palestinian, and midwest director of the Committee for a Jewish Army, asked for arms and said: "Pit up against the enemy wherever the battle is fiercest and victory most dearly bought. Give us the right to fight."

LEHMAN MESSAGE.

Former Gov. Herbert Lehman, in a message read by Dr. William, said:

"The Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations, (which he heads) will seek to bring palliative relief so far as is practicable when they (the Jews) are liberated from the Axis domination."

For the rest of the conference the delegates will meet in panel groups consisting of experts in the various fields of discussion. These fields include International Relations, Military Affairs, Public Opinion, Relief and Transportation, and Religion and the Church.

On Saturday and Sunday, the findings of the panels will be presented to the Conference as a whole and it is expected that by the end of the sessions on Sunday night, some concrete rescue plan may be underway.

The individual panel meetings will not be open to the public, but an open session of the Conference will be held tonight with Bishop Henry St. George Tucker presiding.

Some of the prominent citizens serving as honorary chairmen of the conference include:

Former President Herbert Hoover, James W. Gerard, William Green, Philip Murray, Dean Alfange, Van Wyck, Louis Bromfield, Harrison E. Spangler, Bishop Tucker and William Allen White.

HELP FOR JEWS!



REP. WILL ROGERS JR.
Would Rescue 4,000,000

Save Jews Now, Conference Demands

Creation of a United Nations agency with the official job of rescuing 4,000,000 surviving Jews from Nazi-occupied Europe was demanded last night by Rep. Will Rogers Jr. (D-Cal.). He made the following concrete suggestions:

Diplomatic pressure on Turkey to secure transit facilities for Jews from Nazi-satellite countries like Austria, Bulgaria and Rumania.

Opening up of Palestine to Jewish refugees, regardless of the sensitivities of the Arabs there.

Formation of a Palestine State with a Jewish Army fighting openly on the side of the United Nations.

Immediate Action Demanded

Rogers and other speakers at the opening session at the Hotel Commodore of the six-day Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe placed the responsibility for the Jewish disaster squarely with the United Nations, and more particularly, with Britain and the U. S.

They called for a program of immediate action in place of vague humanitarian appeals.

Today the conference continued with the convening of panels on international relations, relief and transportation, military affairs, public opinion and religion, to hammer out in private session the details of that program.

Besides Rogers, those who addressed the opening session of the conference included Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., U. S. Navy (retired); Count Carlo Sforza, former Foreign Minister of Italy; Ted O. Thackrey, editor and general manager of the New York Post; William B. Ziff, and A. Ben-Eliezer, Palestine delegate. Dr. Maurice William presided.

Too Much Talk Deplored

Messages were read from Herbert H. Lehman, Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine and others to a gathering of 1,000 delegates from various Jewish organizations.

Rep. Rogers sounded the keynote of the evening when he said:

"There has been too much talk about this tragic situation. When the war began there were 7,000,000 Jews in Europe. Now there are about 4,000,000 left. This is a problem which cannot be solved through the exercise of vocal cords alone and routine protests.

"The most alarming thing about the Jewish problem in Europe is the failure of the United Nations to do anything about it.

"We must say unmistakably that every refugee who reaches Allied territory will be welcome. The opening up of the avenue of escape must begin at our end!"

Arab Barrier Denied

Ridiculing the diplomats who claim "we cannot do anything

about opening up Palestine without disturbing the Arabs," Rogers said:

"The Arab problem is as nothing compared to the killing of millions of Jews. I am fed up with all this talk of possible Arab revolt when people are being killed."

Rogers said that in not forming a Jewish Army in Palestine, "we are squandering one of the great resources of the United Nations."

Stirling Lashes Nazis

"We must not allow minor difficulties to cause a major world frustration. The Jewish problem can be solved if we take it out of the dossiers of the diplomats and place it in the heart of humanity."

Thackrey said that the time for imploring and weeping over the plight of the European Jews had passed, that unless action was demanded and taken the problem would solve itself through the liquidation of additional millions.

"We are here to demand a commission of all the United Nations

charged with exploring every avenue of escape for every Jew still living in Europe," he said.

Admiral Stirling spoke scathingly of the Nazi threat to "slam the door" on history before they quit.

"Hitler has sworn the extermination of the Jewish people as his last hideous gesture," he said, "to fling 4,000,000 Jewish corpses in our faces as their last act of defiance."

"If they succeed in doing that, if we let them get away with it, we shall have to answer to our own conscience and to the conscience of the whole world."

A United Nations agency working to save the Jews could take the required steps "through channels of its own, without violating the fixed policy of unconditional surrender," Stirling added.

Morgenthau Asks for a Plan

"Nations at war keep channels open with the enemy for many reasons, for example, the exchange of prisoners and the treatment of internationals in enemy territory. Through such an

agency the work of rescue could be carried through to a successful conclusion."

In a telegram to the conference, Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau urged a "specific plan to relieve the Jewish people who are facing extinction in Hitler's Europe."

It was announced that Mayor LaGuardia would join in the concluding sessions of the conference Sunday.



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THE NEW YORK TIMES, WEDNESDAY, JULY 21, 1943.

QUICK AID IS ASKED FOR EUROPE'S JEWS

Immediate Action for Victims
in Nazi-Held Countries Is
Appeal of Conference

ADMIRAL STIRLING SPEAKS

Warns of Slaughter by Hitler
—Representative Rogers and
Carlo Sforza Are Heard

Immediate action to rescue the Jews of Nazi-dominated countries was demanded last night by speakers at the opening session of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, held at the Hotel Commodore.

The conference, which will explore the various aspects of the problem, will remain in session through Saturday and will close with the adoption of definite proposals to be submitted to the governments of the United Nations.

"The Jewish problem is difficult but it can be solved if we take it out of the dossiers of the diplomats and place it in the heart of humanity," declared Representative Will Rogers Jr. of California, at last night's session, attended by 1,000 representatives of Jewish organizations.

He was seconded by Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., retired, Carlo Sforza, former Italian foreign minister and leader of the Italian anti-Fascists abroad, and Ted Thackery, executive editor of The New York Post.

Morgenthau Sends Telegram

A telegram from Henry Morgenthau Jr., Secretary of the Treasury, read at the meeting, expressed warm indorsement of the conference and its purpose.

"Certainly every effort must be made to stop the slaughter which can be expected as the final gasping gesture of the dying Nazi regime," Mr. Morgenthau said. "Along with every other freedom-loving American, I am deeply interested in seeing that every possible step is taken to stop this needless slaughter, and as we all know, if anything is to be done, it must be done quickly. For the corrupt leaders of fascism must recognize fully that the day of final reckoning is not far off."

Messages of encouragement and support were read also from former Governor Herbert H. Lehman, director of the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation, Senator Edwin C. Johnson of Colorado, and Chief Rabbi Isaac Herzog of Palestine.

Declaring that "there has been too much talk about this tragic situation," Representative Rogers pointed out that some 3,000,000 of Europe's 7,000,000 Jews already have perished and insisted that "this is a problem which cannot be solved through the exercise of vocal cords and routine protests."

Mr. Rogers suggested that the conference create a rescue organization to be recognized by the United Nations in carrying out a concrete program of action.

"Certainly there are enough open spaces and unpopulated areas to accommodate 4,000,000 tortured human beings," he said. "Palestine is the logical place. It is nearer and over land instead of over water. Moreover, the Jews should be allowed a national State because it is the best answer to the slanders of anti-Semitism and the best solution for the stateless Jews."

Need of Action Stressed

With the warning that if the United Nations permit Hitler to destroy the remaining 4,000,000 Jews in Europe, "we shall have to answer to our own conscience and to the conscience of the whole world," Admiral Stirling stressed the need of immediate action, saying that "for every thousand Jews we save from the Nazi satellite countries 500,000 may be saved from death in the rest of Nazi-held Europe."

"It has been proposed that a United Nations agency be set up to deal with this problem," he said, "such an agency to take the necessary steps and to carry on the necessary negotiations through channels of its own, without violating the fixed policy of unconditional surrender."

Both Representative Rogers and Admiral Stirling expressed support of the idea of a Jewish Army to be composed of Palestinian and stateless Jews, emphasizing the point that these Jews should have an opportunity to take part as a unit in the armies of the United Nations. The delegates applauded the demand on this point by Arleh Ben-Eliezer, a Palestinian delegate.

Count Sforza said the Italian people were opposed to anti-Semitism and pointed out what he termed the complete failure of Mussolini's attempt to introduce Nazi anti-Semitic ideas in Italy. Count Sforza voiced the hope that Jews and Arabs would be able to cooperate in the future in the building of a great Near East federation, with Palestine as a member.

Archbishop Athenagoras, head of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of North and South America, delivered the invocation at the meeting, and Rabbi Phillip David Bookstaber pronounced the benediction. Dr. Maurice William presided.

Morgenthau Aids Drive to Save European Jews

**Pledges His Support
To Campaign to
Liberate 4,000,000**

Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau, Jr., last night pledged his support to the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe in its efforts to liberate the 4,000,000 Jews still under Nazi yoke in Europe.

"Certainly every effort must be made to stop the slaughter which can be expected as the final gasping gesture of the dying Nazi regime," Mr. Morgenthau said in a telegram to the delegates at the Hotel Commodore.

Immediate establishment of a United Nations agency to facilitate the removal of Jews from Axis satellites to havens in the Near East or the western hemisphere was urged by Representative Will Rogers, Jr. (D., Cal.) and Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, USN, retired.

Sees Solution of Problem

"The Jewish problem is difficult but it can be solved if we take it out of the dossiers of the diplomats and place it in the heart of humanity," Mr. Rogers said. "The opening of an escape gate for the Jews must begin at our end. We must let it be known that they will be welcome."

Mr. Rogers endorsed the campaign to have Palestine established as a national Jewish state.

Admiral Stirling warned that if the United States permits Germany to carry out its vow to exterminate the Jewish people of Europe, "we shall have to answer to our own conscience and to the conscience of the whole world."

Favor Jewish Army.

Both he and Mr. Rogers said they favored formation of a Jewish army in the war against the Axis.

Other speakers included Count Carlos Sforza, former Italian Foreign Minister; Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber, former chaplain of the Jewish War Veterans; Archbishop Athenagoras, head of the Greek Orthodox Diocese of North and South America; Theodore Thackrey, executive editor of the New York Post, and William B. Ziff, author.

Panel discussions of the conference will end Friday. Public meetings are planned for Saturday and Sunday.

Beveridge Reviews Tour

By the United Press.

LONDON, July 21.—Sir William Beveridge, eminent British economist, reviewing his recent American tour, said yesterday that he found a growing readiness in the United States for continued international collaboration to prevent the danger of a third world war.

C L I P P I N G SJuly 22/43

10

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NEW YORK

Reprisal Warning Drafted To Save Jews in Europe

Emergency Conference Panel Draws Up Program of Intimidation

A plan to save the remaining 4,000,000 Jews in Europe through intimidation of the Axis nations is being drafted in New York today for consideration of the Jewish Emergency Conference.

Members of a special panel began a program based on the idea that the plight of the 4,000,000 was so urgent the United Nations Governments must threaten reprisals at once . . . and mean it.

The Emergency Conference, called because the Bermuda Conference failed to produce definite plans for saving European Jews, is meeting this week at the Commodore.

Proposals

Among the proposals discussed by the special panel are:

¶ Pamphlet air raids on Germany and satellite countries calling on decent citizens to keep dossiers on all the crimes against Jews for future action by the United Nations.

¶ A warning to the Axis countries, particularly Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria, that the United Nations know about how many Jews are in their countries now—and will count faces when the day of settlement comes.

¶ Bombings in southeastern Europe to underscore this warning.

¶ Organization of all refugees into commando and intelligence groups to land immediately after any Allied attack in Axis countries. These refugees would immediately search out persecutors.

¶ Europe to be flooded with reminders that those guilty of attacks on Jews will be held strictly accountable.

Chai
Drug

Wife
Stays in T

Marie Ar
will compla

Rabbi Bitter

Panel members felt that reprisal warnings might be just as effective in the Jewish problem as they seem to have been in keeping the Germans from using poison gas to date.

Rabbi Baruch E. Rabinowitz, of Washington, a spokesman for the Committee for a Jewish Army, told the Conference last night that "we can't help fear that an end to this people who have given so much to the world may be ahead—a people whose signature is found on every page of democratic progress in the world's history."

"This people is dying, despite the fact that the members of the United Nations are spiritual heirs to ideas they have created."

Rabinowitz said he was "bitter because the Christian world could put a stop to this murder."

OPINION

What About the Jews, FDR?

I address you with great reluctance, President Roosevelt. You are a man harried by every group in the country, every issue and every cause in the world. You carry the massive weight of the war on your shoulders. Only an issue of transcending importance can justify adding to your burden.

But I think that the fate of 4,000,000 Jews is not a trifling matter either in the war or in the conscience of Western man. That is the number of Jews who are still left in Europe. At least 2,000,000 have already been murdered by the Nazis and their satellites in the greatest mass slaughter in history.

There is no sense in pulling all the emotional stops on the theme of the massacre of the Jews. Anyone who has not already been moved to the depths of his being by the thought of the European earth soaked with the blood of 2,000,000 innocent and helpless people, will not be moved by rhetoric.

I can speak to you, Mr. President, in a matter-of-fact way. You know who the Nazis are, you know what they have done and are doing. You want to do everything humanly possible to rescue what Jews remain in Europe.

But you are handicapped at the very start. Neither the American nor the British government has a policy on the matter. Neither government recognizes that any Jewish problem exists. Both governments talk of the Jews as Polish nationals, or Czech nationals, or Hungarian nationals. Yet the fact remains that while Czechs are killed by the hundreds, Jews in Czechoslovakia are killed by the tens of thousands. And they are killed as Jews, not as Czechs.

Hitler has made out of Europe a charnel-house of the Jews. But the State Dept. and Downing St. avert their eyes from the slaughter and, with a finicky exactitude, insist on giving the Jews in their death the civic national status that Hitler denies them in life.

The problem is there, Mr. President, by whatever name you call it. And it is not too late to act on it. We can stop the senseless and criminal slaughter of the remaining 4,000,000.

How? There is a conference meeting in New York—an Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe. There are Jews and Christians in it, laymen and clergymen, Democrats and Republicans, reactionaries and liberals. The only things they have in common are a conscience and a will to action.

Several proposals are emerging. One is that the United Nations put pressure on the Axis satellite countries. Out of 4,000,000 Jews in Europe, 1,500,000 are in Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria. Hitler is trying to crack down on them to hasten the extermination of their Jews. But Hit-

ler can no longer give them unconditional commands.

Thanks largely to your brilliant leadership in the war, along with Churchill and Stalin, the Axis satellites know that their end is near. They will do many things to acquire even a qualified merit in our eyes. To stop the slaughter of their Jews, to send as many as possible into neutral countries, to cease the brutal discrimination against those who remain, are things they would do if we demanded it.

This is not to relent in the slightest from your Casablanca policy of unconditional surrender. It is merely to use the

war power we have to save millions of innocent lives. No promises or commitments could possibly be involved.

Then there is Axis-occupied Europe. I do not include Germany itself; that is, as Hitler has put it with a beautiful irony, *Judenrein*—wholly cleansed of its Jews. But the rest of Europe which the Nazi armies occupy still has some 2,500,000 Jews. They can be saved if we act. You, Mr. President, can promise the direct retribution to the Nazi leaders unless they cease the slaughter of Jews. When it was a question of the Nazi use of poison-gas against the Russian armies, Churchill threatened to retaliate in kind. It worked. And this will

work too, if the Nazis know you mean it.

Finally there are the neutral countries—Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey, even Portugal and Spain. If we give them financial aid and encouragement, they become temporary havens for refugees from the Axis—and satellite countries.

The problem is solvable. Not by words but by action. You, Mr. President, make the lead in creating a United Nations agency to follow out these lines of action.

The methods are clear. Neither science nor policy can afford to let them unused. And the time is now.

—MAX LERNER

(Copyright, 1943, by Field Publications)



"And if the Question About Missing Funds Should Arise—Please Ask Mussolini"

Take Courage, Men! Sullivan Is With Us

By FRANK SULLIVAN

Mr. Frank R. Wilson of the Dept. of Commerce stated recently in an address at New York that at some time in this year the women in this country will outnumber the men for the first time. This has nothing to do with the war. It is a phenomenon that

has been brewing for some time. Mr. Wilson said that a characteristic of a youthful nation is a preponderance of males. When this majority ceases to exist the nation passes from youth into maturity. We are at the threshold of an era, thinks Mr. Wilson, in which the American female will be in the majority.

Several American males to whom I broke this news pulled long faces. Why? I was surprised. This era that is coming may be a Golden Era for the American male, the poor devils. He may be able to sit back on his laurels for the first time and let the girls pull the plough as they do in civilized unquote countries.

American men have always placed women on a pedestal. The gals have had an easy time of it here because we were a pioneer country for a long time and the girls were in a minority. This put a premium on them and caused them to be venerated. One reason why the American male is slipping into a minority is because he has worked so hard for the American female, slaving down in the nice cool sewer all day long so that she could have jewels, silver foxes and perfume at \$100 an ounce.

Cynical European men have always laughed at the American man for his attitude toward woman. To European males, a woman is a rag, a bone and a hank of hair. In Europe every time a lady walks abroad she is apt to get pinched by a strange man. No American man with any self-respect pinches a lady he does not know. He may knock her down or conk her with a baseball bat, but he does not affront her with the supreme indignity of the pinch.

Anyhow, now that the ladies are in the majority, there is no longer any need to be so polite to them, or to treat them with kid gloves. The shoe is on the other foot. It is their turn to fondle the men and cater to

them, and prevent them from getting too even scarier than they are now.

The American man is in a splendid gaining position at this moment, if he plays his cards right, and if Dr. Frank R. Wilson isn't kidding us. One matter on which men might take a stand right now, is make a test case of their new status, is business of lighting cigarettes for great, strong women. The custom is even more ridiculous today than it was before ladies became welders. A lady welder reaches a cigaret, disclosing a bicep that Lio Strongfort might envy, but whatever plump little emaciated man is in the room has struggle to his feet, chase all over hell and gone, find a match and rush over to light Bonadice's cigaret for her. Sudden strenuous exertion like that could bring a heart attack on a man these days. The men should make their position clear. No more light cigarettes for women.

There is no reason why men should resent their new minority status in this country looks as though they will be sitting mighty pretty in the new era. So don't complain, gentlemen; don't be silly. The ladies still have to bear children.

New York Journal-American

Rescue of Jews Demanded Now



Maj. Paul Raborg, International News and Journal-American Military expert (left), Eri Jabotinsky of Palestine and Adm. Yates Stirling, Jr. map action to save the Jewish people who face extinction in Europe.

Journal-American Staff Photo.

Rescue of the 4,000,000 Jews in Nazi-dominated Europe through action by President Roosevelt, the State Department, Prime Minister Churchill and the good offices of the International Red Cross was demanded today by the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, now in session at the Commodore Hotel.

The panel on military affairs, headed by Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr. (U. S. N. ret.) called on Roosevelt, Churchill and heads of all the other United Nations governments to:

"Appoint the proper governmental agency immediately to put into effect promises of reprisals to compel Axis enemies, including all satellite nations which are now allied with the Axis, to discontinue their program of annihilation of the Jewish people."

Besides Admiral Stirling, members of the military affairs panel include Maj. Paul Raborg, military expert for the New York Journal-American and International News Service, Michael Borchin, Eri Jabotinsky, Thomas H. Johnson, Fletcher Pratt, Nathan Horwitt, and Dr. Emil Lengyel.

The report of the panel on international relations proposed that Great Britain and the United States approach the satellite governments, especially Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania, and suggest that the treatment of the Jews residing in those countries be placed under the supervision of the International Red Cross.

The panel discussions will continue today.

Many prominent Americans, including former President Herbert Hoover and William Randolph Hearst, are serving as honorary chairmen of the conference.

NEW YORK WORLD-TELEGRAM, THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1943.

Here as Much Is Dive

Roosevelt Urged To Speed Aid to Jews in Europe

Asked to Appoint
Special Officials
For Negotiations

The appointment of special officials who would be empowered to negotiate immediately for the "rescue and protection" of Europe's oppressed Jews was urged on President Roosevelt and the State Department yesterday at the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

The proposal also appealed to this country and Great Britain to "approach the governments of the Axis satellite countries, especially Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania, and suggest International Red Cross supervision of the treatment of the Jews."

Urge Financial Support.

Headed by Dr. Max Lerner, author and professor of political science at Williams College, the group further urged that the United States and Great Britain guarantee financial support for Jews who are able to reach the neutral countries.

These steps, it said, "will prove our war aims are genuine" even though they might "in a sense interfere with the war."

A panel on military affairs, headed by Rear Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr., USN, retired, adopted a resolution asking that President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Churchill "appoint the proper governmental agency immediately to put into effect promises of reprisals" which would compel Axis nations to cease persecution of Jews.

Sees Danger in Delay.

Speaking to the panel on religion, the Rt. Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, urged immediate action, warning that "if we postpone action until after the war, there won't be anybody to save."

The conference session at the Hotel Commodore will act on all proposals in a preliminary way this week and then draw a detailed program to be placed before the governments of the United Nations.

Daily Mirror 7/22/43

Ask Swift Reprisals to Aid Jews

A plan to place 4,000,000 Jews, facing extinction in Europe, under supervision of the International Red Cross and other relief agencies and for neutral countries to be guaranteed money to support those finding haven within their borders, was discussed yesterday at the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

The proposal was made by the panel on international relations as the panel on military affairs adopted a resolution calling on President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and the heads of all other United Nations governments start immediate reprisals against the Axis.

The resolution asks appoint-

N. Y. Job Accident Toll 122 in June

ALBANY, July 21 (AP).—Industrial accidents took 122 lives in New York last month, the State Labor Department announced today.

Preliminary reports showed 76 fatalities in New York City and 46 Upstate. Falls, totalling 33, led the list.

ment of "the proper governmental agency to put into effect threats of reprisal to make all Axis enemies discontinue their program of annihilating the Jewish people."

On Saturday the resolution will

be placed before the full conference, now in session at the Hotel Commodore.

At the session of the military affairs committee, of which Rear-Admiral Yates Stirling, Jr. (ret.), is chairman, it was suggested that the U. S. can bring many of the 4,000,000 here, since 250,000 Axis prisoners are already being brought to this country.

Brooklyn Flier Killed

NEWJORT, R. I., July 21. (UP).—Three Navy airmen killed Friday when their training plane plunged into the sea off Montauk Point, L. I., included Radioman Thomas F. McConnon of Brooklyn, it was announced today.

N. Y. Times

7/22/43

JEW'S RESCUE SEEN IN RED CROSS HELP

Supervision by Organization in
Axis Satellite Nations Urged
at Conference Here

QUICK REPRISALS ASKED

Promises of Punishment for
Atrocities Are Called For to
Put End to Persecution

A proposal that the United States and Great Britain approach the governments of the Axis satellite countries, especially Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania, and suggest International Red Cross supervision of the treatment of Jews in those countries, was approved yesterday by a panel on international relations, conducted in connection with the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe, in session at the Hotel Commodore.

Presided over by Max Lerner, the panel members suggested also that America and Great Britain give guarantees to neutral countries, including Turkey, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden, assuring them the financial support for Jews who manage to arrive within their borders.

The panel members stressed also the need for the organization of mass opinion in America to make clear to President Roosevelt and the State Department that "conscience demands the appointment of special officials whose task should be the rescue and protection of Jews in Nazi-dominated countries and that these officials be given power to act."

Four Participate in Panel

Participating in the panel discussion which led to these recommendations were Count Carlo Sforza, head of the Italian anti-fascist movement abroad, Edgar Ansel Mowrer, Representative Emanuel Celler and Clark M. Eichelberger, president of the League of Nations Association.

Members of a panel on transportation, presided over by Dr. Maurice William, concluded that "without doubt facilities still exist for the immediate salvation of these victims of the Nazi terror" and urged that the United Nations take advantage of these facilities without delay. Particular reference was made to the possibility of bringing out thousands of Jews from Nazi satellite countries.

In this connection, Louis D. Caplane, head of the New York bureau of the Norwegian Journal of Commerce and Shipping, said that sufficient shipping was available in the Mediterranean to move 25,000 Jews out of Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary.

Participating in the panel on transportation were Samuel Z. Murray, president of the United Fruit Company, and Dr. Conrad Hoffman, American executive for War Prisoners Aid.

Action Asked on Atrocities

A conference panel on military affairs, headed by Rear Admiral Yates Sterling Jr., retired, adopted a resolution calling upon President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and the heads of all other United Nations Governments to proceed immediately with the implementation of the President's promise of punishment of all persons in the Axis nations, and their satellites, who have committed atrocities during the war.

To this end the panel recommended that the United Nations be requested "to appoint the proper governmental agency immediately to put into effect promises of reprisal and reprisals, to intimidate all Axis enemies, including all satellite nations which are now allied with the Axis, into discontinuance of their program of annihilation of the Jewish people."

At a panel session in the evening dealing with the attitude of Christian churches on the purposes of the conference, the Right Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, president of the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, expressed the sympathy of the council with the conference aims and said that the council was ready to cooperate in devising means by which relief could be offered to the sorely persecuted Jews of Europe. He stressed the need of immediate action, declaring that "if we postpone action until after the war, there won't be anybody to save."

These sentiments were echoed by Bishop James Cannon, Methodist, of Richmond, Va. Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber of Harrisburg, Pa., former national chaplain of the Jewish War Veterans, presided at the panel session.

Recommendations of the panels held yesterday and of those to be held this afternoon will be presented for approval of the entire conference, which will work out a detailed program of action to be presented to the Governments of the United States and Great Britain.

Herald Tribune

JULY 22, 1943

Roosevelt's Aid Asked to Save Jews in Europe

Conference Urges Naming
of Officials to Direct
the Rescue of 4,000,000

President Roosevelt and the State Department were asked yesterday to appoint special officials whose duties would be the rescue and protection of the remaining 4,000,000 of 7,000,000 Jews in Axis-occupied Europe. The request was made in proposals adopted by a panel on international relations at the second session of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe being held at the Commodore Hotel.

The panel, headed by Dr. Max Lerner, author and professor of political science at Williams College, also suggested that Great Britain and the United States give assurances of financial support for Jews who manage to arrive within the borders of neutral countries including Turkey, Spain, Switzerland and Sweden. Members of the large panel included Arthur Garfield Hays, national director of the American Civil Liberties Union; Charles Davila, former Rumanian Minister to the United States, and William S. Bennet, former Representative in Congress from New York.

Emphasizing that while "attempts to save the Jews in Axis-occupied Europe will in a sense interfere with the war," the panel said that they "will prove our war aims are genuine." The panel demanded that the United Nations immediately approach the governments of the Axis satellite countries, especially Bulgaria, Hungary and Rumania, and suggest International Red Cross supervision of the treatment of Jews.

A panel on military affairs, headed by Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., U. S. N. (retired), adopted a resolution asking that President Roosevelt and Prime Minister Winston Churchill, of Great Britain, "appoint the proper governmental agency immediately to put into effect promises of reprisal and reprisals to intimidate all Axis enemies, including satellite nations which are now allied with the Axis, into the discontinuance of their program of the annihilation of the Jewish people."

The Right Rev. Henry St. George Tucker, presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church, led a general discussion at last night's session of the conference to determine how religion can aid in saving the persecuted Jews in Europe.

A panel on religion which met earlier in the day suggested "implementing the Balfour Declaration and the organization of the churches to protest to the proper channels, availing themselves of all doors to the various countries that may be opened for refugees to enter in, with special emphasis on Palestine." Bishop James Cannon, of the Methodist Church; Oscar W. Ehrhorn, president of the National Federation of Church Clubs, and the Rev. Dr. Philip David Bookstaber were co-chairmen of the panel.

The conference will continue through Sunday.

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1943

SEEK HELP FOR JEWS



Problems involved in evacuation of 4,000,000 Jews from Nazi-held Europe are discussed by (l. to r.) Rev. James M. Martin, Bishop James Cannon Jr., of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Rabbi Philip David Bookstaber.

Urge

Immediate reprisals to halt atrocities against the Jews was urged today by the Military Affairs Panel in a resolution to be submitted to the general session of the Emergency Conference To Save the Jewish People in Europe, now in session at Hotel Commodore.

At the same time, the panel on International Relations proposed that Great Britain and the U. S. assure neutral countries financial support for Jews who reach their borders.

The panel also recommended that the President and State Dept. be asked to appoint special officials "whose task is the rescue and protection of Jews and that these officials be given power to act," and that in Axis satellite countries, the U. S. and Great Britain join in asking for International Red Cross supervision of the treatment of Jews.

The resolution adopted by the Military Affairs panel, headed by Admiral Yates Stirling Jr., called upon the President and Prime Minister Churchill, as well as the heads of all other United Nations governments, to appoint "the proper government appointee."

Reprisals to Save Jews

continuance of their program of the annihilation of the Jewish people."

A panel on public opinion, headed by Herbert S. Moore and Lisa Sergio, recommended a nation-wide program of publicity to present the problem of saving Jews in Europe as "a problem of today, to be interpreted in human, rather than in political or racial terms."

"Save Them Now"

"Emphasis must be placed on ways and means of saving these people now," Moore said, "and the problem must not be complicated by associating with it endless discussion of the long-term Jewish problems in their historical aspects."

Sigrid Undset, the author, urged that the proposed program of public education be directed particularly toward small towns and rural areas, where, she said, anti-semitism is prevalent.

"The Jew is looked upon by

country people as a city product," she said. "There is an assumption that he has no rural interests. The fact that the Jew has a traditional interest in agriculture and other pursuits associated with rural life, must be stressed."

NEW YORK POST, THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1943 26



I'd Rather Be Right

By Samuel Grafton

We have a way of treating the Jews of Europe as a special problem when we want them to be a special problem, and as part of the general problem when we want them to be part of the general problem.

Thus when Jews are gassed (as thousands have been gassed in the execution caravans of Poland) we treat them as a special problem; our terrible warnings to the enemy against the use of poison gas do not apply.

But when it is suggested that Jews can be rescued out of certain Balkan countries, the allied answer is that the Jewish problem is the same as the problem of all refugees, that nothing can be done until victory is obtained.

The Jews of Europe are a special case when they are executed; they are part of the general case when they are denied rescue.

Never in the Right Class

All the classifications leave them in Hitler's hands. They never seem to be lucky enough to achieve a classification which saves them. If their position is the same as that of the other peoples of Europe, then must we not consider that Hitler is using poison gas against Poles when he uses it against Poland's Jews? But if there is a difference, if they are a special case, then can we continue to give them the dusty answer that their rescue must await the general rescue, that their problem is the general problem?

Actually, the Jews are a special case. Hitler has made them so. They are the only people he has threatened to exterminate. To tell them to wait along with the others is to disregard this special classification. They cannot wait. Hitler will not let them wait.

They Cannot Wait

Either we consider the Jews part of Europe, and therefore we retaliate against their murderers as against the murderers of Europeans, or we must consider them a special case, and therefore devise a special means of rescue. There are no other alternatives, in logic or in honor; only these two.

(I hope it will be the chief business of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, now meeting in New York, to sharpen up these alternatives, to strip the oratorical ivy from them, so that all democratic mankind may clearly see the two horns and decide at last which it will grapple with.)

But how can the West rescue the Jews of Europe? The answer to that is that the West cannot do it at all, until it starts to do it. It must make at least the beginning of setting up one man, or one agency, in one room, as an office in charge of rescuing the Jews. The situation is not that the West has failed in this task. The West hasn't even assigned the task.

We don't know who has failed, because nobody has even been asked to try to succeed.

A Hatful of Answers

The Bermuda conference decided that it was really a conference on all refugees. Therefore it stepped out of and away from the special problem of the Jews. It was like a conference on apples which decided to hold a meeting on pears, and began by defining apples as being really pears. Its first order of business was, actually, its resignation.

What could a special agency do? After all, how many Jews can we get out of Rumania, and where can we send them? The spirit that begins by asking such questions will not rescue anybody, even itself. We take as many out of the Balkans as we can. We use retaliation. We use poison gas in Germany as the answer to poison gas in Poland. We make the flat promise that all Jews who reach a neutral country will be received and maintained, if only as prisoners of war. No one of these moves is a policy, but all of them together become a policy.

How can we win the war? It has been a hell of a complicated business finding the answer to that one, too. We did not depend on any one answer, either. We tried them all.

New York Post

FOUNDED IN 1801 BY ALEXANDER HAMILTON

The New York Post is printed and published daily except Sunday by CHARLES B. HICKS, 14 West Street, New York. Telephone: LOrham 1-0000. Entered as second-class matter at Post Office, New York.

ROBERT A. RACER, Editor and Publisher
J. G. THORNTON, Editor and General Manager
PAUL A. TIERNEY, Managing Editor

Subscription Rates: Foreign One Year \$15.00 Six Months \$8.00 Three Months \$4.50
Domestic One Year \$10.00 Six Months \$5.50 Three Months \$3.00

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NEW YORK, THURSDAY, JULY 22, 1943.

Cultural Treasures

We sincerely hope that the cultural treasures of Rome do not go the way of the cultural treasures of Coventry and London. If they do history will record that they were destroyed by fascism.

Nobody's concern for cultural monuments should be permitted to give our military leaders and airmen the feeling that they have anything to apologize for in bombing that nerve center of fascism, Rome. In fact, nobody who is fighting fascism has anything to apologize for in striking it wherever it lurks.

One of the greatest monuments to the human spirit we know of is the example of our airmen, who in staking their lives in the attack on Roman military objectives doubled the odds against themselves to avoid damaging objects of artistic and religious value.

Theirs is the greatest cultural labor in the world today—the destruction of fascism.

For 4,000,000 Still Alive

It is a crime against humanity to delay any longer a unified, United Nations' effort to rescue the 4,000,000 Jews who are still alive in Hitler's Europe.

A United Nations Commission should be organized at once and given the authority and resources necessary to get these pitiable victims of Hitler's fury out of Europe and into havens in the non-Axis world by any means that will produce results.

No official agency with powers to function has ever been created to achieve the great objective of saving the Jewish men, women and children who still survive after 3,000,000 of them have been murdered by Hitlerism.

There are many practical proposals for getting the victims out of Axis Europe. Enlisting the services of Turkey to obtain the release of scores of thousands now waiting in Hitler's satellite countries, for example. There is no question but what large numbers could be pried loose from Hitler's clutches.

There are many difficulties raised—and magnified. Who is to house and feed them once they are released, how they are to be transported to temporary havens, what their status would be in the countries of refuge, how to relocate them permanently after the war?

Given the will to solve them, there are a dozen solutions for every difficulty raised. The question that rises now is do we really mean those frequently expressed humane sentiments? If we do, we will make a start toward saving the Jews, and we will find methods as we go along—just as we have found methods of fighting the war, once we decided to fight it.

The Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, now meeting in New York, has the duty of awaking the conscience of this country, so that a specific war agency will be created and charged with this specific war task.

The Worm

The worm is starting to turn. The teachers of Our Town, who, like teachers all over the land, are kicked around by any politician who has a mind to, have asked the National Education Association to look into the relationship of LaGuardia with the Board of Education.

The Mayor has forced the Board to fire its law secretary, Theodore Fred Kuper. He singled out Miss Truda Weil for special attention and told the Board that Miss Weil will not be certified to the post of administrative assistant, a post that is hers by right of regular appointment by the Board.

The persecution of Miss Weil is undoubtedly provoked by the fact that Miss Weil was at one time secretary to Miss Johanna Lindlof.

And Miss Lindlof was one of the few liberals on the Board who refused to be bulldozed by the Mayor. The Mayor refused her re-appointment as a result.

The NEA is an old and respected body. It will give us a careful, intelligent investigation, one that we can rely on.

Regarded Unclassified

CLIPPINGSJuly 23/43

PM, FRIDAY, JULY 23,

Program to Save Jews Proposes That United Nations Use Red Cross

Plan Calls for Pleas to Axis Satellites and Neutral Countries

The United Nations may be asked to open negotiations through the Red Cross for the rescue of thousands of Jews from Axis satellite countries.

A special report urging that the Red Cross be enlisted as intermediary for such negotiations was handed to the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe last night by its Panel on International Relations.

The Conference, meeting at the Commodore, will act on the report Sunday night. The Panel which drafted it is headed by Max Lerner, editorial writer for PM.

The Conference, made up of civic and religious leaders from all parts of the Nation, was called because of fear the Axis countries, in the desperation of defeat, will murder the 4,000,000 Jews remaining in Europe.

At least 2,000,000 already have been slain. Of those remaining, 1,500,000 are in the satellite countries of Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria.

Programs

* The report calls on the Conference to ask the United Nations to ask:

¶ The Axis satellites, including Vichy, France, to grant Jewish inhabitants the same treatment as other nationals, including equal food rations, equal access to medical resources and freedom from deportation.

¶ The Axis satellites to permit Jews who wish to leave the country to do so.

¶ Neutral countries - Turkey, Switzerland, Sweden and Spain - to grant temporary asylum to the Jews who reach their borders, the U. S. A. guaranteeing that this asylum will be only temporary.

¶ Neutrals to grant transit facilities to refugees on their way to territories controlled by the United Nations.

¶ The United Nations themselves to grant temporary asylum to the refugees for the duration of the war in territories under their control, with refugees lodged in special camps or under other suitable arrangements. Where they will go after the war is to be left to the Peace Conference.

Palestine Hospitality

¶ Special attention be given to the idea of asylum in Palestine because it is close to the Axis countries and can be used without using a considerable amount of shipping.

¶ The U. S. A. to carry out the rescue work and appoint a special agency to execute the program.

Dr. Alexander Hadani, of Palestine, a member of the Panel, said the Jews in Palestine had expressed themselves "time and again as willing to make any sacrifice to feed

and house all the refugees that can reach that country."

"They are willing to make a further sacrifice—to accept them for the duration without taking political advantage of their presence," he said. "Here again, the problem can be referred finally to the Peace Conference."

Other members of the Panel are: Arthur Garfield Hays, Charles Davila, former Rumanian Ambassador to the U. S. A.; Dr. Benjamin Akzin, of the Congressional Library; Prof. Clyde Eagleton, professor of international law at New York University; Clark M. Eichelberger, director of the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, and Dean George Matheson, of St. John's University Law School.

The Panel on Public Opinion, meanwhile, began preparing a program to "humanize" immediately the Jewish problem for Americans by means of the press, radio and stage—to let the American people know how urgent the problem is and to present it to them stripped of political implication and of any tangle of prejudice.

The final general sessions of the Conference will be open to the public tomorrow and Sunday. Herbert Hoover and Max Lerner will address the Conference Sunday night, and Mayor La Guardia will speak at 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Hoover will speak by telephone from California.

Columbia U. Service Wor

The War Labor Board has granted the Columbia University Maintenance Employees Assn. a maintenance-of-membership clause in its contract with the University pro-

My World
Telegram
IAM, FRIDAY, JULY 23, 1943.

Church Action Urged to Save Jews of Europe

Conference Asks
Militant Fight
On Anti-Semitism

America's churches today were called on by the religion panel of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, meeting at the Hotel Commodore, to take a more militant stand against anti-Semitism and to act swiftly "to save the Jewish people in Nazi-dominated territory, in a constant race against death."

The plea was voiced in a resolution adopted by the panel, but in order to make sure it doesn't die in print, the group made plans to form a 20-man committee to persuade the churches into taking what steps they can to fight anti-Semitism.

"When Christian and other reasonable methods fail to prevent the teaching, preaching and practice of anti-Semitism and other similar anti-racial and anti-religious activities," the resolution read, "the churches should favor and foster proper punitive and other legal methods adequately to secure the extirpation of these assaults on religious freedom."

Church Action Is Urged.

The churches were called on to proclaim that the "ruthless killing" of Jews in Nazi-held territory is an immediate problem, which cannot be delayed until the peace conference.

"The churches must declare that they are not content with governmental statements of moral principles," it was stated. "These principles must be implemented by action, and swift action, so as to save the Jewish people in Nazi-dominated territory, in a constant race against death."

"The churches must denounce any regime, Nazi or otherwise, that assumes as a matter of state policy, to determine the life or death of any particular people or peoples."

"The churches must warn mankind that complete victory in the present World War cannot be attained by us unless the people are prepared to accept in principle the four freedoms and in particular the freedom of religion."

Jewish Aspirations Cited.

A plea also was made for the churches to honor the aspirations of the Jews for establishment of their homeland in Palestine, with full political, religious, economic and immigration rights.

"The churches must declare," the resolution concluded, "that anti-Semitism is necessarily unethical, anti-social and un-Christian, and that the churches favor periodic conferences by the representatives of all faiths to consider the recrudescence of anti-Semitism or any anti-racial action arising anywhere in the world, and that the churches must forcefully and quickly condemn these acts against God and man."

The committee which appealed to the churches was formed by suggestion of Bishop James Cannon of Richmond, Va., one of the panel's co-chairmen. Named to form the committee were Michael Potter, another co-chairman, and Oscar W. Ehrhorn, president of the National Federation of Church Clubs.

Blasts Bermuda Parley.

A blast at the recent Bermuda conference to settle the problems of minority European populations was issued by Konrad Bercovici, author and member of the public-opinion panel at the conference, who said that if that group had "done its work," there would have been no need of the current session.

He said the conference was "worse than a joke; it was a crime, because it continued to endanger the lives of tens of thousands of people who could have been saved."

"It doesn't matter where the Jews are taken," Mr. Bercovici declared, "once they are out of the clutches of the Axis and satellite countries — whether housed in tents in Persia or igloos in Alaska."

Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, reported to have expressed satisfaction with the President's promise to punish those guilty of crimes against the Jews, was criticized by Richard S. Kaplan, former Gary, Ind. judge. He said the conference "is not at all satisfied, for we are interested in saving the Jews from extinction now, not in the punishment of those responsible for such crimes."

26—Fri., July 23, 1943

**** New York Journal-American

Churches Urged To Help Crush Anti-Semitism

Following the acceptance of the resolution, steps were taken on the recommendation of Bishop James E. Cannon, Jr., of Richmond, Va., for the formation of a permanent committee of 25 to publicize the views outlined.

Besides Bishop Cannon, members of the panel on religion are: Archbishop Athanasios, of the Greek Catholic Church; Oscar Ehrhorn, president of the National Federation of Church Clubs; Bishop Henry St. George Tucker, the Rev. Gross W. Alexander and Rabbi Philip D. Bookstaber, former national chaplain of the Jewish War Veterans.

MANY LEADERS TAKE PART.

Also Rabbi Leon J. Risikoff, chaplain of the Department of Sanitation; Rabbi M. I. Soloff, the Rev. James M. Martin, the Rev. Charles A. McAlpine, Rabbi Julius Silberfeld, Charles A. MacFarland, secretary emeritus of the Federal Council of Churches; Dr. Carl H. Voss, executive secretary of the Christian Committee; Rabbi Adolph Spiegel and Michael Potter, an attorney, who led the panel discussion.

Several outstanding American citizens are serving as honorary chairmen of the Conference. Among them are former President Herbert Hoover, William Randolph Hearst and Bishop Henry St. George Tucker.

Anti-Semitism is more than an agony suffered by one segment of humanity—it is a "hurt to mankind in general."

This opinion was voiced today in a resolution by the panel of religion meeting at the Hotel Commodore in conjunction with the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe.

Declaring that "compassion alone is not enough" for the 4,000,000 Jews under Nazi-Fascist domination in Europe, the panel advocated "swift and whole-hearted action" to effect their rescue, and branded anti-Semitism as "unethical, anti-social and anti-Christian."

CALLS CHURCHES TO ACT.

"The churches must declare that they are not concerned with government statements of moral principles," the resolution said. "These principles must be implemented by action, and swift action, so as to save the Jewish people from Nazi domination and terror in a constant race against death."

"The churches must denounce any regime, Nazi or otherwise, that presumes as a matter of state policy to determine the life or death of any particular people or peoples."

"When Christianity and other reasonable methods fail to prevent the teaching, preaching and practice of anti-Semitism and similar anti-racial and anti-religious activities, the churches should favor and foster punitive and other legal methods adequately to secure the extirpation of these abuses on religious freedom."

The panel also urged that churches declare their sympathy for "the aspiration of the Jewish people for the establishment of their homeland in Palestine, with full political, religious, economic and immigration rights."

C L I P P I N G SJuly 25/43

Conference to Save Jews Ready to Adopt Program

Plan Expected This Week End . . . Appeal to FDR Is Considered

This will be a critical week end for 4,000,000 Jews in Europe—for it may see the beginning, at last, of a vigorous American plan to save them from death at the hands of fascists.

Before the week end is over, the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe—a nationwide mobilization of civic leaders meeting in New York—hopes to come forward with a strong, specific plan of action. It may address an appeal to President Roosevelt for immediate support.

5 Panels Confer

The rescue program has been laid before the Conference by five panels which have been meeting this week. It is directed, essentially, toward:

¶ Effecting the escape of Jews from Axis satellite countries to United Nations territory.

¶ Protecting the Jews who can't escape from Axis nations by threatening Axis leaders and people with specific reprisals.

Going into the concluding session, which will be addressed by Herbert Hoover, Mayor La Guardia and Max Lerner, the Conference on Sunday acts on the panel recommendations.

The panels and their plans are:

International Relations: This panel has suggested that the U. S. A. and Great Britain approach the Axis satellite countries for better treatment of Jews and removal of those who desire to leave to safe territory. The panel has suggested International Red Cross supervision of the treatment of Jews.

Pamphlet Raids

Military Affairs: Specific recommendations of this panel have not been revealed, but it has discussed such measures as pamphlet raids to warn Axis peoples against further attacks on Jews and to urge decent Axis inhabitants to keep dossiers recording any information regarding such attacks.

Religion: Leaders of various denominations proposed a strong resolution calling on the churches to demand the rescue of Jews threatened with death. It also proposed that churches declare the practice of anti-Semitism to be unethical and anti-Christ.

Transportation: Panel members



Barbara Ann Graves, former consumer reporter for PM, has arrived in England. She's a Red Cross assistant club director. Barbara, whose family lives in Geneva, N. Y., is a graduate of the Woman's College, University of North Carolina.

have surveyed available shipping and found that neutral ships are available to remove Jews from southeastern Europe to Palestine and from neutral ports to United Nations territory.

Public Opinion: A strong program for carrying to the American people a dramatic and humane understanding of the Jewish problem has been prepared for action by the Conference.

Back of the whole program lies the idea of a strong agency, supported by the United Nations, to handle the problem.

The Conference is primarily concerned with immediate removal of as many Jews as possible to safe territory. Other phases of the problem are to be left until after the war.

Hoover speaks to the Sunday night meeting at the Commodore Hotel, by telephone from California. Lerner, editorial writer for PM, will speak at the same session. La Guardia speaks Sunday afternoon.

New Cargo Carrier

The Federal Shipbuilding yards, Kearny, N. J., announced launching of a new combat cargo carrier, the *Acquarius*, sponsored by Mrs. Edmund E. Brady, Jr., whose husband represents the Bureau of Ships in the office of the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Washington.

July 25, 43
Herb Hoover

Alfange Urges Roosevelt to Act To Rescue Jews

**Suggests He Name Experts
to Arrange Refuge for
4,000,000 in Europe**

Dean Alfange, American Labor party candidate for Governor last year, suggested last night that President Roosevelt immediately appoint a committee of experts in rescue and relief to arrange for the removal of the 4,000,000 European Jews who are facing extermination under Hitler.

Addressing a meeting of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, which has been in session since Tuesday at the Hotel Commodore, Mr. Alfange said that only in America could be found the leadership necessary for prompt action before it is too late.

Among the available places for temporary refuge, Mr. Alfange suggested the United States, Russia, North Africa, Switzerland, Sweden and South America, with the United States underwriting, in some cases, the cost of maintaining the refugees. He proposed the International Red Cross as the agency to supervise evacuation.

"You will observe," he added, "that in outlining this program, I have made no mention of Palestine, the natural homeland of the Jews. The omission is intentional. There are scarcely 800,000 Jews in Palestine and 800,000 more could easily be absorbed. Moreover, there is a perfect land bridge between the Holy Land and the present areas of distress over which the Jews could walk if no other means of transportation can be found.

"England long ago should have opened wide the gates of Palestine. She refused. England will open the gates, but only after America initiates an aggressive program of rescue. For she cannot ignore the might of world opinion."

A message from Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, encouraging the conference in its work, and one from Wendell L. Willkie, declaring his complete agreement with the conference's aim of creating a United Nations agency for relief of the Jews, were read at the meeting.

Mr. Willkie predicted that "the increasing military advances of the United Nations armies, the repeated bombing attacks upon Axis strongholds—the turning of the tide"—would provoke Hitler to new attacks upon the Jews.

Dorothy Parker, writer, a member of the conference panel on public opinion, said in a brief speech that "while there is one Jew in Europe driven and persecuted and tortured, no one of us can be whole and safe and free."

Mayor F. H. LaGuardia will speak at a session of the conference this afternoon, and Herbert Hoover will address the closing session tonight by direct wire from California. Resolutions will be offered by the various panels tonight.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, JULY 25, 1943



PIERRE BORDÈS

The New York Times, 1928

U. S. HELP FOR JEWS ASKED BY ALFANGE

He Says We, Allies and Neutrals Could Rescue Europeans
With Aid of Red Cross

Dean Alfange, American Labor party candidate for Governor last year, sketched broad outlines of a plan to rescue 4,000,000 Jews of Europe, threatened with extermination by Hitler, in a talk last night at the Hotel Commodore before the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe.

Asserting that 2,000,000 Jews already "had been murdered in cold blood," Mr. Alfange declared that the "urgency of immediate action" demanded that the United States, using the International Red Cross as a clearing agent, take the lead in finding temporary haven for this oppressed people within its own borders as well as in Russia, Switzerland, North Africa, Sweden and South America.

He urged that the United States, having assumed the initiative, invite the United Nations to cooperate and he predicted "that an aroused and enlightened public opinion will compel them to follow."

England Is Criticized

Mr. Alfange, who shared the speaker's platform with Dorothy Parker, declared he intentionally omitted "mention of Palestine, the natural homeland of the Jews," because England "has failed miserably in the crisis of the Jews." He said her failure to adhere to the Palestinian mandate and the Balfour Declaration "forecloses any real hope of initiative or constructive cooperation on her part."

"England long ago should have opened wide the gates of Palestine," he asserted. "She refused. England will open the gates, but only after America initiates an aggressive program of rescue, for she cannot ignore the might of world opinion."

He declared the crisis could not be met by "international conferences, scholarly reports and inter-governmental committees" as was shown at the conferences of Evian and Bermuda. With consummate speed a necessary element, he said, that the United States must assume the responsibility because, of all world leaders, "President Roosevelt alone has shown willingness to act."

Mrs. Roosevelt Sends Greetings

Both Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt and Wendell L. Willkie sent messages to the conference praising its purpose. Mrs. Roosevelt, stating it was "hard to say what can be done at the present time," expressed her belief that any practical plan will find the American people "more than glad to do all they can to alleviate the sufferings of these people of Europe and to help them re-establish themselves."

Mr. Willkie, expressing disappointment that he had been unable to participate personally in the conference, declared "the last hope of the enslaved Jews of Europe rests with the people of the United Nations . . . who must put an end to the mass slaughter and provide a means for evacuating the remaining Jews to places where decency and hope still exist."

Miss Parker, in her talk, declared that most of the 4,000,000 Jews in Europe, whose lives are in daily jeopardy, "are only a comparatively short distance from Turkey . . . who would permit them to enter if she knew that they were merely using her country in transit." She said such assurance must be given because no one of us can be whole and safe and free while there is one of those desperately wounded people, while there is one Jew in Europe driven and persecuted.

C L I P P I N G SJuly 26/43

PRESIDENT PLEDGES AID TO SAVE JEWS

Messages From Roosevelt and
Hull Read at Closing of
Emergency Conference Here

HOOVER SPEAKS BY PHONE

Suggests Uplands of Central
Africa Be Developed as a
Refuge for Oppressed

President Roosevelt, in a message read last night to the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe, promised that this Government would not cease its efforts to save those who could be saved.

This message and another from Secretary of State Cordell Hull, with which the President concurred, were read at the closing session of the conference in the Hotel Commodore. Mr. Hull said the final defeat of Hitler and the rooting out of the Nazi system were the only complete answer to the problem of saving the 4,000,000 Jews in Europe.

Former President Herbert Hoover, speaking by telephone from San Francisco, suggested development of the uplands of Central Africa as a refuge for the oppressed minorities of the Axis-dominated countries.

Mayor Fiorello H. La Guardia, at the afternoon session, urged the United States and its Allies to serve notice on the Axis that all persons responsible for the deaths of Jews or non-Jews would be tried for murder. Meanwhile there would be practical steps taken for resettling those who desired to emigrate from Europe, he said.

The President's Message

The message from President Roosevelt, addressed to Dr. Max Lerner, read:

"In reply to your telegram of July 15, 1944, bearing a message to the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe, I am glad to transmit a message from the Hon. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, which has my full concurrence. You are aware of the interest of this Government in the terrible condition of the European Jews and of our repeated endeavors to save those who could be saved. These endeavors will not cease until Nazi power is forever crushed."

Mr. Hull's message read:

"The rescue of the Jewish people, of course, and of other peoples likewise marked for slaughter by Nazi savagery, is under constant examination by the State Department, and any suggestion calculated in that end will be gladly considered. An intergovernmental agency has been created designed to deal with these problems. You will readily realize that no measure is practicable unless it is consistent with the destruction of Nazi tyranny; and that the final defeat of Hitler and the rooting out of the Nazi system is the only complete answer. This Government in cooperation with the British Government has agreed upon three measures which have been found to be practicable under war conditions and steps are now being taken to put them into effect."

The message was addressed to Dr. Lerner in his capacity as chairman of the panel on international relations.

Special Problems, says Hoover
Mr. Hoover declared that to find relief for the Jews in Europe was one of the great human problems

and that it required temporary and long-view measures.

"There should be more systematic temporary measures," he said. "There are groups of Jews who have escaped into the neutral countries of Europe. They and any other refugees from the persecution of fascism should be assured of support by the United Nations. This step should go further. Definite refugee stations should be arranged in these neutral countries for those who may escape. But these measures should be accompanied by arrangements to steadily transfer them from these refugee stations in neutral countries to other quarters. Possibly the release of greater numbers of refugees could be secured from the Nazi countries by European neutrals."

He said he had been urging for more than two years systematic food relief for the starving in the occupied countries. Referring to the aid given to Greece he asked: "Does not this experience warrant its extension to other occupied countries? It would save the lives of thousands of Jews."

The Long-Range View

The long-view solution, he said, resolved itself into two phases—where to move these people in as to give them permanent security and how to establish them there.

"We must accept the fact that the older and more fully settled countries have no longer any land and opportunity to absorb the migration of the oppressed," he said.

"Most Jews recognize that it is not in their interest to force such an issue. Palestine could take more of them. But after all, Palestine would absorb only a part of the three or four millions whom this conference has been discussing as needing relief. That could be accomplished only by moving the Arab population to some other quarter. These are problems impossible to settle during the war."

"But I am one of those who do not believe in half measures. And I believe in realism in physical problems."

"The world today needs an outlet for the persecuted of all lands and all faiths, not Jew alone. There should be some place where they may build a new civilization, as they did on this continent during the last century. The newest continent, from point of view of development, is Africa. It is as yet comparatively unsettled and underdeveloped."

"Particularly in the uplands of Central Africa. Large areas of this upland are suitable for a white civilization. They are rich in material resources. But if we are to make use of them, there must be vast preparatory work. Men, women and children today cannot be dumped into new lands. There must be definitely organized advance preparation of housing, transportation, industrial establishments and agriculture on a huge scale. Many of these great African areas are mandated established from the last war, to trust for all the world. Such an area in Africa could be considered continually an annex to Palestine."

"At least the time has arrived when we should demand that a real solution be found, and further that the United Nations undertake to finance and manage a real solution as part of the war. And that the enemy countries after the war be required to restore the property of these persecuted people and help financially their new settlements."

"After all, it is a great human problem that ranks with the other human problems we must meet as part of the reconstruction of the world."

Mayor Urges United Nations to Act

The Mayor, in proposing that the United Nations serve notice that those responsible for the slaughter of the Jews would be held strictly accountable, said:

"With regard to this action and other actions which might be taken, I have to point out that our own Government cannot sign other notices to take the initiative before it takes action of its own."

have been put forward. We cannot tell others to take in the dooms while we keep our own doors closed. While we consider emigration and colonization, however, we must realize that taking the Jews and other minorities out of terrorist-ruled lands is not really the solution. The rights of the Jews and other minorities must be made safe in every country in the world. Therefore I can tell the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe that what it is striving for is an important part of what the United Nations are fighting for."

Francis B. MacMahon, Professor of Philosophy at the University of Notre Dame and president of the Catholic Association for International Peace, characterized the plight of the Jewish people in Europe under Hitler as "the most terrible single tragedy of the present war." "Passive acquiescence will make us moral participants in the crime of the Nazis," he said.

Professor MacMahon said that Pope Pius XII had sought in many ways to save the Jews and that the full story could not be told today about the action of the Vatican. "It will be revealed when Germany is conquered," he added.

Nigrid Untch, author, after denouncing anti-Semitism, said: "It is the right of the Jewish nation to get the opportunity to defend itself in the future from a national stronghold, as an independent nation, in possession of all the organs of a national life of its own," she added.

The conference adopted resolutions regarding ways to rescue the Jews of Europe and post-war aid based on previous findings by its various panels.

Dim-out Deadline Tonight . . . 9:19

NEW YORK

9-Point Program for Freeing Enslaved Jews Put Up to FDR

Conference Calls for Immediate Action to End Blood-Bath

A nine-point program for immediate action to end the Jewish blood-bath in Axis countries was put forward for President Roosevelt's consideration today by the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe.

The program calls for removing as many Jews as possible—by road, rail and steamship into neutral countries and safe havens under United Nations control.

Copies of the program will be sent to the President and Secretary Hull, who sent word to the conference than any suggestions for saving Jews from Nazi slaughter would be "gladly considered" by the State Dept.

Six-Day Meeting

The plan was presented last night at the closing of a six-day conference of civic leaders at the Commodore. The conference was called as a result of the failure of the recent Bermuda Conference to make any headway toward saving the 4,000,000 Jews now remaining of the 7,000,000 who lived in Europe when the Nazi slaughter began.

Herbert Hoover, speaking by telephone from California, and Mayor La Guardia both told the conference that Jewish refugees should be given an opportunity to develop new lands as the American colonists did—and Hoover specifically suggested the uplands of Central Africa.

Roosevelt and Hull, in letters to Max Lerner of PM, chairman of last night's meeting, said the Government was trying to save "those who could be saved." But the conference, remarking that no steps yet taken by the United Nations



Max Lerner

had helped the doomed Jews, replied with a request that the Government create a special agency for that purpose.

Extends Invitation

The conference proposed that the other United Nations be invited to participate in the agency.

The conference proposed that Jews be brought out of Axis territory by:

¶ Road and rail into Turkey, and from Turkey into Palestine and other Allied territory.

¶ By road and rail into Spain, Switzerland and Sweden.

It is proposed to ask neutral countries to allow the Jews temporary asylum—while the United Nations feed and clothe them and arrange for transportation to Allied territory.

The conference said it had located enough neutral shipping alone to transport 50,000 persons a month out of Europe.

"The number which can be transported by rail and road exceeds this figure many times," it said.

Other Proposals

Among other points made by the conference were:

¶ Urging the Axis satellite governments, through the Red Cross, the Vatican or neutral countries, to grant Jews the same treatment as other nationals.

¶ Axis countries to be urged through the same intermediaries to permit Jews to leave.

¶ Every Allied government to be urged to grant temporary asylum and transit, with special attention on admission of Jews to Palestine.

¶ A specific warning to be broadcast to Axis officials threatening reprisals for crimes against Jews.

¶ Jewish manpower not yet in Allied armies to be specially used

in such reprisals and "in the most dangerous military operations against the Axis in general."

¶ U. S. public opinion to be fully informed of the facts.

The final point of the program calls for continuation of the Conference until the emergency is over.

The President's letter to Lerner:

"My dear Dr. Lerner:

"In reply to your telegram of July 15, 1943, asking a message to the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe, I am glad to transmit a message from the Hon. Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, which has my full concurrence. You are aware of the interest of this government in the terrible condition of the European Jews and of our repeated endeavors to save those who could be saved. These endeavors will not cease until Nazi power is forever crushed."

Lerner, professor of international law at Williams College and editorial writer for PM, issued a statement for the conference acknowledging the messages, but added:

"At the same time, we wish to state our earnest conviction that the Inter-Governmental Agency, as well as the other steps taken to date, have been most inadequate to the magnitude of the problem and that no appreciable saving of lives has resulted."

Hull's letter to Lerner said:

"The rescue of the Jewish people, and of other peoples likewise marked for slaughter by Nazi savagery, is under constant examination by the State Dept., and any suggestion calculated to that end will be gladly considered."

La Guardia said the whole world should be surveyed to find suitable places of refuge—where resources, climate and general surroundings were conducive to development.

5000 Attend Rally For Racial Unity

More than 5000 persons attended a racial unity rally last night at Poe Park, Bronx, sponsored by the Bronx CDOV (Civilian Defense Volunteer Office).

Maurice Hindus, one of the speakers, declared:

"If you want to be alive physically, spiritually and mentally, fight with every drop of blood against racial prejudice."

James Waterman Wise, director of the Council Against Intolerance in America, outlined this program for the curbing of discrimination:

¶ Education of children against race hatred.

¶ Punishment of instigators of race riots.

¶ Legislation of "a ceiling on prejudice and freezing of bigotry."

Speakers at Conference to Save the Jews of Europe



Shown at the Hotel Commodore yesterday are, left to right, Emil Lengyel, writer; Gabriel A. Wechsler, the conference secretary; Mayor F. H. LaGuardia and Michael Potter, of the organizing committee.

Herbert Hoover proposed yesterday that the relatively unsettled and under-developed continent of Africa be thrown open as a land of refuge for Jews and other peoples persecuted by the Axis.

The former President, speaking by radio from San Francisco to the closing session of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jews of Europe, meeting at the Hotel Commodore, suggested as a suitable place for settlement the uplands of Central Africa.

Large areas of this upland, he said, are suitable for a white civilization and are rich in material resources. Many of these African areas, he added, are unoccupied, established after the last war, "in trust for all the world." He thought the African settlement "could be considered sentimentally an annex to Palestine."

Vast preparation would be necessary before the new areas would be ready for settlement, Mr. Hoover said. This would involve "definitely organized advance preparation of housing, transportation, industrial establishments and agriculture on a huge scale."

Hoover Urges Central African Jewish Refuge

Proper Enemy Be Forced to Make Last Speech by

Part of the Cost of War

Mr. Hoover, who is an honorary chairman of the conference, said the United Nations should undertake to finance and manage such a solution as part of the cost of war and suggested that enemy countries after the war be required to restore the property of persecuted peoples and help pay the cost of the new settlements.

Mr. Hoover also urged that immediate temporary measures be taken to relieve persecuted Jews. He said the United Nations should not only support refugees who have escaped to neutral countries but also set up definite refugee stations in these countries.

Mentioning Greece as an example of a country to which relief is being sent without aiding the Germans, Mr. Hoover suggested that this policy be extended to other occupied countries, thereby saving thousands of Jewish lives.

President Roosevelt and Cordell Hull, Secretary of State, sent messages assuring the conference that the government is taking measures to relieve persecuted peoples. Mr. Hull said an inter-governmental agency has been created to deal with the problem, but added that "no measure is practicable unless it is consistent with the destruction of Nazi

Calls Steps Inadequate

Max Lerner, author and professor at Williams College, one of the leaders of the conference, commented on Mr. Hull's statement by saying that "the inter-governmental agency, as well as other steps taken to date, have been most inadequate to the magnitude of the problem and that no appreciable saving of lives has resulted from them."

He added: "Only a governmental agency specifically charged with the task of saving the Jewish people of Europe and given sufficient authority to act can successfully accomplish the task."

Mayor P. H. LaGuardia, addressing the afternoon session of the conference, said the United States and the United Nations should serve official notice on Axis powers that the individuals of the Axis governments will be held personally responsible for the persecution of the Jews and will be tried for murder for the lives they have taken.

Other speakers at the conference, which began Tuesday, were: Sigrid Undset, Norwegian author; Rear Admiral Yates Stirling Jr. (retired) and Francis B. MacMahon, professor of philosophy, at the University of Notre Dame and president of the Catholic Association for International Peace.

Others who participated were Gabriel A. Wechsler, secretary of the conference; Michael Potter, who helped organize the meetings, and Emil Lengyel, writer.

Admiral Stirling reflected the view of the conferees when he said the recent Bermuda conference "met presumably to take action on the rescue of European Jews, but turned out to be something far

These were sent to me by the State
Department at my request.

JWP

PARAPHRASE

FROM: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

TO: ANKARA

No. 726 of September 4, 1943, 10 p.m.

The Department has been informed of the desire of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe that a representative should be sent to Turkey and that other representatives should be sent to several other places for the purpose of inquiring about practicable steps which might be taken in regard to obtaining releases, from Nazi dominated countries, of Jews who remain in those countries and who are, therefore, subject to persecution, the purpose being that they will be removed to safe places.

It has been called to the Conference's attention by the Department that you are the representative of the general interests of the Government, and your activities as well as those of the Department in connection with the subject matter of their interest has been related to them. The above-mentioned Conference is one of a number of such committees which have the purpose at heart which has been translated into action by the Department in so far as we have been permitted by circumstances. Representatives of this Conference have, however, requested that an inquiry be directed to you, to which the Department has given its consent, for the purpose of requesting your advice on the question whether a temporary representative would in any way contribute to the extrication of persons in the category mentioned from Balkan countries. The name of Mr. Ira Hirschman, who was Vice President of Bloomingdale's Department Store in New York, has been suggested in this connection. Mr. Hirschman states that he attended the Evian Conference and that you probably recall him.

We have not consulted the military authorities, which we would do prior to consenting to such a visit, even assuming the availability of air priorities.

We would appreciate your advice.

HULL

PARAPHRASE

FROM: ANKARA

TO: DEPARTMENT OF STATE

No. 1526 of September 7, 1943, 4 p.m.

Reference is made to your 1726 of 10 p.m. September 4. No (repeat no) objection in principle is raised to the proposal of the Emergency Conference to Save the Jewish People of Europe concerning the sending of a representative to this country for the purpose of inquiring concerning practicable steps which might be taken for the release of Jews in countries under Nazi domination with the intention of removing them to places of safety. It may be, however, that the Department would wish to indicate to the Conference and to other committees in the U. S. which are motivated with the same purpose that there are in Turkey several representatives of various Jewish agencies trying to achieve the same objective. The Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency for Palestine both have representatives here now. I have been informed by these representatives that while the Bulgarian Decree, issued at the instance of Grabowski, remains in effect which forbids Jews from leaving Bulgaria or territory occupied by Bulgarian forces, there is little if anything which can be accomplished, because the rail communication between Turkey and Bulgaria constitutes virtually the only means of transportation from the Balkans.

STEINHARDT

Hand by H. H. H.
Hand & H. H. H.

September 15, 1943
11:44 a.m.

79

Herbert
Lehman: Hello, Henry.

HMJr: How are you?

L: Fine. How are you?

HMJr: Well.

L: I see you have been kept pretty busy.

HMJr: Yeah.

L: Henry, what I called you up about is this. You remember those two cables that you drew up and I think Mr. Olsen handled it, in connection with giving authority - these cables were - one was to Chungking and the other one was to Bern - giving authority to the - to people to borrow money over there....

HMJr: Yes.

L:for use in relieving the Jewish situation.

HMJr: Yes.

L: Neither of those cables has gone out yet from here.

HMJr: They have not?

L: No. And the reason they are being held up apparently is because they think it's a variation from Treasury policy.

HMJr: Oh.

L: And I've gone as far as I can over here.

HMJr: Yeah.

L: And I called you up to find out whether there is anything you could do or wanted to do on the matter.

HMJr: Oh, sure.

L: I've been told that if you wrote a letter saying that this met with your approval and it was a variation from your policy to take care of these special cases - uh - the Secretary would probably sign the cables and send them out.

HMJr: Well, I'll - I'll put White on it right away.

L: All right. Olsen has been handling it but I'm told he has left the Treasury.

HMJr: Well, I frankly don't know who Olsen is but White handles - White and....

L: All right. And then if you will either - if you will call up the Treasury or write the Secretary or write a letter to him - if you could then - want to send it to me, I'll see that it got in with these cables.

HMJr: Well, I will talk with you - it's - it's Paul and Pehle and White.

L: That's right.

HMJr: And I'll see that the three of them get on it right away.

L: All right. Thanks very much.

HMJr: Thank you for bringing it to my attention.

L: All right. Thank you. Bye Bye.

September 20, 1943
4:30 p.m.

81 ✓

HMJr: Herbert.

Herbert
Lehman: Hello, Henry.

HMJr: How are you?

L: Well, I'm fairly all right. I've got a game leg.

HMJr: Well, I -- so have I.

L: Have you really? Are you laid up with it?

HMJr: No.

L: Well, I am. I had to stay in bed for a couple of days....

HMJr: Oh, I'm sorry.

L:trying to straighten it out but it isn't serious at all.

HMJr: Herbert.

L: Yes.

HMJr: After you phoned me I didn't do just what you suggested. Instead of that I called Mr. Hull's office and got his secretary.

L: Yes.

HMJr: So we thought we'd write a letter and I said that I thought it was most discourteous to me....

L: Yes.

HMJr:to have cables over there and not let me know whether they went or not.

L: Yes.

HMJr: And he agreed -- and I'd like to know why they didn't go.

L: Uh huh.

- 2 -

HMJr: If they weren't going to send them, I thought the least they could do was to let me know.

L: Yes.

HMJr: And Mr. Stone telephoned back to Mrs. Klotz and said they left the same day.

L: Yes. I know they did leave.

HMJr: So, I did it that way rather than the way you said.

L: Yes, well, I think that's much better.

HMJr: What you wanted was to get them to go.

L: Yes.

HMJr: And we fussed around with a letter and we couldn't write a letter so I did it direct.

L: Well, I think that's much better.

HMJr: But I wanted to explain to you why I didn't do it.

L: Well, it didn't make any difference to me how you did it at all and I didn't want to butt in because it was really outside of my....

HMJr: Yes.

L:my jurisdiction.

HMJr: Well, I....

L: I knew you were very much interested in it.

HMJr: Oh, I was tremendously -- I was so happy that my people recommended that they should go....

L: Yes.

HMJr:and then I was outraged that they hadn't.

L: Yes.

- 3 -

HMJr: And I knew you wanted them to go and I wanted them to go and I did it this way.

L: Well, that's fine.

HMJr: And I'm ever so much obliged for your bringing it to my attention.

L: Well, thank you very much. When I see you I'll tell you an aftermath of that.

HMJr: Oh, was there some excitement?

L: Well, simply -- I mean -- the story that has gone around in -- the rounds in the State Department that I got money sent over there -- it's just damn -- they're terrible, you know....

HMJr: Have you....

L:the way they distort things.

HMJr: Well, I'd like to hear it.

L: I'll tell you about it. How's the Bond Issue going?

HMJr: It's going very well.

L: I imagine so.

HMJr: But from now on we've got to get the little fellow which isn't....

L: Yes.

HMJr:going to be so easy.

L: No. But I mean, I think it's wonderful that you got 2½ -- 10½ millions already.

HMJr: That's right.

L: And I imagine you may have a little bit tucked away.

HMJr: We don't but some of the other people do.

L: Yes, well, that's what I meant.

HMJr: Yeah.

L: I think it's simply fine.

HMJr: Thank you, Herbert.

L: How's Ellie.

HMJr: She's getting along slowly.

L: She is?

HMJr: Her legs bother her a lot.

L: They still do?

HMJr: Yes, they do.

L: Isn't that too bad?

HMJr: Yeah.

L: That's a shame.

HMJr: Well, give my love to Edith.

L: Thank you and thank you for calling up. I'd like to get together with you sometime....

HMJr: Well, I....

L:and tell you some of the things -- the developments here recently.

HMJr: I'd like to.

L: All righty.

HMJr: Thank you.

L: Bye, Bye, Henry.

85 ✓
AM

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE NOV - 2 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Randolph Paul

For your information

While you were away, there were some developments in connection with the proposal of the World Jewish Congress to evacuate Jewish refugees from Rumania and France, which we thought you would like to have.

On September 28th State despatched a cable (copy of which is attached) to Berne in which the Treasury authorized the Minister at Berne to issue an appropriate license to the World Jewish Congress and its agents to undertake the transactions necessary for the evacuation program, under specified safeguards designed to prevent any benefit to the enemy. In reply, a cable dated October 6th (copy of which is attached) was received from our Minister at Berne, requesting specific instructions from State before acting on the authority granted by the Treasury, and pointing out that, in accordance with standing instructions concerning trading with the enemy problems, the matter had been discussed with the British who opposed the issuance of the license.

Although this cable from Berne was dated October 6th, Treasury heard nothing of it until October 16th when it was informally called to our attention by people in Governor Lehman's office and the Blockade and Supply Division of State. Treasury prodded State for a copy of the cable and finally received it on October 20th at 5:15 p.m.

We drafted a reply (copy of which is attached) instructing Berne to issue the license in question to the World Jewish Congress and its agents. This draft was sent to State at 9:15 a.m. October 23rd. Pehle at the same time advised Stone of Secretary Hull's office that the reply which Treasury would like to see made had been sent to State and, in view of the long delay which had already occurred, Pehle requested that this reply be despatched promptly. On October 26th we

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were advised that the reply had not yet been sent from State. Pehle then called Breckinridge Long, who said the matter was on his desk and that he had been working on it much of that day. Long said that our Minister in Berne had acted properly in discussing the matter with his British colleague and in reporting the latter's reaction to Washington, before acting on Treasury's authorization to issue the license. Pehle told Long that, while he doubted that the British would have cleared a similar problem with us, our position on this matter could be explained to the British Treasury people here, but argued strongly we did not need British clearance before going ahead. Long then stated that he would try to get the matter cleared at State as soon as possible.

On October 28th we received word indicating that the British Ministry of Economic Warfare had approved, without prior clearance with us, a quite similar transaction involving children in the Channel Islands. When Pehle called Long to advise him of the receipt of this information which obviously supported our contention that the British would not necessarily clear such matters with us, Long said that late on October 26th State had instructed Berne to go ahead on Treasury's authorization to issue the license in question.



Attachments.

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

TO: American Legation, Bern, Switzerland
DATE: September 28, 1943, 8 p.m.
NO.: 2373

Reference is made to telegram No. 5598, dated September 9, 1943, from the Legation.

The following is from Treasury.

Subject to the conditions set forth in the following telegrams: No. 1889 of August 7; No. 2077 of August 26; and No. 2182 of September 4, 1943, from the Department, The Legation is authorized by the Treasury Department - notwithstanding General Ruling No. 11 - to issue to the World Jewish Congress and its agents an appropriate license to undertake such transactions as may be necessary for the purpose of evacuating Jewish refugees from France and Rumania.

When the World Jewish Congress has been advised by Reigner as to what method is to be used in financing the transaction and the initial amount which will be required to carry out the transaction, the Treasury Department will consult with the World Jewish Congress with respect to authorization from the World Jewish Congress to Reigner to proceed with arrangements. After such authorization has been granted, the Treasury will then arrange for the transmittal of World Jewish Congress funds which are required by Reigner to consummate the transaction.

BERLE
(ACTING)
BL

Received Oct. 20, 1943, 5:15 p.m. 88

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

CONFIDENTIAL

FROM: AMLEGATION, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: October 6, 1943
NUMBER: 6269

In connection with the following message we refer to the Department's cable of September 28, 1943, no. 2373, which transmitted to us Treasury authorization for the Legation to issue to the World Jewish Congress and its agents license to effect currency and other transactions with enemy trusteeship for evacuation of Jewish refugees from France and Roumania, which authorization was given notwithstanding General Ruling No. 11. This Legation, pursuant to standing instructions concerning incorporation of transactions with enemy nationals, referred the question of licensing to the British Commercial Secretary who does not concur in the issuance of license in the absence of specific instructions from MEW. The British Commercial Secretary observes that with respect to strong and successful action taken to discourage Jewish ransom, it would be most desirable that we should not be involved in any plans which might result in leakage of funds to the enemy. Opportunity would be afforded by such a scheme for numerous persons in enemy territory who are anxious to convert their own currency into Swiss or other sound currency even if blocked. Experience of the type of adventurer who would undoubtedly participate suggests to me that no means can be devised which would prevent the scheme from giving rise to working out abuses. This is the end of the British Commercial Secretary's observation.

In the absence of specific instructions from the Department, the Legation is uncertain to exercise authority granted by the Treasury to issue licenses to implement the Riegner plan

-2-

in view of the above and of danger described in paragraph 8 and 9 of the Legation's cable of June 14, 1943, no. 3567, that the relief plan may facilitate enemy acquisition of funds and flight of enemy capital and because of the impossibility of the Legation assuring fulfillment of paragraph 1 of the Department's telegram of August 26, 1943, no. 2077, and A (2) and A (3) and B (2) of the Department's cable of August 7, 1943, no. 1889.

The foregoing message has been repeated to London for the information of our Embassy there.

HARRISON

MEMORANDUM

October 23, 1943

To: Mr. Livingston T. Merchant
Blockade and Supply Division
Department of State

From: Mr. J. W. Pehle

Reference is made to cable No. 6269 of October 6, 1943 received from our Legation in Bern, Switzerland. As you may know, this Department did not receive a copy of this cable until October 20.

The nature of the reply to be made to Bern's inquiry has been discussed informally with Mr. Heard of your office. It is the view and desire of this Department that the following reply be despatched immediately to Bern:

"The considerations mentioned by you, including those referred to by your British colleague, were all carefully considered in Washington before the Department's cable No. 2373 of September 28, 1943, was sent to you. You are hereby instructed to issue an appropriate license to the World Jewish Congress and its agents as specified in the Department's cable No. 2373 of September 28, 1943."

It will be appreciated if a copy of the reply which is despatched is furnished promptly to this Department.

(signed) J. W. Pehle

91 ✓
AM

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE Nov. 3, 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau

FROM Mr. White *WOW*

Subject: Recent developments on the problem of fines and levies assessed against the Jewish population in Tunisia.

The policy to be recommended to the French Comite on the problem of disposing of the fines and levies imposed on the Jewish Community in Tunisia has been the subject of a bitter dispute within the State Department. Acheson finally prepared a cable which Treasury approved, recommending that:

- (a) the French authorities make a gift to the Jewish Community for the repayment of all fines and levies exacted by the Nazis in Tunisia;
- (b) the French authorities similarly make a payment of a fixed maximum amount to those persons who suffered war damage in Tunisia.

(In contrast, the French Comite wished to solve the problem by granting a non-interest bearing and non-guaranteed loan to the Jewish Community for the amounts of the fines and levies with the ultimate settlement of the loan to be left pending until the government of France determined a policy.)

This proposed cable to Algiers was subjected to the strongest opposition by the political divisions of the State Department, who claimed that the problem was an internal one for the French, and that we should make no recommendation. However, Acheson, supported by your firm position, won out in discussions with Stettinius and the cable was sent.

I have been informed by Acheson's office that the President is being informed that the cable was sent as approved by Secretary Morgenthau.

The sending of this cable is important because it definitely expresses strong views of the United States Government on the problem of reversing Nazi discrimination against minorities and should serve as the statement of policy on this problem for Europe. Furthermore, if the French adopt this program, as they probably will, it will be a significant element in the psychological warfare for the liberation of Europe.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE Nov. 16, 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau

FROM Mr. White

HDW

Winant has communicated with the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees concerning the proposal of Dr. Goldman for providing food, clothing, and other aid to Jewish groups in central Europe, asking particularly for the recommendation of practical projects the nature of which is such that only the lack of funds prevents their being undertaken. As yet he has received no reply.

He reports further that he needs more complete information on the nature and extent of present aid in order to present the case adequately before the Committee. He believes that the extension of the existing system of relief, whereby the United States and British Treasuries grant licenses for the transfer of funds abroad for the purchase of food and other necessities in neutral countries which is then sent under certain guarantees to the groups in the occupied areas, seems to be the most practical approach.

Winant requests from the Treasury information on the licenses that have been issued for this purpose, the agencies to which they have been granted, and the amounts of funds involved. He desires to present this information to the Executive Committee, requesting that it be held in strictest confidence. The requested information is being prepared.

no action required
H.R.Z.

TOP SECRET

RESTRICTED

PLAIN

London

Dated November 11, 1943

Rec'd 11:59 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

7865, Eleventh

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
NOV 13 1943
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

By letter dated October 1st we communicated to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees the substance of Department's 6009, September 29 and have today received the following reply dated November 10 in which the director confidentially requests certain information probably in the possession of the United States Treasury: "May I refer you to your letter of the first October with which you conveyed a message from the State Department relating to a proposal put forward by Dr. Goldman of the World Jewish Congress to provide food clothing et cetera to remnant groups of surviving Jews located in central Europe.

As you know we wrote to the International Red Cross asking it to supply us as soon as possible with as detailed an outline as possible of such particular projects as it might recommend as practical for the assistance of the groups in question. We further suggested that

-2- #7865, Eleventh from London.

suggested that it should limit itself to recommending projects whose nature is such that only lack of funds prevents their being undertaken or extended. We still await a reply.

In the meantime, however, we have received some information regarding the help that is being given, first by Allied governments to their own nationals including Jews, and secondly by voluntary organizations, mainly Jewish, to Jews in occupied territory. Our information is, however, far from complete and in order to put the case fully before the executive committee in due course we should have complete and accurate knowledge of what is being done under existing arrangements insofar as it affects persons coming within the mandate of the Intergovernmental Committee.

We understand that the normal system is for the United States Treasury or the British Treasury as the case may be to grant licenses giving exchange facilities to the Allied Governments or to the organizations as the case may be for the purpose of purchasing food et cetera in certain neutral countries. The food so purchased is then sent, under certain guarantees, for the benefit of the nationals or the Jewish groups respectively in the occupied territory.

We are at

-3- #7885, Eleventh from London.

We are at present inclined to think that whatever may be the nature of the reply from the International Red Cross, the extension of the existing system may be a contribution towards the problem that has been referred to us. In any case it is a relevant fact about which the executive committee will wish to be informed. We shall be grateful therefore if you can obtain from the American Treasury through the State Department information regarding the licences now in force which have been issued for this purpose, the governments or organizations to which they have been granted and the amount of the exchange facilities to which they relate. This information would be treated as strictly confidential and for the information of the executive committee only.

I have written a similar letter to Mr. Randall of the Foreign Office".

WINANT

EMB

COMMISSION ON PALESTINE SURVEYS
Administrative Office

521 FIFTH AVENUE
ROOM 1903
NEW YORK CITY

November 16, 1943

Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

Before Dr. Weizmann left for Europe, he requested a small number of us to undertake an engineering survey of certain large-scale development projects for Palestine originally suggested by Dr. Lowdermilk of the Department of Agriculture. They concern irrigation and hydroelectric development and an administrative plan similar to the TVA under the name of the Jordan Valley Authority.

Upon Dr. Lowdermilk's advice, we turned to Mr. Lillienthal, Chairman of the TVA, for advice and guidance. He was most helpful as were a number of his chief technical experts. As a result, we engaged an engineering research staff headed by Mr. James B. Hays, formerly Project Manager of the TVA at Bristol, Tennessee. The staff has been working under the guidance of an Engineering Consulting Board consisting of the following, who have been giving generously of their time without compensation:

Professor Abel Wolman - - - -	Johns Hopkins University
Colonel Theodore B. Parker - - - -	for many years Chief Engineer of the TVA
Mr. Harry W. Bashore - - - -	Commissioner of Reclamation, Department of Interior, Washington, D. C.
Mr. John L. Savage - - - -	Chief Designing Engineer of the Bureau of Reclamation, Denver, Colo.
Mr. Joel Wolfsohn - - - -	Assistant Commissioner, Dept. of Land, Dept. of Interior, Washington, D. C.

I am happy to say that a Preliminary Report has now been submitted pointing to the possibility of irrigating millions of dunams of land as well as developing some 200,000 KW of hydroelectric power with an annual generation of about 1,250,000,000 KWH. These findings in turn point to a great extension of agriculture and industrial development in Palestine and the absorption of large numbers of new settlers.

We are on the point of sending a technical mission to Palestine to complete studies on the spot preliminary to the drafting of the final report.

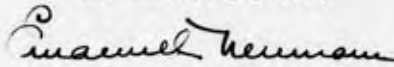
Dr. Weizmann had requested me to inform you fully about these developments at the proper time and to consult you with reference

Secretary Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

November 16, 1943

to certain aspects of this matter on which he pins considerable hopes. I would appreciate it deeply if you could see me soon, preferably early next week. Specifically, I would consult you regarding the manner in which these great possibilities may be brought to the attention of the right people with the help of Mr. Lilienthal and his associates, who have placed themselves at our disposal for this purpose.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Emanuel Neumann".

Emanuel Neumann

EH/M

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Randolph Paul

NOV 20 1943

For your information.

Dr. Howard E. Kershner, the former representative of the American Friends Service Committee in Europe, testified on November 11, 1943, before a Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee, which is conducting hearings on a pending Senate resolution concerning the extension of food relief to occupied areas. He charged that the British Government has blocked the shipment of food to starving European children. In support of this contention, Kershner stated that, in November 1941, the Treasury Department, "on the objection of the British Embassy, refused permission to pay out of blocked dollars in New York" for 350 tons of powdered milk which Kershner had purchased in Switzerland. He further stated that, with respect to 10 tons of beans in storage in Marseilles since before the war which the Friends were desirous of acquiring for distribution in France, the Treasury, "because of opposition stemming apparently from the British Embassy," refused to grant a license to the Friends to pay dollars to the New York owner of the beans. (The newspaper reports on Kershner's testimony which appeared in the New York Times and the Washington Post for November 12, 1943, are attached.)

It is believed that the first item Kershner mentioned refers to a Foreign Funds Control application filed in October 1941 to use French Government funds in the sum of \$200,000 and to pay this amount to the American Friends Service Committee for the purchase of milk in Switzerland. Our records indicate that this application was informally cleared with Dean Acheson who recommended denial as in line with our general policy. The application was also reviewed by the Inter-departmental Foreign Funds Control Committee, and denial was reaffirmed by that Committee. A

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report of this action was submitted to you in a memorandum from Messrs. Foley and Pehle under date of November 11, 1941. On November 12, 1941, you asked Messrs. Foley and Pehle to reconsider this application. Immediately thereafter, the whole matter was recanvassed at a meeting in Acheson's office, where it was agreed that this particular application was part of the broader problem of food shipments to unoccupied France. It was pointed out in that meeting that the American Red Cross had purchased milk products to the extent of \$1,250,000 which it was prepared to distribute in France. It was also decided at that meeting that the Friends' application was objectionable (1) because of the Red Cross activities in France, (2) because of the undesirable precedent which would be established by releasing French Government funds for this purpose, and (3) the Friends' purchases of milk in Switzerland were nothing but token purchases, the only real effect of which was to keep the Friends organization in the field in unoccupied France.

Under date of November 14, 1941, Mr. Foley advised you of the foregoing decisions reached at the meeting in Mr. Acheson's office, and on November 26, 1941, you advised Mr. Foley that you were willing to drop your suggestion to release funds to the Friends for the purchase of Swiss milk.

It is possible that Kershner may have been referring to another Friends application which was filed in November 1941 to spend \$100,000 of money collected in this country for the purchase of Swiss milk. This application, in accordance with our usual practice, was referred to State which advised Treasury under date of March 5, 1942, as follows:

"In view of the present international situation and since it would seem appropriate that whenever American relief operations in France may become possible they be conducted through the American Red Cross, this Department does not feel justified in requesting that the application in question be granted."

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Treasury, in view of the foregoing, denied this application on March 7, 1942.

It is noteworthy that there is nothing in our records to indicate that our decisions with respect to these applications were based upon "the objection of the British Embassy" as stated by Dr. Kershner.

The files of the Department have been checked with respect to the second application referred to by Kershner concerning the ten tons of beans. No record has been found of any such application having been filed with the Treasury.



MEMORANDUM

Re: Applications to Finance the American Friends Service Committee's Purchases of Milk in Switzerland for Shipment to France.

(1) December 6, 1940 - NY 84497 - filed by the French Government to transfer \$50,000 to the American Friends for the purchases of milk in Switzerland to be distributed to French children. This application was approved on December 16, 1940, after clearance with the Secretary. At the same time, the American Embassy at Vichy was requested to investigate and report with respect to the importation and distribution of the milk by the Friends, with particular stress on whether the milk was being distributed under American supervision directly to the children.

(2) January 1941 - NY 103767 - filed by the French Government to pay \$50,000 to the American Friends for the purchase of milk in Switzerland for French children. This application was referred to the Department of State which replied as follows on April 9, 1941:

"Inasmuch as the French Government has available in Portugal deposits amounting to a minimum of \$600,000 and inasmuch as the French Purchasing Commission is at present in Lisbon endeavoring to raise transportation of supplies to France, the Friends Service Committee has been informed that they should, in the first instance, communicate with this Commission to determine whether it would be possible to make use of its facilities in connection with the purchase of these supplies. It is further understood from the British Embassy that the British authorities are reluctant to grant navicerts if these supplies are to be purchased from blocked accounts in this country as long as ample funds exist in Portugal for this purpose. Under these circumstances, this Department is not at the present time prepared to recommend this transfer."

Accordingly, this application was denied on April 14, 1941.

(3) On April 14, 1941, the American Friends Service Committee requested by letter that the dollar equivalent of 1,792,650 Swiss francs (approximately \$417,000) be released from French funds to purchase food in Switzerland for shipment to France. The Treasury Department referred this request to the Department of State on April 22, 1941, stating:

"This transaction is being referred to you in view of the important foreign policy considerations involved therein. Should an application be filed to transfer the above-mentioned amount from French Government funds to the American Friends Service Committee, this Department is not prepared to approve such application unless requested to do so by your Department."

On April 28, 1941, application No. NY 137654 was filed to cover the above transaction. The State Department replied in a letter from Under Secretary Welles dated April 30, 1941, stating:

"The American Friends Service Committee, which has also communicated with this Department in this matter, has been informed that the situation has developed in such a way that this Government must recommend that the distribution of supplies in the unoccupied areas of France be undertaken through cooperation with the American Red Cross which has obtained funds from the American Government to supply milk to French children and that this Department is not in a position to recommend the unblocking of funds as requested by the American Friends Service Committee."

On May 20, 1941, State Department wrote Treasury to the effect that it had been ascertained from the American Ambassador at Vichy that approximately 60 tons of milk had already been purchased by the American Friends Service Committee in Switzerland and had arrived at Marseille. The State Department stated that it perceived no objection to the release of funds in payment of this specific amount of milk provided that distribution was coordinated with the American Red Cross efforts. This coordination was arranged between the Friends and the Red Cross. Accordingly, on June 6, 1941, after the Department received assurances that the milk distribution was to be coordinated with American Red Cross efforts, we approved application No. 137654, authorizing the purchase of 194,400 Swiss francs for payment in Switzerland of the 60 tons of milk.

(4) June 10, 1941 - NY 153961 - filed by the Chase National Bank to pay the dollar equivalent of 598,250 Swiss francs to the Nestles Company, Stamford, Connecticut, for 243 tons of milk to be used by the Friends in France. Under date of June 24, 1941, Treasury referred this application to the Department of State, stating:

"This transaction is being referred to you in view of the important foreign policy considerations involved therein. This Department is not prepared to approve the application that has been filed to effect the above-mentioned transaction unless requested to do so by your Department. It is the view of this Department that the manner in which it is proposed to effect the payment for the shipment of milk from Switzerland does not materially alter the nature of the transaction."

Under date of July 1, 1941, State advised Treasury as follows:

"The Department has received a report from the American Ambassador at Vichy, a paraphrase copy of which is

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enclosed, with reference to a program of relief in unoccupied France to be carried out by the American Friends Service Committee. The European representative of the American Red Cross has agreed to this program. Upon further investigation and inquiry by this Department it is now prepared to oppose no objection to the release of funds for this purpose."

Accordingly, on July 2, 1941, Treasury approved application No. NY 153961.

(5) October 7, 1941 - NY 266162 - filed by the French Government to pay \$200,000 to the Friends Service Committee for the purchase of milk in Switzerland. This application was discussed by the Treasury Department with Assistant Secretary of State Acheson, and it was agreed that the application should be denied in view of the general policy being followed by the Interdepartmental Foreign Funds Control Committee in similar cases. Accordingly, the application was denied on October 15, 1941. At the request of Secretary Morgenthau this application was reconsidered and was again discussed with Mr. Acheson in November 1941, and it was again agreed that the application was objectionable in view of the activities of the American Red Cross in unoccupied France and in view of the dangerous precedent which would have been established by permitting the release of French Government funds for the purchase of food supplies in Switzerland. It was also felt that the Friends Service purchases were nothing but token purchases, the only real effect of which would be to keep the Friends organization in the field in unoccupied France.

(6) November 17, 1941 - Philadelphia 5233 - filed by the American Friends Service Committee to spend \$100,000 of money collected in this country for the purchase of Swiss milk to be used in the Friends' feeding operations in unoccupied France. Under date of December 29, 1941, this application was referred to the Department of State in view of the important foreign policy considerations involved. Treasury also stated that it was not prepared to approve the application until requested to do so by the State Department. Under date of March 5, 1942, the State Department replied as follows:

"In view of the present international situation and since it would seem appropriate that whenever American relief operations in France may become possible they be conducted through the American Red Cross, this Department does not feel justified in requesting that the application in question be granted."

Accordingly, under date of March 7, 1942, Treasury denied the application.

SAYS BRITISH BLOCK FOOD TO STARVING

Dr. Kershner Tells Senators
Aid We Could Give European
Children Has Been Halted

Special to The New York Times.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Charging that the British Government blocked shipment of food to starving European children, although American officials and public opinion were in favor of rescuing the Nazi victims, Dr. Howard E. Kershner told a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee that that policy might leave only Germany healthy enough to reconstruct the Continent in the post-war period.

Dr. Kershner, who directed relief for the American Society of Friends in Europe from 1939 to 1942, related instances in which, he said, the objection of the British Government alone prevented the shipment of food to children in occupied countries, although the plan involved no movement of food through the blockade and no military considerations were involved.

"If the democratic peoples of Europe perish and the Germans alone have the health to reconstruct Europe after the war, the British Government will bear the responsibility," Dr. Kershner asserted. "Its unyielding policy of preventing the saving of the children of our friends and allies will be the cause."

Replies to British Action

The Quaker administrator's testimony came as a reply to the action of the Churchill Government in London yesterday, turning down suggestions for modifying the blockade. Dingle M. Foot, parliamentary secretary of the Ministry of Economic Warfare, asserted in London that reports of famine in Europe were "entirely misleading."

Summing up the physical condition of children on the Nazi-dominated countries, Dr. Kershner said:

"I have seen the starved wrecks that women become by the time they give birth to babies of half-normal weight. The children of the occupied countries are coming to school in the morning with little or no breakfast. They sit with practically bare feet on stone floors in unheated schoolrooms.

"Examining their lunch baskets we found a small piece of bread and perhaps a few radishes or a boiled turnip. For dinner, vegetable soup with occasionally a scrap of meat or cheese. Large categories get no more than seven to nine hundred calories per day. This is about one-third of what we give our children and not enough to sustain life over a long period of time.

"The children of Europe are dying."

Reports Powdered Milk Involved

Dr. Kershner, who appeared on behalf of the National Committee on Food for the Small Democracies, New York, said that in November, 1941, he bought 350 tons of powdered milk in Switzerland, and got permission to take it to France, but that the Treasury Department, on the objection of the British Embassy, refused permission to pay for the fund out of blocked dollars in New York.

As a result, the milk went to Germany, instead of giving a new lease on life "to the starving babies of France," he declared.

Afterward, he said that he found ten tons of beans in storage in Marseilles since before the war, but that again the Treasury, "because of opposition stemming apparently from the British Embassy," refused a license to pay dollars to the New York owner and "not one of these beans was eaten by our hungry little wards in southern France."

He told of instituting a vitamin distribution to 250,000 of the most needy children in southern France in the fall of 1940. Each chocolate square was wrapped in a piece of tin foil carrying a message of friendship from the people of America to the children of France.

"To show their appreciation, the girls made bows of these wrappers and wore them for hair ribbons for days," he said. "Everyone knew of this feature of friendship and everybody was talking."

The papers were filled with columns of publicity on the action

and the whole nation was grateful, but the following winter permission was refused for bringing the vitamin concentrate from America, he said.

"Can it be that Britain did not want America to continue to be the sole recipient of gratitude for feeding the children of France?" he asked.

Quoting from President Roosevelt's recent appeal for contributions to the National War Fund, and from the literature of the fund's campaign to show that the money was solicited for feeding the hungry in the occupied countries, he declared:

"If we do not send food to the children of the German-occupied countries, we will have obtained \$125,000,000 from the American people in part under false pretenses. The people have been promised that some of their money would be used for this purpose and they expect that promise to be kept."

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h y. Times
Nov 12, 1943

Senate Group Hears Europe Food Appeal

'Children Dying,' Kershner Says In Plea for Aid

By the Associated Press

Dr. Howard E. Kershner, who directed relief in Europe for the Quakers from 1939 to 1942, declared yesterday that the Nazis would reap no advantage if the British lifted their blockade of Europe partially and allowed food to be shipped, under proper guarantees, to undernourished children of occupied countries.

"The children of Europe are dying," Dr. Kershner warned a Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee considering a resolution calling on the United States to take the leadership in establishing a plan for feeding European children and their mothers.

(In London Wednesday, the Churchill government flatly turned down suggestions for relaxing the blockade. Dingle M. Foot, parliamentary secretary of the Ministry of Economic Warfare, said that if food were shipped in, the Germans would merely "create more starvation and shortages." He also said the impression that the "whole of occupied Europe is in a condition of famine is entirely misleading.")

Danaher Backs Proposal

Senator Danaher (Republican) of Connecticut appeared before the Senate subcommittee to deliver a strong indorsement of the proposal.

"More than any other expenditure of money," he said, "What could be more effective than to have people alive who can attribute their very lives to the generosity and foresight of Americans?"

Kershner, director of the national committee on food for the small democracies, told of futile efforts to get the necessary permission to move 350 tons of powdered milk, purchased in Switzerland, into France for the relief of hungry babies.

He said the transaction had reached the point where all that was necessary was the U. S. Treasury Department's permission to pay for the milk with blocked dollars in New York.

Washington Post
Nov. 12, 1943

Blames British Embassy

"The State Department made no objection," he said, "The Treasury made no objection, but failed to issue the license. Why?"

"Threading our way through the departments in Washington, we finally traced the source of the opposition to the British Embassy."

He said he wondered whether Britain "did not want America to continue to be the sole recipient of gratitude for feeding the children of France."

"I have seen the starved wrecks that women become by the time they give birth to babies of half-normal weight," he said. "The children of the occupied countries are coming to school in the morning with little or no breakfast. They sit with practically bare feet on stone floors in unheated school-rooms. Examining their lunch baskets we found a small piece of bread and perhaps a few radishes or a boiled turnip."

N.Y. Times
Nov. 16, 1943

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Cordial Relations Important

Method of Fostering Anglo-American Amity Is Suggested

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

The practical importance of Anglo-American cooperation during and after the war is too great to justify ignoring existing obstacles to cordial relations. They must be faced and eliminated.

The British Ambassador, in his recent address in New York, faced one of these obstacles and sought to allay the anti-British feeling which has arisen from a misapprehension of past British history.

Dr. Kershner's testimony before the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported in THE TIMES of Nov. 12, highlights a more serious obstacle. This is the suspicion harbored by some Americans, both in and out of Congress, that under the present administration there exists, not an Anglo-American partnership, but an arrangement in which John Bull makes all the decisions and Uncle Sam is a mere "yes-man."

On two occasions, according to Dr. Kershner, objection by the British Embassy stopped the Treasury Department from releasing blocked funds to pay for relief supplies already in Europe and available for distribution to the children of France. It is instances of this sort that lead some people to believe that present Anglo-American relations are such that the sole power of decision and veto rests with the British.

Such suspicions could be ended immediately by acts of the British and American Governments:

If our Government can successfully insist that the British Government change its position to the extent of permitting the feeding of the starving children in the occupied countries of Western Europe, under the precautions which have been worked out by Dr. Kershner and other Americans and which are now being applied successfully in Greece, the specter of British domination will be laid to rest and the principal obstacle to cordial Anglo-American cooperation will be removed.

ROBERT W. BYERLY,

New York, Nov. 13, 1943.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE NOV 22 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Mr. O'Connell

There is attached a cable, dated November 14, 1943, from the American Legation in Bern relating to the proposal of the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Congress for the relief and evacuation of thousands of Jewish refugees from France and Rumania. There is also attached a letter from the British Embassy here, addressed to Mr. Pehle, relating to this same matter.

We would like to discuss this with you as soon as possible. I suggest that White and Pehle, and the men who are most familiar with this matter in the Legal Division, Luxford and DuBois, be present at the conference.

Joseph J. O'Connell

56292

CLASS AUTHORITY
Mr. Smith & Wilson

BRITISH EMBASSY.....

WASHINGTON, D.C.....

November 13th, 1943.

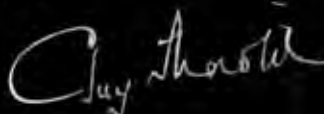
Dear Mr. Fehle:

For Personal Attention of Mr. Fehle

The Ministry of Economic Warfare have received a telegram from H. M. Minister at Berne calling attention to his U.S. colleague's telegram No. 834 of October 6th (it is not clear whether this was addressed to Washington and repeated to the U.S. Embassy, London, or vice versa), regarding the Treasury Department's proposal to licence certain exchange transactions for the purpose of facilitating the evacuation of a number of Jewish refugees from France and Roumania.

The Ministry have not heard of this proposal previously, and are unable to judge its merits until they have received details. Would you let me know whether you have already referred the matter to the U. S. Embassy in London for consultation with the Ministry of Economic Warfare under the Joint Licencing Advisory Committee procedure? If not, I should be grateful to have details of the proposal which I can transmit myself in response to this request for information.

Yours sincerely,



G. F. Thorold.

Mr. J. Fehle,
U.S. Treasury Department,
Foreign Funds Control,
Washington, D.C.

Received 11/20/43

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMERICAN LEGATION, BERN
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: November 14, 1943
NUMBER: 7141

CONFIDENTIAL

Information given below is for attention of Department, FEA and Treasury.

The British Commercial Secretary was informed of the contents of the Department's telegram dated October 26, 1943, no. 2626, in accordance with standing instructions concerning issuance of proposed license. MEW has now informed him that it shared his objections to proposed licensing (see the Legation's telegram of October 6, 1943, no. 6269, which was repeated to London as no. 834) and is taking the matter up with Washington. He has been instructed by MEW to withhold consent for issuance of license in the meantime. Consequently, if I am expected to comply with Treasury Department's desires expressed in your telegram under reference in opposition to present British position or in advance of their subsequent concurrence, specific instructions would be greatly appreciated.

The foregoing message was repeated to London for the information of our Embassy there.

HARRISON

November 23, 1943
2:45 p.m.

JEWISH EVACUATION

Present: Mr. White
Mr. O'Connell
Mr. Luxford
Mr. Pehle
Mr. DuBois
Mrs. Klotz

H.M.JR: Where is the memorandum, please?

MRS. KLOTZ: It was right here.

H.M.JR: Pehle, you are the spokesman?

MR. PEHLE: Could be, yes, sir. We thought you ought to know about this situation. It is the continuation of the discussion we have been having on the World Jewish Congress proposal that had to do with the evacuation of Jews from France and from Rumania.

You remember, it was on this case that we changed the Treasury policy. This was the beginning of the change of the Treasury policy about allowing whatever financial transactions that were necessary, provided they could be so arranged that they wouldn't give aid to the enemy.

H.M.JR: I remember distinctly the Rumanian case.

MR. PEHLE: This is it.

H.M.JR: I am not familiar with France.

MR. PEHLE: France was tied in with it originally in the proposal which came from Reigner in Switzerland. We all realized from the beginning that there was very little chance of actually evacuating anybody, but we

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wanted to so arrange matters that it wouldn't be the financial transactions that would stop them. Obviously, evacuation is very difficult, even if the State Department and everyone else wanted to do it, but we met with nothing but difficulty and delay.

Now, we told Harrison, the Minister in Switzerland some time ago to issue the requisite license. He came back--

MR. LUXFORD: ...in September.

MR. PEHLE: He came back and said he had discussed it with his British Colleague in accordance with standing orders to cooperate with the British in matters of this character. The British Colleague didn't like it very much. So he got another telegram saying, "Issue the license, anyway."

Now he has come back again and said his British Colleague has received instructions from MEW in London saying they are not in agreement, and Mr. Thorold of the British Embassy here, who is doing some of the work Stopford is doing, has written the letter attached there indicating that he would be glad to put it up to the Committee in London if we would tell him more about what it was about. (Letter to Mr. Pehle from G.F. Thorold, dated November 13, 1943, copy attached)

H.M.JR: May I just read the Thorold letter? I haven't read it. (Reads document)

Why, just to digress one minute, does Harrison put this thing up? What business is it of Harrison's to put this up to the British in Switzerland?

MR. LUXFORD: They had standing instructions on trading with the enemy activity to consult with the British.

MR. PEHLE: There has been an attempt from the beginning in these commercial things involving trading with the enemy to harmonize the British and American policy.

H.M.JR: Knowing that, should we have informed either the British Embassy here or our Embassy in London?

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MR. PEHLE: I don't think so, because this is not a commercial case, and besides, we wanted to get some action. I think the result of all this consultation is that there isn't going to be any action.

H.M.JR: Yes, but if you had known that was the common practice - it seems to me if we had forewarned them, it would have been good.

MR. LUXFORD: I don't think there has ever been one. The common practice is to refer it over to the commercial Trading with the Enemy Consultation group.

H.M.JR: What is your suggestion?

MR. PEHLE: There are two phases of the matter; one is the thing that deals with this narrow case; the other one is the question of how you feel on the broader issue. The broader issue is, at what point is the whole question of whether the State Department is going to facilitate evacuation of refugees and all the things that are tied in with that - at what point is that going to be brought out in the open.

H.M.JR: You ask me how far is the moon from here.

MR. LUXFORD: This problem is essentially one of people down the line in State.

H.M.JR: I know all of that. May I make the suggestion as to how to proceed for the moment, which may bring it out in the open? My suggestion is, you give Thorold all the facts and tell him that we also have informed Ambassador Winant, have a very careful cable drawn up giving Ambassador Winant all the facts and asking him whether he would please facilitate this in behalf of the Treasury. Now, that cable has to be signed by Hull, and in that way it does bring it out in the open. A cable going from me to Winant has to be signed by Hull and cleared.

MR. PEHLE: May I make a point?

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H.M.JR: If you please.

MR. PEHLE: This file is full of cables which we have originated and which State has sent which are full of little remarks like the Treasury wants this, the Treasury desires you to do this, and the Treasury this, and the Treasury that. And Harrison, unless he is just a dumbbell, can see through that, that State is in effect saying this is what the Treasury wants you to do.

H.M.JR: Well, that doesn't influence me. Again I would write a letter to Mr. Hull from me which I can hand him tomorrow morning in person, and say "Dear Cordell: We are having great difficulty in getting this matter carried out." I mean, don't use my language, but the thought, "and the latest difficulty is that Harrison has referred it to the British, who have referred it to so and so in London. Therefore, I will appreciate -" I would say, "We have given this information to Mr. Thorold here, but I would feel much happier about it if you would send the following cable for me to Mr. Winant, instructing him along the following lines. I would appreciate it if you would send me a copy of the cable for my file."

Now, I am not sending it; I am asking him to do it along the following lines. Now, that brings it out, and let's see what Hull does about it.

Now, so far whenever I have gone to him direct he has been very good.

MR. PEHLE: He will send the cable.

MR. WHITE: There is a feeling on the part of the boys which I think is wholly warranted - I don't know if this is the point at which to take it up, but I am inclined to think that we have been a little vulnerable in the point you have raised, namely, that we should have taken it up with the British here and not given them an opportunity to say that we should have taken it up with the British.

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Had we gotten a decision, then we could have told Harrison to do as he is told.

H.M.JR: Pehle didn't sell me on what he was saying.

MR. PEHLE: That is a question of judgment, Mr. Secretary. Looking back at it, maybe it would have been better, but if we had gone to the British and they had held it up for six months, we would say, "Why didn't you go ahead?"

H.M.JR: That is the advantage of being the Secretary of the Treasury. I can always review what you have done, and I am always right!

MR. WHITE: If we took it up with the British, then it is our responsibility to see that they don't take six months. We ought to deal with the British here. We would get more success and put pressure on them here. Then we are in a position to say, "Etcetera, etcetera." We have things they are asking us.

But I do think this should be brought out, though I don't think anything can be done about it.

H.M.JR: The one thing on their side of the view is the fact that they say it is common practice in connection with commercial things, but we are on new territory when we are taking up a matter of refugees. I am just as guilty as they are.

MR. LUXFORD: This matter of not clearing it with the British was cleared with Breckinridge Long. He said, "Go ahead without clearing with the British." The last cable we sent to Switzerland was on that basis.

MR. WHITE: But the answer is that in this war you are always vulnerable if they say you haven't pursued a common policy.

H.M.JR: Gentlemen, I can say on the record that I am delighted at your motives. No one would like to see this come out in the open more than I. Unfortunately you

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are up against a successive generation of people like those in the State Department who don't like to do this kind of thing, and it is only by my happening to be Secretary of the Treasury and being vitally interested in these things, with the help of you people having first made up your mind - you bring it to me - that I can do it. I am all for you, not that I am a cynic or discouraged. I mean, I will do everything I can, and we will get it done. But don't think you are going to be able to nail anybody in the State Department--

MR. LUXFORD: I am not sure, Mr. Secretary.

H.M.JR: ... to the cross.

MR. LUXFORD: They will go too far.

MR. WHITE: They have gone pretty far in the details of this thing.

MR. LUXFORD: Keep this in mind, what has been happening in the war damage program in North Africa. They kicked it around even after the President said to get it out.

H.M.JR: But who finally got it through? I mean, it took the prestige of my office to do it even after the President - they still didn't. Well, somebody has to pursue the thing. You men are very forthright on it, very courageous, and I back you up. But even after the President does it - but listen, I am not going to discourage you. I will go just as far as you men will let me go. I think it was a smart move to say to Mr. Hull, "This is what I would like you to say: Will you send it promptly?" I will hand him the letter tomorrow morning. It will take you that time to prepare it.

Now, that brings it to his attention, and if he says, "What is happening?" and begins to read through this thing, you have one or two reactions, "God, the Treasury gives me a pain in the neck," or, "I think this is outrageous, and I will send for so and so. Why

- 7 -

have Harrison and everybody else made it difficult for the Treasury?" Neither I nor the President can make Mr. Hull see something different. Either he is going to be shocked, or he is going to say, "Well, I have got to do it, and I will go along." But this makes him send a cable.

In the meantime, I would see this man; and Winant, on the other hand, will be good. He will be all right. Does anybody want to make any suggestions?

MR. DuBOIS: This is just, of course, one problem, as Mr. Luxford already mentioned. On this Tunisian program we have been discussing the advisability of issuing a press release on what was done there, or at least on what we recommended should be done. I am wondering how you would react to the idea. We have drawn up a press release.

H.M.JR: Try it on Fred Smith, please; will you?

Let me ask you this: What has happened, Harry, since you and I have been there, to the Banque d'etat du Maroc?

~~MR.~~ MR. WHITE: Nothing, I suppose.

H.M.JR: Did they put in a comptroller?

MR. WHITE: Couve de Murville is out, and I just got a letter from - I didn't read the letter which I just got. (Hands to Secretary proposed draft of November 23 to Secretary of State on the Argentine bank, attached)

H.M.JR: This is Argentina.

MR. PEHLE: I think they had not yet found a comptroller the last I heard of it.

H.M.JR: When I go to see Mr. Hull tomorrow, let me take another letter in which I say, "My dear Cordell:

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Since last writing you I would like to bring you up to date as to what has happened in Argentina on the financial front."

MR. PEHLE: Yes.

H.M.JR: You people might be here a few minutes after nine. I will go over both those letters tomorrow.

All right. I can't begin to tell you how much I appreciate your interest, and don't think that I am going to throw cold water, but all I can do is to bring this thing and put this thing in Cordell's hand and say, "Now, please do this thing." Then it is up to him to get angry at his own people.

C O P Y

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BRITISH EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

November 13, 1943

Dear Mr. Pehle:

For Personal Attention of Mr. Pehle

The Ministry of Economic Warfare have received a telegram from H.M. Minister at Berne calling attention to his U.S. colleague's telegram No. 834 of October 6th (it is not clear whether this was addressed to Washington and repeated to the U.S. Embassy, London, or vice versa), regarding the Treasury Department's proposal to license certain exchange transactions for the purpose of facilitating the evacuation of a number of Jewish refugees from France and Roumania.

The Ministry have not heard of this proposal previously, and are unable to judge its merits until they have received details. Would you let me know whether you have already referred the matter to the U.S. Embassy in London for consultation with the Ministry of Economic Warfare under the Joint Licensing Advisory Committee procedure? If not, I should be grateful to have details of the proposal which I can transmit myself in response to this request for information.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Guy Thorold

G.F. Thorold.

Mr. J. Pehle,
U.S. Treasury Department
Foreign Funds Control,
Washington, D.C.

Page 120, dated Nov. 24, 1943,
placed in Book 679, page 203

November 24, 1943
10:30 a.m.

JEWISH EVACUATION

Present: Mr. Paul
Mr. White
Mr. Luxford
Mr. Pehle
Mr. DuBois
Mrs. Klotz

MR. PAUL: Let me say that I feel rather strongly in this issue that there is absolutely no excuse for all this delay, and we ought to put it straight up to Hull. There is no other way of doing it.

Now, here is your letter, which contains this sentence about which there is a little disagreement: "Since programs of this character can be just as effectively defeated by delay as they can by denial of the necessary licenses, your assistance is badly needed in order to expedite this matter." If you don't want to sign that letter with the sentence in it, we have a new page. And this is the cable that goes with the letter. (Hands to the Secretary a proposed draft of letter, dated November 23, to the Secretary of State, attached)

H.M.JR: Have you read it, Harry?

MR. WHITE: No, I haven't. (The Secretary hands Mr. White copy of the proposed draft)

H.M.JR: (Reading) "A blocked account would be established in the United States by the American Jewish Congress for reimbursement of those persons who advanced funds in connection with the evacuation of the Jewish refugees from Rumania and France. No funds would be paid from such account until the end of the war, but portions of it would be earmarked from time to time in the name of the individuals who had actually advanced funds under the proposal. Under the plan no foreign exchange would be made available to the enemy."

Now, I can understand that, but who is going to advance the fund in the meantime?

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MR. LUXFORD: Rumanian business men, in order to get a stake in this blocked account over here.

H.M.JR: They would do this in Rumania, as they say, "...portions of it would be earmarked from time to time in the name of the individuals who had advanced funds"?

MR. PAUL: And blocked here. You couldn't make any foreign exchange. It is a technique for making it safe.

H.M.JR: I take it he is a Jewish business man.

MR. LUXFORD: That is right.

MR. PAUL: Look at the delays all through, as you read it.

MR. LUXFORD: This gives them the benefit of the doubt on certain items; as, for instance, it was two weeks before we got a cable after they received it, and we only got it then because some of the boys over there told us under cover that there was one.

MR. PAUL: The thing that that letter doesn't say, which speaks out from every fact stated in it, is that that is happening because these are Jews. I don't think we ought to stand for it.

H.M.JR: This page can be rewritten. But the thing I was thinking about was, "most discouraging." It is inexcusable.

MR. PAUL: I can't think of the word. "Inexcusable" is a very poor word.

MR. WHITE: "Difficult to understand."

H.M.JR: I like that.

MR. WHITE: I'd like to suggest some other changes. I think in the second paragraph -

H.M.JR: One minute, please.

MR. PAUL: In the second paragraph on the first page,

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I think it might sound better to say: On July 16 your Department was advised that the Treasury was prepared to send with your approval ...". Indicate clearly that we asked for his approval, because in the next paragraph we say he approved. We want to say his own orders were being obeyed.

MR. DuBOIS: "The Treasury was prepared to license with your approval."

MR. PAUL: Instead of, "to approve."

H.M.JR: "License with your approval." That means, "if we got your approval."

MR. WHITE: Maybe we should say, "to license subject to your approval."

Then there is one other slight suggestion: this MEW. I'd put British Minister of Economic Warfare on the bottom of page 2. I'd spell it out. State that it is the British Minister of Economic Warfare, so that somebody who is not familiar would understand. He is probably not.

I'd delete that last sentence. It is too trivial. You can get that over the phone.

MR. PAUL: You don't get those unless you ask for them.

MR. WHITE: Then ask for it.

MR. DuBOIS: It takes away from the impact.

H.M.JR: I asked for that.

MR. WHITE: Well, we can get it over the phone. They'll never refuse, if you ask them.

MR. PAUL: Let somebody be delegated. You'll never get it unless you ask for it.

MRS. KLOTZ: Mr. Pehle is pretty good at it.

MR. PEHLE: I'll undertake that.

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MR. LUXFORD: Leave out the next-to-the-last paragraph, too. It would change emphasis.

MR. WHITE: I'd like to do that.

MR. LUXFORD: It makes it sound as though all you are asking them to do is send this cable, when that isn't all you are trying to get at.

MR. WHITE: I feel that, very definitely.

MR. PERLE: Let him figure out what to do.

MR. DuBOIS: I think that is best.

H.M.JR: You wouldn't send it at all?

MR. LUXFORD: Let him figure it out.

MR. WHITE: You are putting it on a broad issue, bigger than this particular cable.

MR. PAUL: We could send the cable for his approval.

H.M.JR: Let me read this a minute. Somebody take down what I am going to say. Joe, take this: "As a means to expedite this transaction, I suggest that you send a cable to Ambassador Winant. I am enclosing here-with a suggested draft of such a cable."

Now, the reason I am doing it this way, if you don't do it this way - what is the thing you want? Do you want to get something done or try to lay down a policy? Now, I think that if he sends this cable, plus this letter, then we are doing both. But if you just send the letter, it will kick around there for another month.

MR. WHITE: I disagree. I think he will feel, after reading the letter, "We ought to do what he wants. Let's send the cable." The rest is forgotten. If you put him on the spot, he will have to do something. He won't know what to do; from then on he'll be sore at these fellows. This way you are providing him with an easy way.

MR. PERLE: I think we should send a cable.

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H.M.JR: Wait a minute. There is another thing. Winant is always complaining that we don't keep him informed. We explained to the British there, and we do nothing with Winant.

MRS. KLOTZ: After the receipt of this letter, won't he get in touch with you--Hull?

H.M.JR: No, not necessarily.

MR. LUXFORD: If we send a second letter tomorrow, apropos of this letter, you may want to do this.

MR. WHITE: Put it in a separate - -

MR. PAUL: Send it today.

MR. LUXFORD: Make them separate letters.

H.M.JR: I don't agree with you. I am not going to write him every day. He could then perfectly well say, "Why doesn't he give me a chance to do something?"

MR. WHITE: I have another suggestion. Send the letter without these two paragraphs, but add the attachments. Attach the cable and on the cable in front on one of your little sheets say, "Appended as a suggested telegram that you may consider would help to expedite sending to, etc."

H.M.JR: Why don't you want it in the letter?

MR. WHITE: Because I want the letter to call his attention to the fact his own Department is sabotaging his own approvals on matters of this character. And I don't want him to end up by saying it is right and "We want to send this cable off"; push a button and say, "Get this off right away." Then he is through with it; whereas, if the letter stands, it leaves it hanging. "Will you please expedite?" It is up to him to find a way. I think, after reading this letter, he will be angry with his own staff. He will find ways of expediting.

H.M.JR: Have you ever seen him do that?

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MR. WHITE: No.

H.M.JR: Why should he do it now?

MR. PAUL: I feel, like you, it will kick around.

H.M.JR: Did you ever know him to do anything by pushing a button and doing it on the spot?

MR. WHITE: Well, we have got such a good case that you ought to exploit it to the full.

MR. PAUL: Did you notice what startling action he took this morning?

MR. WHITE: That is something.

MR. PEHLE: I am still worried about that last sentence of the partial paragraph on page 3. Maybe I haven't got the courage of my convictions to the same extent other people do, but the implication of that sentence is to say that they have been deliberately sabotaging it. I think these are the facts, that there is a wide split in the State Department on these issues, and delays are caused by the fact that they are always battling. That is true; I have no doubt. This sentence is awfully strong, and I don't know - -

H.M.JR: I have crossed that bridge. I am perfectly willing to sign the letter. But what I am trying to get over to you fellows is this, and I haven't got the answer yet. The letter goes. We'll leave off the last two paragraphs. Then nothing happens. What we are trying to do is do something for these people in Rumania and France. And another two months passes.

MR. WHITE: I get John's point. I think it is a matter of a word. His point is that this is a definite accusation that they have wanted to stop it by delaying, whereas you could make this intent--that it doesn't matter what their intentions are, the effect is that if they delay it is equivalent to defeating the purpose. Maybe it is a question of rewording, and not leaving out.

MR. DuBOIS: As long as you don't weaken it.

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MR. PAUL: Say, "Since the benefits of a program of this character can be lost."

MR. PEHLE: Or say, "Since even with the best of intentions..."

MR. PAUL: No, don't bring it out like that.

MR. WHITE: You don't have to indict him with having bad intentions. I think the way Randolph has stated it would get it across that bridge and not expose you to purposely accusing them of defeating it.

H.M.JR: Change the word "defeat" to "lost."

MR. PAUL: Say the benefits can be just as effectively "lost."

MR. WHITE: That doesn't mean they actively tried to defeat it.

MR. PEHLE: That meets my point. It worries me, the way it is now.

MR. LUXFORD: You have got them in a good position.

MR. WHITE: The Secretary doesn't want to accuse anybody in the State Department, to make them defend the position that they deliberately delayed this in order to defeat it.

MR. LUXFORD: It doesn't say that.

MR. WHITE: It is very close to that.

MR. DuBOIS: If they read that into it, it is because the facts are so strong.

MR. WHITE: Then if the facts are strong, you can say "are lost."

MR. DuBOIS: Then people miss it.

MR. WHITE: It can be just as effective--"lost." That doesn't imply that they didn't do it. It leaves the

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matter open. Now, as I read the statement over, you are accusing them, not clearly but definitely by implication--somebody in the State Department--of defeating this by delaying.

MR. PAUL: Of course, that is what we really mean.

MR. WHITE: Yes, but I don't think the Secretary should be put in the position of having to defend it.

MR. LUXFORD: If I were sure that Secretary Hull would sit down and discuss the meaning of that sentence as much as we have here, then I wouldn't worry whether you said "lost" or "defeated." But if you want to be sure he focuses on it, say "defeated."

H.M.JR: What does "vitiating" mean?

MR. WHITE: Reduced in effectiveness. "Since programs of this character can be just as effectively vitiating..."

MR. LUXFORD: Or "emasculated."

MR. PENLE: I think "vitiate" is a good word.

H.M.JR: I don't like the word "lost."

MR. PENLE: "Vitiate the program?"

MR. WHITE: That is right; you reduce its effectiveness.

H.M.JR: What is that?

MR. WHITE: You don't need "benefits." You just substitute the word "defeated" for "vitiating."

MR. PAUL: "Vitiating" for "defeated."

MR. WHITE: "Defeat" carries with it the very connotation you wish to carry with it--an active obstruction, defeat. I think you are right.

MR. LUXFORD: We are all viewing this very much from the point of view of what we really think. But a person

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reading this--you can say "delays a program," as well as "conscious intention." We are looking at this through a framework of our accusations.

MRS. KLOTZ: I'd like to know what three and a half months mean! That delay!

H.M.JR: How do you spell "vitiated"? (Refers to dictionary for definition) "To corrupt, debase, contaminate, invalidate; render ineffectual or worthless."

MR. PAUL: It is the last meaning.

MR. WHITE: It has several meanings.

H.M.JR: I think it is a perfectly good word: "To render ineffectual or worthless."

MR. WHITE: Impugning of motives.

H.M.JR: Put in the word "vitate."

Now, wait a minute; I'll tell you what we might do. I'll take Harry's suggestion. We might send this letter over and then this cable with a little sort of inter-office memorandum and say, "If you agree, I believe that Ambassador Winant should be..."

MR. LUXFORD: ... "Would assist in clearing this."

H.M.JR: "A cable along the lines of the enclosed would be helpful." Something like that.

MR. WHITE: I think I'd add this, "The details," etcetera, etcetera, "are being explained to the British Embassy."

MRS. KLOTZ: He may surprise you and may have a more effective way of handling it.

MR. WHITE: I think it would leave him on an awful spot if he didn't send the cable.

H.M.JR: Put my original suggestion, and then put the details separate. You fellows have what you want; you

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wanted a letter. I wanted a cable. I think we have the benefits of both. What you want is this business of the thing kicking around, say, in a letter. And then this thing is separate. He says, "What shall I do?" Well, here is the cable. He says, "Let's send it." Then within a reasonable time--I'd wait two or three days, and I can call up his office, or Mrs. Klotz can, and say, "We'd like to know what action Mr. Hull has taken on my letter." I'd wait until about Monday. I'd say, Mr. Morgenthau wants to know what action you have taken on his letter and suggested cable to Winant." Now, who disagrees with that?

MRS. KLOTZ: That is just a normal follow-up.

MR. WHITE: It separates the protest from the suggestion.

MR. PENLE: Send them over together?

H.M.JR: Yes, definitely. I am not going to send them two things.

MR. PAUL: They ought to go together.

H.M.JR: He will read this thing and scratch his head and look at the cable. "Here is a suggested cable." There is a good chance he will send it.

MR. WHITE: He will also realize the letter is a protest against the delay, and not merely a build-up to sending the cable.

MRS. KLOTZ: Absolutely.

H.M.JR: Well, I think that is worth while.

MRS. KLOTZ: It is a pretty important thing.



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

My dear Cordell,

In late June the State Department received cables from Bern, Switzerland, relating to a proposal of the World Jewish Congress to evacuate thousands of Jews from Rumania. The necessary funds would be paid to Rumanian officials in local currency by well-to-do Rumanian merchants who would be reimbursed at black market rates either in dollars or Swiss francs either to be blocked or held in trust for them until after the war. The entire operation was to be directed from Switzerland by an agent of the World Jewish Congress who would work through underground channels with prominent members of the Jewish Congress in Rumania. Later information received indicated that the program would also be applicable to the evacuation of Jews from France.

On July 16 your Department was advised that the Treasury was prepared to ~~approve~~ the necessary transactions on the following conditions: A blocked account would be established in the United States by the American Jewish Congress for reimbursement of those persons who advanced funds in connection with the evacuation of the Jewish refugees from Rumania and France. No funds would be paid from such account until the end of the war but portions of it would be earmarked from time to time in the name of the individuals who had actually advanced funds under the proposal. Under the plan no foreign exchange would be made available to the enemy.

On August 7, 1943 you advised me that the Treasury itself was entirely free to act on this matter and to grant the necessary licenses if it should so desire. Accordingly, a cable was despatched to Bern stating that the Treasury was prepared to issue an appropriate license and setting forth the conditions of such license.

Several inquiries were received from Bern relating to



- 2 -

the details of the proposed plan. Although these inquiries were promptly answered the exchange of cables consumed seven more weeks. Finally, on September 28 a cable was despatched to Bern in which the Treasury authorized the Minister to issue an appropriate license to the World Jewish Congress and its agents to undertake the transactions necessary for the evacuation program under specified safeguards designed to prevent any benefit to the enemy. In reply a cable dated October 6 was received from Minister Harrison at Bern requesting specific instructions from State before acting on the authority granted by the Treasury, and pointing out that, in accordance with standing instructions concerning trading with the enemy problems, the matter had been discussed with the British who opposed the issuance of the license. Two weeks later this cable was received by the Treasury (October 20) and a proposed reply was sent to State on October 23, instructing Bern to issue the license in question to the World Jewish Congress and its agents, and pointing out that the considerations mentioned by Bern, including those referred to by the British, were all carefully considered in Washington before the cable of September 28 had been sent. Assistant Secretary of State Long, after having discussed with Treasury the British interest in this cable, authorized the despatch of the cable on October 26 without clearance with the British.

Despite the instructions contained in this cable to issue a license to the World Jewish Congress, Minister Harrison again came back three weeks later (November 14) and advised that the British Commercial Secretary had stated that ~~NEW~~ objected to the proposed licensing and was taking the matter up with Washington. Minister Harrison again requested specific instructions on this matter.

I find the three and one-half months delay which has ensued since Treasury first indicated its approval, and you concurred, ~~most discouraging~~. I fully appreciate that some delays are inherent in handling these problems by cable. However, it is most difficult to understand the delays that

- 3 -

have occurred in this case over the relatively simple matter of getting our Minister in Switzerland to issue a license at my direction and with your concurrence.

The details of the requisite financial transactions are being explained to the British Embassy here by the Treasury Department. However, in order to avoid further delay I would appreciate it if you would send a cable for me to Ambassador Winant in London along the lines of the proposed cable which is attached.

I should also appreciate it if you would furnish me for my files a copy of the cable sent to Winant pursuant to this request.

Sincerely,

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State.

Attach.

NOV 24 1943

My dear Cordell,

In late June the State Department received cables from Bern, Switzerland, relating to a proposal of the World Jewish Congress to evacuate thousands of Jews from Rumania. The necessary funds would be paid to Rumanian officials in local currency by well-to-do Rumanian merchants who would be reimbursed at black market rates either in dollars or Swiss francs either to be blocked or held in trust for them until after the war. The entire operation was to be directed from Switzerland by an agent of the World Jewish Congress who would work through underground channels with prominent members of the Jewish Congress in Rumania. Later information received indicated that the program would also be applicable to the evacuation of Jews from France.

On July 16 your Department was advised that the Treasury was prepared to license subject to your approval the necessary transactions on the following conditions: A blocked account would be established in the United States by the American Jewish Congress for reimbursement of those persons who advanced funds in connection with the evacuation of the Jewish refugees from Rumania and France. No funds would be paid from such account until the end of the war but portions of it would be earmarked from time to time in the name of the individuals who had actually advanced funds under the proposal. Under the plan no foreign exchange would be made available to the enemy.

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- 2 -

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- 3 -

I find the three and one-half months delay which has ensued since Treasury first indicated its approval, and you concurred, most difficult to understand. I fully appreciate that some delays are inherent in handling these problems by cable. However, it is hard to understand the delays that have occurred in this case over the relatively simple matter of getting our Minister in Switzerland to issue a license at my direction and with your concurrence. Since programs of this character can be just as effectively vitiated by delay as they can by denial of the necessary licenses, your assistance is badly needed in order to expedite this matter.

Sincerely,

[Signed] Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

The Honorable,

The Secretary of State.

JED:AFL:JWP:nrd - 11/24/43.

OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

137

Secretary Hull:

It is suggested that a cable to Ambassador Winant along the lines of the attached draft would be helpful. We are also explaining the details of the requisite financial transactions to the British Embassy here.

initialed H.M.Jr.
H.M., Jr.

Attach.

JED:JWP:nrd - 11/24/43.

DRAFT

138

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR WINANT FROM SECRETARY MORGENTHAU

It is urgent that you take prompt action on the following matter which has already been subject to substantial delays. Many months ago Riegner, the representative in Switzerland of the World Jewish Congress, approached this Government with a proposed plan for the evacuation of Jews from Rumania and France. The United States Treasury Department was consulted with regard to the licensing of the financial transactions involved. After carefully considering the matter, our Minister in Berne was authorized and requested to issue a license to the World Jewish Congress covering the requisite financial transactions. The proposed arrangements and the license authorized by the Treasury required that the requisite local currency be acquired either in occupied or enemy areas against blocked accounts established in the United States or Switzerland to be held until the end of the war, or in the alternative local currency might be purchased from persons in Switzerland provided the American Legation in Berne, or some other responsible agency, checked the sellers to insure that the local currency had not been acquired from objectionable sources. In general, the proposed arrangements and the Treasury license would insure that the transactions would not give benefit to the enemy. Harrison, in his cable No. 7141, November 14, which was repeated to you, refers to the objections of M.E.W. to the proposed arrangements. The British Embassy here has approached the Treasury on the matter and the Treasury is explaining the transactions and safeguards to the British Embassy. To avoid further delay please take appropriate action to obtain from M.E.W. the withdrawal of its objections to the issuance of the license and the transmittal of appropriate advice to its representative in Bern.

initialled S.H.M.H.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE SECRETARY

December 1, 1943

Dear Mrs. Klotz:

In accordance with our telephone conversation yesterday I take pleasure in enclosing a copy of the telegram which we dispatched for Secretary Morgenthau to Ambassador Winant.

John F. Stone

Nov. 27, 1943U.S. URGENT

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.

7506

FOR AMBASSADOR WINANT

The following message is sent at request of Secretary Morgenthau.

It is urgent that you take prompt action on the following matter which has already been subject to substantial delays. Many months ago Riegner, the representative in Switzerland of the World Jewish Congress, approached this Government with a proposed plan for the evacuation of Jews from Rumania and France. The United States Treasury Department was consulted with regard to the licensing of the financial transactions involved. After carefully considering the matter, our Minister in Berne was authorized and requested to issue a license to the World Jewish Congress covering the requisite financial transactions. The proposed arrangements and the license authorized by the Treasury required that the requisite local currency be acquired either in occupied or enemy areas against blocked accounts established in the United States or Switzerland to be held until the end of the war, or in the alternative local currency might be purchased from persons in Switzerland provided the American Legation in Berne, or some other responsible agency, checked the sellers to insure that the local currency had not been acquired from objectionable sources. In general, the proposed arrangements and the Treasury license would insure that the transactions would not give benefit to the enemy. Harrison, in his cable No. 7141, November 14, which was repeated to you, refers to the objections of M.E.W. to the proposed arrangements. The British Embassy here has approached the Treasury on the matter and the Treasury is explaining the transactions and safeguards to the British Embassy. To avoid further delay please take appropriate action to obtain from M.E.W. the withdrawal of its objections to the issuance of the license and the transmittal of appropriate advice to its representative in Bern.

HULL

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

NOV 29 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Randolph Paul

For your information.

There has recently come to our attention a rather interesting scheme for the raising of money which appears to have been devised by a Rabbi Avram Salse of Jassy, Roumania, who identifies himself as connected with the Jewish Theological Foundation, or Chodesh, of Jassy. Printed documents purporting to be drafts, on various Jewish community centers or prominent Jewish businessmen in the western hemisphere, requesting payment of substantial sums to Pictet and Co., of Geneva, Switzerland, have been signed by the Rabbi and endorsed and forwarded by Pictet and Co. for collection, with the request that the proceeds be called to a Mr. Iacov Sabbai of Telaviv, Palestine. Censorship has called our attention to 38 of these so-called drafts, aggregating \$67,200.00, destined to various communities in South America (photostatic copies of the Censorship submission and two of the drafts are attached). At our request, Censorship has condemned these items.

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has also called our attention to the fact that similar "drafts" have been received by some eighteen Jewish communities and individuals in Canada, all for fairly substantial amounts. The J.D.C. is advising inquirers that the "drafts" should not be honored. Upon investigation, they find that Rabbi Salse is connected with a small Hebrew School of about 240 students which, prior to 1940, received a small subvention from the J.D.C. and operated on a yearly budget of from \$5,000 to \$8,000. Dr. Jonah T. Wise, who is referred to at the foot of the draft, has never heard of Rabbi Salse or of his school. The J.D.C. also advised us that Mr. Iacov Sabbai of Palestine to whom payment is requested to be made, is unknown to the Jewish organizations here.



FROM:

Plotet & Cie.
Geneva
Switzerland

(4 covers)

LIST: G 7290, 6227

TO:

Bank of London & South America Ltd.
399 Calle Bartolome Mitre
Buenos Aires, Argentina

(4 covers)

LIST: None

Date of communication September 23, 1943	Date of postmark September 22, 23, and 24, 1943	Kind of mail Air	Mail No. 404 W	Register No. 896-902 907-914	Serial No. 3098
Language French English	Previously censored by None	Station distribution FIN-CPC CPC BER TRI	Oct. 23, 1943 FILE	DISPOSAL OF ORIGINAL COMMUNICA- TION H.C.P.C. R C RS Sent with comment to—	
Persons relevant records None Relevant	For interoffice use	To be photographed Yes	Photo No. 2209	To whom photograph is to be sent 2 - CPC 1 - FILE	

Examiner (for section)	Table Fin. 3	Examiner 3840	D. A. C. 3824	Reviewer D.B.H.	Examination date Oct. 22, 1943	Typing date Oct. 25, 1943
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COMMENT

UNITED STATES DOLLAR BILLS OF EXCHANGE SENT FROM RUMANIA TO ARGENTINA
THROUGH BANKING HOUSE IN SWITZERLAND WITH INSTRUCTIONS TO
COLLECT AND REMIT PROCEEDS TO PALESTINE

Reg. No. 896.

This cover contains:

A. Letter dated September 22, 1943 in which Senders advise that under 3 separate covers they are sending to Addressees 39 Bills of Exchange aggregating U.S.\$87,200.00. Senders state that they received these Bills of Exchange for collection from the Rabbi Avram Sabsa-Iassy, Rumania, Director of Children War Stricken Support, Sheltering Home & Talmud Torah School, an organization unknown to them (Senders.) Addressees are requested to carry out the necessary formalities with the authorities and to transfer the net amount by cable as soon as possible to Mr. Iacov Sabtai, Messilat Haolim No. 6, Tel Aviv, Palestine.

B. List of Bills of Exchange (2 pages) indicating number, amounts, drawees and their addresses (EX: See photostat).

Reg. Nos. 897, 902, 914.

These 3 covers contain 39 similar Bills of Exchange (EX: See two photostats.)

Enclosures: Numerous

Reg. No. 896

1 List of Bills of Exchange (2 pages)

Reg. Nos. 897, 902, 914

39 Bills of Exchange

SPECIAL NOTICE—The attached information was taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. Information must be confined only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Censorship.

BYRON FRID

CONFIDENTIAL

	<u>montants</u>	<u>places</u>	<u>tirés</u>
3002	\$ 1.000.--	Bahia Blanca	The Jewish Community Center of the City
3003	\$ 1.000.--	Rio Gallegos	dito
3004	\$ 1.000.--	Rosaria	dito
3005	\$ 1.000.--	Cordoba	dito
3006	\$ 1.000.--	Catamarca	dito
3007	\$ 1.000.--	Salta	dito
3008	\$ 1.000.--	Mosseville	dito
3009	\$ 1.200.--	Bassawilbassa	dito
3010	\$ 3.000.--	Mosseville	dito
3011	\$ 3.000.--	Buenos Aires	Mr. Israel Holtzman
3012	\$ 5.000.--	La Plata	The Jewish Community Center of the City
3013	\$ 10.000.--	Buenos Aires	dito
3014	\$ 10.000.--	Buenos Aires	dito
3015	\$ 10.000.--	La Plata	dito
3016	\$ 1.000.--	Antofagasta (Chile)	dito
3017	\$ 1.000.--	Valparaiso	dito
3018	\$ 1.000.--	Santiago	dito
3019	\$ 1.000.--	Puerto Mont	dito
3020	\$ 1.000.--	Conception	dito
3021	\$ 1.000.--	Montevideo (Uruguay)	dito
3022	\$ 3.000.--	Montevideo	dito
3023	\$ 1.000.--	Assuncion (Paraguay)	dito
3024	\$ 1.000.--	La Paz (Bolivia)	dito
3025	\$ 5.000.--	La Paz	dito
3026	\$ 1.000.--	Quito (Ecuador)	dito
3027	\$ 1.000.--	Caracas (Venezuela)	dito
3028	\$ 1.000.--	Callao (Peru)	dito
3029	\$ 1.000.--	Lima	dito
	\$ 69.200.--	Total	

CONFIDENTIAL

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WENCH PRICE, Director

Regraded Unclassified

- 2 -

<u>Montants</u>	<u>Places</u>	<u>tirés</u>
\$ 69.200.--		
1.000.--	Bogota (Colombie)	The Jewish Community Center of the City
1.000.--	Rio de Janeiro (Brazil)	ditto
1.000.--	Pera	ditto
1.000.--	Kansas	ditto
1.000.--	Santos	ditto
1.000.--	Porto Alegre	ditto
1.000.--	Diamantina	ditto
1.000.--	Corumba	ditto
2.000.--	Sao Paulo	ditto
3.000.--	Sao Paulo	ditto
5.000.--	Rio de Janeiro	ditto
\$ 87.200.--	total	

21 Septembre 1943.

CONFIDENTIAL

This contains information taken from private communications, and the extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confined only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely distributed, or copies made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public or official expression of the Director of Security.

Regraded Unclassified

AZILUL CONFESIONAL MOSAIC
The Jewish Theological Foundation« OR CHODOSH» of Jassy Roumania
CHILDREN WAR STRICKEN SUPPORT, SHELTERING HOME & TALMUD TORAH SCHOOL
RABBI AVRAM SABSA
STR. BRĂNDUȘA No. 17
IASI - ROMANIA

No. *5418*

Jassy *25 August 1946*

Ref: ACCEPT

**UNACCOUNTABLE
PAY ORDER**

Onor *The Jewish Community Center*
of The City Intorfagaster
Chills

Due To The Deplorable Condition of The Jewish People

Of our Support Account

Pay To The order of *The Bank Pictet & Co Geneva 1900*
The Summ of *one thousand dollars*

THANK YOU FOR THE
RABBI AVRAM SABSA
Jassy-Roumania

Rabbi Avram Sabsa

The „OR CHODOSH“ Found, Rabbi Avram Sabas is Inregistered by The „Unnitted Ortodox Rabbinate of U. S. A. & Canada“.
673 Broadway, N. Y. Devotional Central Relief Committee c/o President Rabbi Jonah B. Wise 38 Park Row New-York and The Fund
Collection is Authorised From The Wellfare Govt Dept, of New-York with CHARTER Specially in The Year of 1939.

Incasso Order L. R. 500 F. e. 1939.

CONFIDENTIAL

SPECIAL NOTICE --- This contains information taken from private communications, and its extremely confidential character must be preserved. The information must be confined only to those officials whose knowledge of it is necessary to prosecution of the war. In no case should it be widely disseminated, or copied made, or the information used in legal proceedings or in any other public way without express consent of the Director of Communications.

WERNER PRIDE, Director.

Regraded Unclassified

Pay to the order the
BANK OF LONDON & SOUTH
AMERICA LIMITED

Geneva, 21 st. Sept mb r 1943

Pian c.

WHITE TOP
YOUR NAME HERE

AZILUL CONFESIONAL MOSAIC
Jewish Theological Foundation OR CHODOSH of Iasi Romania
Children War Stricken Sheltering Home, Free Kitchen & Talmud Thora School

Director
Rabbi Avram Sabba

No. 2
Ref. Report

Iassy 12 August 1946

CONTROLAT

HONOR. The Jewish Jewish Community
of the city
Iasi

of our support account

Pay to
The order of Richter Bank

The sum of 1000 \$ U.S. Dollars

THEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION OR CHODOSH
RABBI AVRAM SABBA
Iassy-Romania

Rabbi Avram Sabba

ORHODOS Iassy

Pay to the order the
BANK OF LONDON & SOUTH
AMERICA LIMITED
Geneva, 21 st. September 1943

Pine

FROM: Letter to Mr. Philip R. Ryan
from Gertrude Clarke, APO 584, N.Y.

DATE: November 30, 1943

SUBJECT: Camp Ferramonti, Italy

"The camp is now under the supervision of the Displaced Persons Commission. It was established in June, 1940; has about one hundred buildings, all of one story, wooden construction, painted white and in good repair. There are about 1,000 persons in the camp, a great proportion of them Jewish and these are in the camp because of their race. The construction and direction of the camp originally were in the hands of one firm (Ferrini). This firm was paid by the Italian Government on a per capita basis. Persons living in the camp were supposed to be provided with free rent, light, fuel, and medical care by the Italian Government. The Government failed to provide clothing, shoes and other necessities, as well as the allowed amount of food and soap. Under an agreement with Allied Military Government Section, the backlog of inadequate supplies has been written off and the most urgent needs of the people in camp are now being provided. Cash payments to each member of the camp were provided on the following daily basis by the Italian Government:

Lire 9 for each adult,
Lire 4 for each woman with a family
Lire 3 for each child with parents in the camp.

This cash grant was to enable the people in the camp to purchase additional food supplies from the stores in the camp and from the black market people who came to the side of the barriers. At one time, cash payments amounted to Lire 200,000 monthly.

In the Infirmary, there are 12 beds. Malaria is the greatest illness. There is one Italian army doctor, and he is assisted by members of the camp who were doctors before being interned. The death rate has been extremely low - eight to twelve per year out of the population of 2,000. Free dental services were provided for those who could not pay. The sanitation in the camps was not bad; the water supply was fair. Sewage was put in cesspools and the garbage was buried. Screens were provided for windows and doors, but the people never closed the doors, so flies and mosquitos did get into the houses.

The restrictions were not too severe and the Italians were lax in enforcing their own regulations.

The people in the camp organized compulsory education for the children. Welfare organizations helped those in need in the camp. There was no distinction because of race or grade or nationality permitted, although most of the funds came from Jewish sources. There was also some music and camp concerts were given. There was no camp radio, but the people listened to the Italian radio outside the window of the camp commanders and followed the progress of the Allies with great interest. There was some friction between the various national groups but no violence; and there was no charge of brutal treatment after the people has once been assigned

-2-

The war in China beginning in 1937 precipitated the largest internal migration in recent history. It is estimated that approximately 30,000,000 Chinese fled before the Japanese armies in two substantial movements from the coast areas to the agricultural hinterland; one from central China and the southeast to the southwest and the other from the northeast to the northwest. Skilled laborers, industrialists, small merchants, government employees, students, and intellectuals participated in government efforts to move industry and cultural activities westward. Unskilled laborers and peasants more closely tied to the land moved shorter distances along railways and highways from areas of military action and were more prone to return after the Japanese occupation or the recapture of the areas by the Chinese forces.

Whether this westward movement will prove permanent or temporary has not yet become clear. Before the Japanese invasion the reduction in the export trade from the coastal cities in the depression years of the early thirties caused a movement from urban to rural areas similar to that which took place in other countries, notably in the United States. Official policy in China has encouraged decentralization and may prove more effective after the war in redistributing the 75% of the Chinese population concentrated on the east coast on 15% of the total land area of the country.

When the Nazi Party assumed control of the German Government in 1933 thousands of new refugees were dispersed over central and western Europe in the beginning of a movement which gained momentum during the first years of World War II and finally developed into an unprecedented pattern of dislocated groups and populations in 1941 and 1942. Those in Germany who opposed the Nazi political philosophy, non-Aryans according to the Nuremberg laws, scientists, intellectuals, authors, artists, the members of other liberal professions, and labor leaders, were first removed from government posts and later from private positions in the universities, publishing houses, and business; were arrested and confined in concentration camps; deprived of their property and citizenship, and finally driven from Germany to find new places of livelihood as best they could in other countries.

Neighboring countries, Austria, Hungary, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands and France accepted the refugees, often in flight over their borders at night, in the expectation of extending hospitality to them for a temporary period until they could emigrate to places of permanent residence overseas. Approximately half of the Jewish refugees who left Germany in the early days of the persecution migrated to Palestine.

In October 1933 the League of Nations appointed James G. McDonald as High Commissioner for Refugees (Jewish and Other) Coming from Germany, but separated the office from the League to avoid the

-3-

appearance of criticism of internal measures taken within Germany, then a member of the Council of the League of Nations. This separation militated against effective treatment of the problem which grew in proportion as Germany intensified her persecutions of the Jews, expanded her philosophy of the racial state, and drove increasing numbers from her borders. To emphasize the need of League action in stopping the flow of refugees at its source and of organizing assistance to refugees under the authority of the League itself, Mr. McDonald resigned in December 1935, reporting at the time that approximately 80,000 refugees had left Germany of whom 15,000 remained unsettled.

The Council of the League of Nations thereupon in January 1936 established the office under its authority and Sir Neill Malcolm was appointed High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany. League action on behalf of refugees was restricted to those who had already left their country of origin and to negotiations with the Governments with respect to their legal status and to employment and settlement. Responsibility for the relief of refugees was again left to the private agencies.

Through the Convention of February 1938 identity certificates were made available to refugees from Germany similar to those provided for the Nansen refugees by the Convention of 1933. In May 1938 refugees from Austria were included within the competence of the High Commissioner and within the provisions of the Convention of 1938.

The German Anschluss with Austria in March 1938 added new thousands to the stream of central European refugees who were already taxing the capacities of the countries of temporary refuge of western Europe. In an effort to substitute planned migration for the chaotic dispersion of refugees which was proving disturbing to the peace and comfort of other countries President Franklin D. Roosevelt summoned thirty-two Governments to the Evian Conference of July 1938.

Reports received at Evian indicated that some 125,000 refugees had already left Germany and Austria and that 700,000 additional persons were under the necessity of departing because of their racial origins or their religious and political beliefs. Neighboring countries reported that they could not absorb more refugees unless they were relieved of those already accepted. Offers to receive refugees for permanent settlement were not forthcoming at Evian. Countries of immigration with large numbers of unemployed in their large cities were fearful that the refugees from central Europe would add to their urban populations and bring with them the political conflicts of which they were the victims. The Dominican Republic, in contrast to the action of other Governments, offered to accept 100,000 for settlement in agriculture.

-4-

The Governments at Evian adjourned to a second meeting in London in August 1938 and there organized the Intergovernmental Committee with Lord Winterton, the representative of the British Government as Chairman. The first action of the Intergovernmental Committee was to explore with Germany the possibilities of orderly emigration of the refugees with sufficient capital in their possession to contribute to the costs of resettlement. The negotiations came to naught as the German proposals proved unacceptable to the government members of the Intergovernmental Committee and to the refugees themselves.

Thereafter commissions of experts were sent to explore the feasibility of the settlement of refugees in northern and southern Rhodesia, British Guiana, the Dominican Republic, and Mindanao in the Philippines. Costs of settlement in Africa proved high but the settlement of experimental groups of 500 families was recommended in the other areas. The outbreak of the war in September 1939 resulted in the cancellation of plans to settle refugees in British Guiana and the Philippines but the Dominican project proceeded under the auspices of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, a private corporation organized in New York, which entered into a contract with the Dominican Government. Over 500 refugees were received in the Sosua settlement in the Dominican Republic before difficulties of transportation prevented the transfer of additional numbers.

In November 1938 widespread riots against the Jews broke out in many cities and towns in Germany and Austria. Synagogues were despoiled and burned, shop windows were broken, private homes were looted and Jews were rounded up in the streets, loaded into trucks and driven off to concentration camps. The pattern of the disorders was identical in timing and other features in so many different cities and towns in Germany and Austria as to give rise to strong suspicion that they were organized with the full knowledge of the government authorities. They followed the imposition of very heavy fines on the Jewish communities of Germany as punishment for the shooting in Paris of a German consular official by a Polish refugee whose relatives had suffered from persecutions in Germany.

During 1939 the countries of temporary refuge in western Europe were obliged to seal their borders against the further influx of refugees. Palestine, the United States, and South America had absorbed approximately 270,000 refugees in about equal proportions. About 20,000 reached Shanghai and Havana, Cuba served as an open port of distribution in the Western Hemisphere.

During that year the forced process of dispersion was overseas. Boats were loaded at German ports for undesignated points in South America. Refugees were charged for roundtrip passages. The Captain

-5-

proceeded from port to port until he had disposed of his cargo of human misery. This practice came to an end in May 1939 when the S.S. ST. LOUIS with over 900 passengers aboard was refused permission to disembark its passengers at Havana and returned to Europe to distribute them in England, the Netherlands, Belgium, France and North Africa. Other boatloads of refugees left Mediterranean ports to wander aimlessly for weeks in the eastern Mediterranean seeking a haven of hospitality. There was substantial illegal immigration into Palestine. Dispersoin in the Near East ended in February 1942 with the tragedy of the sinking of the S. S. STRUMA, which was refused permission to land at Istanbul, in which over 700 refugees lost their lives by drowning.

The transfer of Sudetenland to Germany following the Munich settlement of September 1938 and the occupation of the rest of Czechoslovakia in March 1939 added 180,000 residents of Czechoslovakia subject to the Nuremberg laws to the 5,000 refugees who had escaped from Germany and Austria to the cities of Bohemia and Moravia. These latter exemplified the usual pattern of refugee experience in that they were forced to flee again almost immediately after their initial escape from Germany. Many in fact had reached Brno and Prague by way of Vienna, and, uprooted a second time fled westward to Switzerland, Belgium, and the Netherlands, and France; some to escape from Europe eventually through Lisbon, others to be trapped in western Europe again and deported back eastward.

In the brief period of months between the transfer of the Sudetenland to Germany and the occupation of Czechoslovakia the British and French Governments attempted to assist the Czechoslovak Government to organize the emigration of refugees. The British Government made an original loan of 10,000,000 Pounds for the purpose and later the British and French Governments made 16,000,000 Pounds available, half as a loan and half as a gift. Out of the 8,000,000 Pounds loaned, 6,000,000 Pounds were earmarked for repayment of the original loan of 10,000,000 Pounds and the balance of 4,000,000 Pounds of this loan was made available as a gift. This latter fund remained in London available for the expenses of the emigration of refugees after the occupation of Czechoslovakia. About 2,500 Jewish refugees were assisted to emigrate to Palestine, some 7,000 political refugees reached England and other unknown numbers managed to escape to Poland, the Scandinavian countries, Western Europe, the United States, and South America.

In accordance with decisions taken in earlier years by the League of Nations, the Nansen International Office for Refugees (Russians, Armenians, Assyrians, Assyrian-Chaldeans, Turks, and Saarlanders) and the High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany (Germans and Austrians) concluded their activities in December 1938. Logically, there was no reason for distinguishing

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between the different groups of refugees. It was also obvious that the League could not cease its activities on behalf of refugees at a time when their number was increasing rapidly. Consequently the Assembly of the League in 1938 constituted a new High Commissioner of the League of Nations to deal with refugees hitherto coming under the Nansen International Office for Refugees and the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees Coming from Germany. Sir Herbert Emerson was appointed High Commissioner and established his office in London.

His duties were rigidly set forth in the resolutions establishing his office, to provide for the political and legal protection of refugees, to superintend the entry into force and the application of the legal status of refugees as defined in the Conventions of October 28, 1933 and February 10, 1938, to facilitate coordination of humanitarian assistance, and to assist Government and private organizations in their efforts to promote emigration and permanent settlement. In February 1939, Sir Herbert Emerson was elected Director of the Intergovernmental Committee and thus was able to combine the work of both organizations in one office.

The Assyrians in Iraq and Syria technically under the control of the Nansen Office, some 30,000 in number, provided a specific example in their experience of the many political, racial, and economic difficulties inherent in the effort to settle refugees. Originally participants in World War I on the side of the Allies in the Near East, they had taken refuge after the war in Iraq. When the United Kingdom in 1933 relinquished its mandate over that country they became refugees a second time and their efforts to emigrate into Syria resulted in clashes at the Iraqi-Syrian border. The League organized contributions toward the expenses of settlement from the interested Governments. These funds were administered by an autonomous body set up by the League, known as the Trustee Board. After efforts on the part of the Nansen Office to find areas of settlement in Brazil and British Guiana had failed plans were made in 1936 to settle the Assyrians on the plain of the Ghab in Syria. In 1937 this plan had to be abandoned as the French Government notified the League of its intention to relinquish its mandate over Syria. In the end the Trustee Board spent the available funds in establishing 9,000 Assyrians who had entered Syria in the Valley of Khabur where they had encamped in 1933, an area considered at the time unsatisfactory because of its proximity to the Turkish border. 20,000 Assyrians were assisted in establishing homes in northern Iraq as a minority group because other plans for emigration and settlement had failed to materialize. Those who migrated to Syria eventually acquired Syrian citizenship and thus lost their refugee status. The Trustee Board ceased its activities in January 1942, twenty-four years after the Assyrians entered the refugee state, immediately after World War I. The original homeland of the Assyrians in Kurdistan and Persian Azerbaijan had been lost to them in the peace settlement and they belonged to no country which could give them protection.

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On the collapse of the Loyalist Army in Spain in February 1939 some 340,000 refugees burst over the border into France. The exodus was disorderly. Soldiers, civilians, old men, women and children trekked along the roads undernourished, without equipment, many ill and dying on the way. While at first there was indecision in France with respect to admitting the refugees the final decision was to intern them in refugee camps at Arjeles-sur-Mer and Cyprien. Although families were separated, men sent to some camps and women to others, there were comparatively few casualties. Generally the women and children were moved inland from the coast. Conditions in the refugee camps were frightful in the early months because of the lack of equipment, heat and sanitary provisions. Food was scarce and inadequate. Gradually these conditions improved.

As many of the refugees were fleeing primarily from military action repatriation to Spain started immediately and proceeded in the early days of the movement at the rate of 400 daily. In March 1939, the refugee group was reported to consist of approximately 220,000 soldiers, 40,000 male civilians, 10,000 wounded men in hospitals, 170,000 women and children. Repatriation was organized for all who were willing to return to Spain. However, some 40,000 were political refugees who could not return to Spain with safety and eventually were placed in labor camps and absorbed in French industry during the war. Many joined the French Foreign Legion. Others migrated to Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Latin and South American countries, and substantial numbers proceeded to North Africa. An unknown number of the total group was absorbed in French communities.

The German invasion of Poland in September 1939 precipitated an eastward movement of refugees far larger in volume and more rapid and violent in action than the westward movement which had been in process since 1933. Poland's population of 3,000,000 Jews constituted the majority of those affected by the advance of the German armies eastward, but as the war was fought more bitterly distinctions between the treatment of Jews and Poles at the hands of the Germans became less marked. Less than 100,000 refugees from Poland escaped into the Baltic countries and southward into Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria. Over 1,175,000 Jews became subject to German control in the area of former Poland that was incorporated into the German Reich and in Government General Poland.

Unknown numbers of Polish and Jewish refugees who resided in or fled into the area of former Poland which was occupied by the forces of Soviet Russia were moved eastward to Siberia and southeastern Asiatic Russia.

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The conquest of Poland also created numerous cross currents of population movements. The policy of the German Reich was to repatriate German minorities in eastern and southeastern Europe to the Altreich. A treaty concluded with Italy in the fall of 1939 providing for the return of some 270,000 Germans from the South Tyrol was the first effort to implement this policy. Later similar treaties were signed with Latvia and Estonia for the return of approximately 75,000 Baltic Germans. Some 300,000 Germans were also repatriated from Bukovina, Bessarabia and Roumania.

As the members of these German minorities in other countries returned to Germany they crossed the paths of the 300,000 to 400,000 Jewish refugees from Germany, Austria and Czechoslovakia who were constantly being deported eastward to the ghettos established in Warsaw, Lublin, and Lodz. These constituted the remainder of the refugees who had been unable to escape from central Europe before the outbreak of the war. The last to escape had gone by boat to Shanghai or through Poland and across Siberia to Harbin and Vladivostok and thence on to the Philippines or to the Western Hemisphere through Kobe and Yokohama.

As western Poland was incorporated into the Reich both Poles and Jews were driven eastward into Government General Poland. It was estimated by Polish sources that over 1,200,000 Poles had been moved into Government General Poland by Germany by the end of 1939. Germans in Government General Poland were returned to Germany. Germans were also moved from southern and eastern Poland occupied by Soviet Russia to Germany. From this area Poles and Jews were evacuated far eastward into Russia to be replaced by a Russian infiltration westward. No accurate figures concerning any of these movements will become available until after the war when the effort to repatriate uprooted population groups will disclose their magnitude. There is little evidence that any of the planned movements were completely effected. The task of accomplishing social homogeneity in given areas has proven difficult even to totalitarian authority. Germany pressed by constantly increasing demands for labor to meet the production requirements of an expanding war could ill afford to send sufficient Germans to the former western Poland to colonize the area and to develop German racial predominance over Poles on her new eastern border. Needless to say however the movements in eastern Europe were substantial and on a scale much larger than their counterparts in World War I. German reports in 1941 indicated that approximately 500,000 Germans had been repatriated from eastern and southeastern Europe.

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As Soviet control was extended to Latvia, Esthonia and Lithuania the refugees from central Europe who had escaped into the Baltic area were moved eastward into Russia. Those who were fortunate enough to have secured visas for Palestine or for countries in the Western Hemisphere were permitted to proceed to their destinations. Soviet infiltration into the Baltic countries coincided with the return of Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians to their countries of origin.

Finnish from the Karelian Isthmus ceded to Russia by the peace treaty between Russia and Finland were resettled in the diminished area of that hard pressed country. Over 400,000 people had to be placed on the land or in industry at a time when the resources of the Finnish Government were exhausted by the war. Some assistance was provided by private funds raised in the United States.

Norway faced a similar problem of internal resettlement after the German invasion. Approximately 400,000 people were moved from the coast defense areas into the interior of the country including many who had resisted the invasion in the short lived defense of their country.

The advance of the German armies into the Low Countries of western Europe in the spring of 1940 uprooted civilian populations on a scale comparable to that precipitated but a few months earlier by the invasion of Poland. This movement of about 3,000,000 Dutch, Belgian and French people in flight to southern France in advance of the German armies was described dramatically in the press which reported simultaneously the collapse of the allied armies in western Europe. Old men, women and children desperately clinging to their family possessions clogged the highways impeding the movements of the armies attempting to defend them. Included with the resident civilians were some 140,000 refugees from central Europe who had found temporary respite in Holland, Belgium and France while they sought places of final immigration overseas.

The great majority who had fled to safety from military actions returned to their homes after the signing of the armistice between France and Germany illustrating the generally temporary character of such war refugee movements. Political and racial refugees and those who had resisted the German advance as government officials or as members of the armed forces, however, attempted to escape with the British Army from Dunkerque or proceeded through southern France to Spain and Portugal whose Atlantic ports became the only exits from war torn Europe.

England after the flight of her defeated army from Dunkerque found herself harboring some 70,000 central European refugees in addition to the members of the military forces of her allies who had escaped with her own forces. The threat of an impending German invasion from the continent and the fear of "fifth columnists" among the refugees induced by the recent experiences of Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium and France understandably resulted in the internment of all of the refugees. A previous attempt to classify them according to the degree of danger which each presented individually had failed to establish confidence in the results of the procedure.

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During the period when all were interned some were transferred with German prisoners of war to Canada and Australia. Later when the defenses against invasion were strengthened the great majority of the refugees were released after a second more careful classification had determined that they could be counted on to participate loyally in the war effort against the common foe. Many were returned from Canada and Australia for release in England.

As a result of the air bombing of England extensive plans were developed for the evacuation of children from the cities to rural districts. In Canada, the United States and Australia arrangements were made to evacuate British children overseas. Approximately 3,000 children were removed to Canada, about 3,500 to the United States and smaller numbers to Australia. These plans had to be abandoned because of the lack of warships to protect the transports at sea.

In the late summer and fall of 1940 Germany in her efforts to bind allies in the Balkan countries more closely to the Axis cause did not hesitate to utilize minority groups as pawns in her strategy. In Vienna in August 1940, Hungary was awarded part of the coveted area of Transylvania and approximately two and a half million people. The fact that many Roumenians were included in the transfer demonstrated again the difficulties involved in legislating boundaries to achieve racial homogeneity in the confused pattern of racial strains in southeastern Europe.

South Dobrudja was allotted to Bulgaria which agreed to repatriate 65,000 Bulgarians from the North Dobrudja. The transfer to Roumania of Roumenians in South Dobrudja was also planned. Slovakia undertook to repatriate Slovaks from the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia.

In the west Luxembourg and Lorraine were incorporated as provinces into the German Reich. Again non-Aryan refugees, members of the Government of Luxembourg, and political refugees were forced to flee. Some 20,000 of the French population of Lorraine were expelled without warning into France and only vigorous protest by the Vichy Government prevented the expulsion of larger numbers from their homes. In November 1940, 10,000 Jewish refugees were driven from Baden and the Palatinate into southern France to crowd the camps already overpopulated with other central European refugees who had been interned after the armistice in southern France.

As the war spread to the Balkans and Greece exit for refugees from Europe became increasingly difficult, Spain refused to permit men of military age to pass through her territory and Portugal, fearing that she might be forced to maintain increasing numbers of refugees permanently on her territory, refused admission to all who lacked visas to overseas countries. Shipping from Portuguese and Spanish ports was greatly reduced by the cancellation of the sailings of French and American boats. The route through Algiers and Casablanca became the only egress for those denied transit through Spain.

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In July 1941, the United States concentrated the examination of visa applications at the State Department in Washington and most countries in Latin and South America restricted entrants to those individually approved by high administrative authorities.

Germany in November and December 1941 also refused exit westward to the refugees still within the areas occupied by her armies. Deportations eastward to ghettos in Poland were renewed. Old people previously considered secure for the remainder of their lives were included among the deportees. Reports of mass executions in Poland by shootings, hangings and burnings in synagogues were increasingly persistent from the occupied areas. Individual cities were frequently reported in the German press as "Judenrein". It was estimated that at the close of 1941 approximately 200,000 Jews remained in Germany, 70,000 to 80,000 in Czechoslovakia, 1,250,000 in Hungary and Roumania, and 1,000,000 to 2,000,000 in former Poland.

The advance of the German armies into Russia drove before them the greatest migration of a decade in which the history of uprooted populations had exceeded in stark tragedy all previous records of modern history. No authentic figures have become available but conservative estimates place the numbers driven eastward as between ten and twenty million.

In addition to political, racial and religious refugees, those who fled before advancing armies to return later to their homes and population groups exchanged or moved about as pawns in the development of political and military strategy other dislocated groups consisted in prisoners of war and those enlisted voluntarily or forcibly for labor in German's war industries. Hopefully these migrations may prove also to be temporary in nature. Apart from one and a half million prisoners of war, principally French employed on farms and in industry, and excluding Poles not classified as war prisoners, the Reichsarbeitsblatt of July 15, 1941, reported the following totals of foreign workers employed in Germany as of April 1, 1941:

Poland	875,000
Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia	150,000
Italy	132,000
Netherlands	90,000
Belgium	87,000
Slovakia	69,000
Yugoslavia	48,000
Denmark	51,000
France	25,000
Hungary	21,000
Switzerland	17,000
Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	10,000
Bulgaria	9,000

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Roumania	4,000
Norway	1,400
Sweden	1,200
Spain	1,100
Greece	500
Finland	200
Portugal	100

Later German statements in January 1942 gave the number of foreign workers as 2,100,000 exclusive of prisoners of war. Since then the labor shortage in Germany has become increasingly acute as larger numbers of German industrial and farm workers have been drawn into the army to replace losses on the Russian front.

No statistics exist in any country of still another type of movement resulting from internal evacuation to avoid anticipated military action such as that from the Channel Coast in France or from the east coast of England. Somewhat of this character was the evacuation in early 1942 of 110,000 persons of Japanese origin from the Pacific Coast areas in the United States to internment camps in the interior states. Nor are there any satisfactory estimates of dislocations caused by the removal of industrial centers for military reasons or the inevitable shifting of war production from one area to another. Such movements may prove to be of a permanent character dependent upon the vicissitudes of the war and the economic adjustments consequent upon the peace settlements. They have been substantial in the United States and even greater in Europe because of the German effort under the New Order to integrate the industry and agriculture of Europe into a Germanized whole.

In July 1942 news of mass arrests of Jews in Paris shocked the civilized world. Men and women of all ages, children, and even patients in hospitals were arrested at night and sent to concentration camps. Trainloads of refugees left occupied France immediately for unknown destinations in eastern Europe. Women with children under two years of age were spared. Many suicides were reported and mothers turned their children over to people standing on the streets as they were taken from their houses.

Refugees who evaded arrest fled in fright over the Swiss border and across the demarkation line into unoccupied France. Arrests and deportations followed a few weeks later in southern France. All exit permits for departure from France were cancelled and none were available thereafter to Jews of other than French nationality. Following the deportations from southern France some 5,000 refugees managed to escape across the border into Spain where many were interned. Public protests arose in France, particularly from church authorities, but proved ineffective to stop the deportations.

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departure from Marseilles. Arrived at Curacao they were accepted solely on a temporary basis and thereafter required the services of private agencies for relief and assistance in organizing their departure to places of final immigration.

The occupation of southern France by Germany in November 1942 virtually closed the exits of Europe to the refugees. The small numbers who had managed to escape into Spain and Portugal still entertained prospects of departure to the Western Hemisphere. In December the Portuguese Government generously regularized the status of all refugees then within her borders whether they had arrived legally or not. They were confined in residence as transit travellers in the coastal village of Ericeira.

In contrast the occupation of North Africa by American and British forces in November 1942 raised new hopes for some 20,000 central European refugees and a like number of Spanish refugees confined in labor and concentration camps in Algiers and Morocco. There was every prospect that their release would soon be effected.

The further treatment of the refugee problems of Europe thus became a matter of post war reconstruction. The League of Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Intergovernmental Committee, and the International Labor Office were engaged at the close of 1942 in pursuing studies of the problem with a view to planning treatment as an essential part of the organization of the peace settlement. Such plans naturally awaited the determination of boundaries and of the possibilities of repatriation for dislocated population groups and of the recapture of nationality particularly by the German and Austrian refugees most of whom had been denationalized by decrees of the German Reich in November 1941 and earlier.

BIBLIOGRAPHY - Sir John Hope Simpson, The Refugee Problem: (London 1939) and Refugees. A Review of the Situation since September 1938 (London 1939), issued under the auspices of The Royal Institute of International Affairs; "Refugees" The Annals of The American Academy of Political and Social Science (May 1939); Louise W. Holborn, "The Legal Status of Political Refugees, 1920-1938" American Journal of International Law Vol. XXXII 1938, pp. 680-703; Russian, Armenian, Assyrian, Assyro-Chaldean and Turkish Refugees. Report by the Secretary-General on the Future Organisation of Refugee Work. (A. 28.1930.XIII) (Ref. G.A.C. 15.1930) (Ser. L.O.N.P. 1930.XIII.2) Convention Relating to the International Status of Refugees, Geneva, October 28, 1933 (C.650.M.311.1933) (Ser.L.O.N.P. Official Journal, page 109); Letter of Resignation of James G. McDonald High Commissioner for

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Refugees (Jewish and Other) Coming from Germany addressed to The Secretary General of the League of Nations, London, December 27, 1935, (C.13 M.12.1936 XII, Annex) (Ser.L.o.N.P. 1936. XII B.2)
Nansen International Office for Refugees Report on the Liquidation of the Office, Geneva, June 14, 1937 (A.11.1937.XII) (C.226.1937.XII.); Convention Concerning the Status of Refugees Coming From Germany, Geneva, February 10, 1938 (C.75.M.30. 1938.XII) (Ser.L.o.N.P.XII.B. International Bureaux 1938.XII.B.1.)

January 5, 1943.

cc: Miss Chauncey (toSec'y) Messrs. Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Mrs. Cohn, Messrs. DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Miss Hodel, Miss Laughlin, Messrs. Lesser, Luxford, Mann, McCormack, Paul, Pollak, Raines, Smith, Standish, Stewart, H.D.White

11/30/43

Mrs. Klotz telephoned Mr. Stone in Secretary Hull's office, and was informed that the cable to Ambassador Winant was sent on Saturday, November 27th.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

THE SECRETARY

Dec. 2.

Dear Mrs. Keagy,

In the event
you do not receive a
copy through normal
channels.

Sincerely,
John D. Stone

GM

PLAIN

London

Dated December 1, 1943

Rec'd 3:50 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

8385, First.

Please inform Secretary Morgenthau as an interim reply to Department's 7506, twenty-seventh that we made immediate approach to the British and that MEW promises a reply to us within the next few days.

VIMAUT

LMS

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

167 ✓

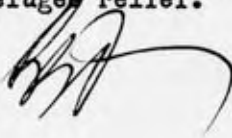
DATE

December 3, 1943

TO Secretary Morgenthau

FROM Randolph Paul

Attached is a copy of a interim cable
on the subject of Jewish Refugee relief.



London, December 1, 1943

Secretary of State

Washington

8385 first

Please inform Secretary Morgenthau as an interim reply to Department 7506, twenty-seventh, that we made immediate approach to the British and that M.E.W. promises a reply to us within the next few days.

(Signed) Winant

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE 12/31/43

TO Secretary Morgenthau
FROM Messrs. Paul and White

There is attached a cable received from Algiers concerning the program with respect to the fines and levies imposed on the Jewish Community in Tunisia, as well as a cable from our Embassy in London on this matter.

The cable from Algiers states that the prompt presentation of the program "seems inadvisable in view of local political considerations". It further states that no instructions have been received from the British on this matter.

It will thus be seen that the pattern of action in this case follows very closely the pattern of action adopted with respect to the proposal of the World Jewish Congress to evacuate Jews from Rumania and France.

You will note that the cable from Algiers is signed by Wiley, Consul General in Algiers, and does not indicate that our men participated in it. For further information concerning the attitude of Consul General Wiley on problems of this nature, you will recall Mr. Paul's memorandum to you of August 12, 1943 setting forth the attitude of Mr. Wiley on the question of releasing Jewish refugees from concentration camps in Africa. (As set forth in that memorandum Mr. Wiley stated his strong opposition to the immediate removal of the Jews from the camps.)

There is attached for your consideration a letter to Secretary Hull on this matter. There is also attached a cable from you to Hoffman requesting a full report from him.

We and the boys will be glad to discuss this matter with you at your convenience.

Attachments.

Wiley
2/2/44

C
O
P
Y

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Consulate General - Algiers
TO: Secretary of State - Washington
DATED: November 20, 1948
NUMBER: 2035

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference is made herewith to paragraphs five and six of the telegram dated November 2, 1943, no. 2048.

The presentation of the program contained in your reference cable to the French at once seems inadvisable in view of local political considerations. Meanwhile have your London any further word on position of the British. No instructions have been received by the British here and we have heard nothing from the Embassy at London.

The foregoing message has been repeated to London for the information of our Embassy there.

/s/ WILEY

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy - London
TO: Secretary of State - Washington
DATED: November 22, 1943
NUMBER: 8181

CONFIDENTIAL

A follow up note requesting information concerning discriminatory legislation in North Africa asked for in the Department's telegram of November 2, 1943, no. 6889 has been sent to the Foreign Office by the Embassy. Presumably this is the same question dealt with in Algiers telegram to the Department of November 20, 1943, no. 2035 which was repeated to London for the information of our Embassy there.

The foregoing message has been repeated to Algiers for the information of our Consulate General there.

/s/ WINANT

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE

TO Mr. Livesey

FROM Mr. White

Will you kindly send the following cable message from the Secretary of the Treasury to Hoffman, Algiers, through State Department channels:

From Secretary Morgenthau to Hoffman. In a telegram from Stettinius and Morgenthau to Murphy and you of November 2, No. 2048, we presented the position of this Government with respect to the fines and levies imposed on the Jewish Community in Tunisia and war damage in general. We requested that this position be presented to the appropriate French authorities unless Murphy or you perceived some objection. We further stated that it should be made clear to the French authorities at this time that it is clearly recognized by us that the decisions are for the French to make and that our views should be merely presented to them for their consideration.

In a cable from Wiley of November 20, No. 2035, it was indicated that the prompt presentation of this Government's position on this matter to the French authorities for their consideration and decision was deemed inadvisable in view of local political considerations.

Despite the strong interest which the Treasury has shown in this matter as evidenced in our cables, I have not received any information from you concerning developments since the dispatch of cable 2048. In your BOC 1718 of November 21 you refer to our 2048 but merely indicate that the French have been asked to set aside for the present final decision with respect to Jewish Community fines and levies, and request our views as to whether the French should be asked to alter their policy on the general question of war damages in view of our cable.

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Snider, who left Algiers on November 26, had no information on this matter.

You are hereby requested to furnish to me directly a full detailed report concerning all developments in this matter since the dispatch of our 2048. You should cover the following points:

(1) Did you discuss cable 2048 with Murphy or Wiley and make clear our concern regarding this matter.

(2) Explain fully if known to you the reasons that it was decided that local conditions would not even permit the presentation (repeat presentation) of this Government's view to the French authorities and whether you were in agreement with such decision and reasons. In this connection it was our understanding that the French authorities had requested and were awaiting our recommendation and advice on this question and we had stressed the urgency of the matter in our cable.

(3) Why no response to cable 2048 of November 2 was made before November 20.

A prompt reply is requested.



THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

My dear Cordell,

On November 2, a cable was sent from Mr. Stettinius and me to Mr. Murphy and the chief Treasury representative in North Africa, Mr. Hoffman, setting forth the position of this Government that the French Committee of National Liberation adopt a program which would have the effect of nullifying and completely undoing the economic hurt which the Nazis sought to inflict upon selected groups in Tunisia, particularly the Jews, through the imposition of fines, penalties and other levies. In this cable (a copy of which is attached) we requested that this position should be presented to the French authorities unless our representatives perceived some objection. We further stated that it should be made clear to the French authorities that we clearly recognized that the decision was for the French authorities to make and that we were merely presenting our views to them for their consideration. The cable was repeated to our Embassy in London with the request that the British be strongly urged to take a similar position and to do so without delay because of the urgency of the matter.

The action taken on November 2 was reported by the State Department to the President, who had requested in June of this year that he be kept informed of developments in this matter.

Eighteen days after the dispatch of our cable, our Consul General in Algiers, Mr. Wiley, advised as follows in a cable dated November 12 (2035):

"The presentation of the program contained in your reference cable to the French at once seems inadvisable in view of local political considerations. Meanwhile have your London any further word on position of the British. No instructions have been received by the British here and we have heard nothing from the Embassy at London.



- 2 -

"The foregoing message has been repeated to London for the information of our Embassy there."

On November 22 Ambassador Winant advised that a follow-up note had been sent to the British Foreign Office on this matter.

I would appreciate it if you would send a cable to your representative in Algiers, requesting information on the following two points:

(1) What was the reason for the delay of eighteen days between the dispatch of our cable and the dispatch of the cable from Wiley.

(2) A full explanation of why the prompt presentation of this Government's position on this matter to the French authorities for their consideration and decision was deemed "inadvisable in view of local political considerations" particularly since it was our understanding that the French authorities had requested and were awaiting our recommendation and advice on this question and since we had stressed the urgency of the matter in our cable.

I am enclosing a copy of a cable dealing with this matter, which I have requested be dispatched to my representative in North Africa.

Sincerely,

Attachment.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMERICAN CONSUL, Algiers, (Algeria)
DATED: November 2, 1943, Midnight
NUMBER: 2048

CONFIDENTIAL

STETTINIUS AND MORGENTHAU SEND THE FOLLOWING FOR
THE ATTENTION OF MURPHY AND HOFFMAN.

We refer herewith to BOC Airgram 129 dated
October 11 and your telegrams of September 20 and
September 1, 1943, Nos. 1621 and 1513 respectively.

Detailed consideration has been given to the
issue raised in the airgram and telegrams referred to above
and we have decided upon the following position:

1. The United Nations Declaration is not sufficiently relevant to warrant its use as the basis for the position of this Government on the issue of discrimination. The discrimination issued is faced on its merits and the conclusion in no way depends upon the Declaration.

2. With respect to fines and levies imposed on the Jewish Community in Tunis, three possible courses of action are being examined by the Commissariat of Finance for recommendation to the Comito, as we understand it.

(a) The Jewish Community would be given loans and the funds would be distributed by the Jewish Community to individual members and the debt to the banks would be formally acknowledged by the Community, but they would pledge no security. These loans would be of indefinite maturity and guaranteed by Tunisian Treasury and all charges, including interest, would be paid out of the Tunisian Treasury. Amount of the loans would be sufficient to repay bank loans made previously and to reimburse fully the members of the Community

- 2 -

who mortgaged or sold property and advanced funds to meet levies and fines. Only after the facts concerning fines and levies in other areas of colonial and metropolitan France have been ascertained would the ultimate decision be made on the question of whether loans are to be considered as the final obligation of the government or to be repaid by the Community, and if so under what conditions and terms.

(b) The second course of action would be to have the French authorities assume the responsibility in the first instance, i.e., to make the funds available in the form of a gift by the authorities, rather than by a loan which would allow the authorities to leave the ultimate decision to be determined at a later date.

(c) The Third course of action is to take action as provided in (a) or (b) above and also to make funds available up to a fixed amount to all persons in Tunis for repair of property destroyed or damaged as a result of warfare.

3. The proposal as set forth in (b) and (c) with responsibility being assumed in the first instance by French authorities, subject to the following modification which is an additional point, is favored by this Government. Any other person or group of persons who were subjected to similar treatment or injury of a discriminatory nature should be entitled to relief also upon submitting proof of such discriminatory injury or treatment. For example, similar discrimination would seem to be proved if the Nazis seized or requisitioned property from a person or group of persons solely for the reason of race or political views of such a person or group of persons.

4. The following are the reasons for the position taken by this Government:

(a) Total relief will be lacking unless funds are now made available as gifts since the recipients will not have the same freedom in respect to use of such funds in absence of knowledge that repayment will not be expected, nor payment of any interest or carrying charge.

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(b) Restitution for the Jews is essential from the standpoint of psychological warfare to show to the world that the guarantees of the United Nations in the Atlantic Charter against racial discrimination means what they say, and that the Allies are fighting the methods of Hitler as well as Hitler himself.

The modification embodying an additional point is to provide a means for not disturbing the delicate Arab-Jewish relationship.

The strength of the argument contained in 2(a), as reported by you, is recognized by us, but we have concluded that the considerations set forth in 4(a) and (b) overweigh this argument.

5. We request that unless you perceive some objection, the position of this Government be presented to the appropriate French authorities. It should be made clear to the authorities at this time that it is clearly recognized by us that the decisions are for the French to make and merely present our views to them for their consideration.

6. You are informed that we are repeating this to London with the request that the British be strongly urged to take a similar position and to do so without delay because of the urgency of the matter.

The Embassy in London has been informed to keep you informed directly in the matter.

STETTINIUS

December 6, 1943¹⁷⁹ ✓
9:33 a.m.

Operator: Hello. Hello. (Pause) Hello. Hello.

Herbert Gaston: Hello.

Operator: Hello.

G: Yes.

Operator: Mr. White?

G: This is Mr. -- This is Mr. Gaston.

Operator: Mr. Gaston, hold on just a moment.

HMJr: Hello.

Operator: Go ahead.

G: Yes.

HMJr: Herbert?

G: Yes.

HMJr: You are not familiar with what I'm going to talk about but I want you to get familiar.

G: Yes.

HMJr: And if you don't mind, I think I ought to talk to Paul about this.

G: Right. He's right here.

Randolph Paul: Hello.

HMJr: Paul?

P: Yeah.

HMJr: Good morning.

P: Good morning.

HMJr: I got that letter addressed to Hull and I've read it carefully. Of course, it's a little difficult for me because I'm getting it, I think, for the first time, and I can't help

HMJr:
Cont'd.

but think that the Questions One and Two that you put up to him is done in a sort of peremptory manner.

P: Well, you think it ought to be softened, then?

HMJr: Well, no, I -- either soften it, or I've got another suggestion and that is: simply ask him to transmit our cable to Hoffman.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: And let's get the facts from Hoffman and that might start up something. And then we could write a letter later, maybe.

P: All right.

HMJr: After all, we can be as curt as we want to to Hoffman.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: And everybody in the State Department will read it....

P: Yeah.

HMJr:and then we'll get an answer from Hoffman and then we'll know more where we are at.

P: Just a minute. Harry White was making -- uh -- you are talking now about the very ending of the letter?

HMJr: Just a moment, please. Wait a minute.

P: (Aside: Have you got a copy of that letter?)

HMJr: Wait a minute. I'm talking about on page 2, where it says "One and Two".

P: Yeah. Well, the body of the letter -- you think all the facts stated in the letter is -- are all right?

HMJr: Yeah.

P: But you just want to end on a different tone?

HMJr: Yeah. I think it is -- I mean it's pretty -- it's pretty demanding.

P: Yeah. Well, all right. We can do that.

HMJr: I mean, what would you think of just sending the cable to Hoffman?

P: Harry says he thinks that will be all right. (Aside: What do you think Lux?) (Pause.)

HMJr: You fellows....

P: We can -- we can....

HMJr:think it -- and that doesn't call for any letter.

P: Well, that was the point Joe DuBois just made -- that we can communicate directly with Hoffman. We don't -- and wait and write Hull after we hear from him.

HMJr: That's what -- that was what I was trying to get over.

P: Yeah. Well, we can do that.

HMJr: That was the point I was trying to make.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: And we communicate directly with Hoffman and I don't care how -- I mean....

P: You don't care how strong that is?

HMJr: No. And then we get an answer and then we know more about what we are talking about.

P: Well, what do you -- (Aside: What do you fellows think of that?) Let me ask this group what they think of that. (Discussion aside). They make a point that by that procedure, we are asking our men to, in a way, to investigate State Department men and to ask him what are these political considerations that intervene.

HMJr: Well, what -- there's no harm -- I have no objection to just a little note to Mr. Hull.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: "My dear Cordell:" I mean so that Bell can sign it but Bell could do it this way: "By direction of Secretary Morgenthau, I am asking you please to transmit the following cable to Mr. Hoffman."

P: Well, we can cable Hoffman ourselves.

HMJr: Oh, no, no, no, no. I want it to go to Hull so that Hull will see it. I don't want to have him say, "Well, that never...."

P: Oh, I see. That's an indirect way of getting the facts to Hull.

HMJr: It gets the facts to Hull and Hull can say, "Now, wait a minute. What right has Morgenthau got to investigate...." Or, "That's all right."

P: Yeah.

HMJr: At least it brings -- it rubs his nose in it.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: You know, it's like the story that Henry, my boy, told me. His men didn't have enough to eat....

P: Yeah.

HMJr:on maneuvers.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: So, he went into his Colonel's tent and addressed himself to the Major, with the Colonel lying on the bed ten feet away, and he said at the top of his lungs, he complained bitterly to the Major because his men didn't have anything to eat, whereupon the Colonel got up from the bed and said, "What the hell is all this? I want to hear about this."

P: Yeah.

HMJr: And he investigated it.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: Well....

P: Well, let us -- let us formulate some different procedure and call you about it during the day.

HMJr: Well, no, let me leave it this way: If you men feel that this is all right, see?

P: Yeah.

HMJr: Just a little letter, and I want to put it in so that it takes the -- how shall I say? -- so that Bell....

P: I see.

HMJr:doesn't have to take it upon -- he can simply say he's sending it "by direction."

P: Yeah.

HMJr: Ask Hull to transmit this cable to Hoffman. Now if you think it's all right, let her go.

P: All right.

HMJr: If you don't, I'll be on the phone between four and five.

P: Uh -- just a minute. (Pause) (Aside: With whom?) How about a sentence at the end in addition to what you've just said? -- "You may also wish to communicate with Wiley on this matter -- or with your man."

HMJr: That's all right. Although, wouldn't you rather say, "You might like to communicate with Mr. Murphy"?

P: Yeah. We don't have to say who, but "your representatives."

HMJr: "You might like to send a -- you might also like to send a communication to your representative in Algiers."

P: Yeah. Yeah.

HMJr: That's all right. But that isn't -- that isn't doing what this other letter is.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: It sounds pretty sharp.

P: Yeah. All right.

HMJr: Without our knowing all the facts.

P: Yeah.

HMJr: What?

P: Yeah. Well, I'm afraid we do know the facts, but....

HMJr: Well....

P: that's all right. I mean, we've got to play the record on these things and you may be right.

HMJr: Well, I think this -- I don't think -- I think that my way may accomplish more because I don't think it will irritate Hull unnecessarily.

P: All right.

HMJr: What I'd like is his sympathy, you see?

P: Yeah.

HMJr: What?

P: I get you.

HMJr: And I -- if you're going to put a sentence in, you could put it in like this: "Knowing of your sympathetic interest in these matters, you might like also to send...."

P: That's a good phrase.

HMJr: "....a cable to your representative in Algiers."

P: Yeah. Yeah. That's a good -- good little participial clause there, "Knowing of your interest -- your sympathetic interest in these matters."

HMJr: Yeah, because that takes the attitude, "Well, you and I are one on this thing."

P: Yeah.

HMJr: Let's hope.

P: All right.

HMJr: What?

P: All right. Well, we'll....

HMJr: Instead of saying, "God, you're just a so-and-so and so-and-so."

P: Yeah.

HMJr: I think my way would -- is -- is a smoother way and may give us the better chance to get results.

P: Well, we'll try it.

HMJr: I admire you people for getting excited about it. God damn it! It makes me feel good.

P: Well, I feel especially sore at all these Jewish episodes in the State Department and I'm convinced it's just a gang in there that are blocking everything and so I don't -- when they won't -- I get a little bit extra hot on that account.

HMJr: Well, I, of all people, appreciate the ~~sympathetic~~ interest of you boys; on the other hand, I've got to be a balance wheel.

P: Well, of course, you -- we all want to get results and it's a matter of technique.

HMJr: Yeah. And let Gaston sit on it. He's got a good head on his shoulders.

P: Well, I'll agree to that statement.

HMJr: -- say these things to his face, but it's better to say them....

P: Well, he -- he heard that.

HMJr: All right.

P: He accepts it with a smile, he says.

HMJr: Right. Now, if -- if you go approximately that way, let her go.

P: All right.

HMJr: Anybody got any doubts?

P: Yeah. Everybody says that's all right.

HMJr: Don't forget, "Knowing of your sympathetic interest".

P: I've got that phrase written down. (Aside: Anybody else got anything he wants to say to the Secretary?"

HMJr: While you are there, I asked Gaston to get me a report of what happened on the Hill on that bill.

P: Yeah, on the -- on the appropriation?

HMJr: No, on this advertising.

P: Yeah. That's what I mean. He hasn't been able to get any -- just a minute. He'll talk with you.

Herbert
Gaston: Gamble and his crowd are out of town....

P: Yeah.

G:getting in late in the day. I haven't been able to get a hold of anybody, and Speck, from Randolph's office, who, I suppose, was up there with him, is ill and isn't in. He....

HMJr: Oh. Oh.

G: He may be in today. I haven't been able to get hold of anybody at all.

HMJr: Well, from what I've read in the papers, it seems all right, but you -- some -- Herbert, if nothing else, have Paul to send somebody up to talk to the clerk.

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G: Yes. Well, if

HMJr: And then when I call up this afternoon between four and five, I can get a report.

G: Well, I'll get a hold of somebody between now and four.

HMJr: The one to get hold of is the clerk.

G: Yeah.

HMJr: And let Paul have -- his legislative section can do that.

G: Yes. Yes. Yes. I'll get something, either out of the legislative section or out of Gamble's office or both by four o'clock.

HMJr: Now, is White there a minute?

G: Yes, he is. I'll -- (Aside: Harry).

Harry
White: Hello.

HMJr: Harry?

W: Yes.

HMJr: I read your memorandum about Adler in China.

W: Yes.

HMJr: Now, the way I feel is this: When I first went in, we decided to let the State Department appoint attaches and then they would work for us.

W: Yeah.

HMJr: I don't think it's a hell of a lot of difference. I don't want to be all the time rowing with the State Department. I mean, I want to row on important matters, see?

W: Yeah.

HMJr: But I don't think this is an important one.

W: I don't think it's a question of a row at all. I think that they feel that they would be doing us a favor. If they make him an attache, he'd have diplomatic status. I mean, that's the grounds they put it on. Actually, that's not the grounds.

HMJr: Why not put it up to them this way: we'd a little bit rather have it the other way but we'll leave it to them. I don't want to -- everytime to be rowing with them -- all the time.

W: Yeah.

HMJr: See?

W: Uh huh.

HMJr: Because his effectiveness doesn't make any difference. Tell them which way we prefer it, but we leave the decision to them.

W: All right.

HMJr: See?

W: All right.

HMJr: I mean, after all, we've got to save our fight for important ones.

W: Well, yes, unless -- uh -- can I have this reservation? I'll talk it over with the men and if they feel it's important, we will postpone it until....

HMJr: Oh, no.

W:sometime when you....

HMJr: I don't want to hear it. I don't want to hear about it again.

W: Uh huh.

HMJr: It's not that important.

W: All right. Okay. Anything else?

HMJr: That's all I've got.

W: Shall I hang up or is there anybody you want to talk to?

HMJr: I'll talk to the operator.

W: All right.

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Mrs. Klotz

12-7-48

Mr. DuBois advised that
you would like a copy of
the attached.

fb

From: MR. PAUL

DEC - 6 1943

My dear Mr. Secretary:

At the request of Secretary Morgenthau, I am asking you to transmit the attached cable from him to Mr. Hoffman, the chief Treasury representative in North Africa.

There are attached for your information a cable of November 2 (2048) from Mr. Stettinius and Mr. Morgenthau dealing with this matter and a reply of November 20 (2035) from our Consul General in Algiers, Mr. Wiley. The action taken on November 2 was reported by the State Department to the President who had requested in June of this year that he be kept informed of developments in this matter.

Knowing of your sympathetic interest in these matters, you may wish to cable your representative in Algiers and request further information.

Very truly yours

(Signed) Randolph Paul

Acting Secretary of the Treasury.

Attachments.

The Honorable

The Secretary of State.

JADuBois:ecr - 12/6/43

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Consul, Algiers (Algeria)
DATED: November 2, 1943, Midnight
NUMBER: 2048

CONFIDENTIAL

STATINUS AND MORGENTHAU SEND THE FOLLOWING FOR THE ATTENTION OF MURPHY AND HOFFMAN.

We refer herewith to BOC Airgram 129 dated October 11, and your telegrams of September 20 and September 1, 1943, Nos. 1621 and 1513 respectively.

Detailed consideration has been given to the issue raised in the airgram and telegrams referred to above and we have decided upon the following position:

1. The United Nations Declaration is not sufficiently relevant to warrant its use as the basis for the position of this Government on the issue of discrimination. The discrimination issue is faced on its merits and the conclusion in no way depends upon the Declaration.

2. With respect to fines and levies imposed on the Jewish Community in Tunis, three possible courses of action are being examined by the Commissariat of Finance for recommendation to the Comite, as we understand it.

(a) The Jewish Community would be given loans and the funds would be distributed by the Jewish Community to individual members and the debt to the banks would be formally acknowledged by the Community, but they would pledge no security. These loans would be of indefinite maturity and guaranteed by Tunisian Treasury and all charges, including interest, would be paid out of the Tunisian Treasury. Amount of the loans would be sufficient to repay bank loans made previously and to reimburse fully the members of the Community who mortgaged or sold property

- 2 -

and advanced funds to meet levies and fines. Only after the facts concerning fines and levies in other areas of colonial and metropolitan France have been ascertained would the ultimate decision be made on the question of whether loans are to be considered as the final obligation of the government or to be repaid by the Community, and if so under what conditions and terms.

(b) The second course of action would be to have the French authorities assume the responsibility in the first instance, i.e., to make the funds available in the form of a gift by the authorities, rather than by a loan which would allow the authorities to leave the ultimate decision to be determined at a later date.

(c) The third course of action is to take action as provided in (a) or (b) above and also to make funds available up to a fixed amount to all persons in Tunis for repair of property destroyed or damaged as a result of warfare.

3. The proposal as set forth in (b) and (c) with responsibility being assumed in the first instance by French authorities, subject to the following modification which is an additional point, is favored by this Government. Any other person or group of persons who were subjected to similar treatment or injury of a discriminatory nature should be entitled to relief also upon submitting proof of such discriminatory injury or treatment. For example, similar discrimination would seem to be proved if the Nazis seized or requisitioned property from a person or group of persons solely for the reason of race or political views of such a person or group of persons.

4. The following are the reasons for the position taken by this Government:

(a) Total relief will be lacking unless funds are now made available as gifts since the recipients will not have the same freedom in respect to use of such funds in absence of knowledge that repayment will not be expected, nor payment of any interest or carrying charge.

- 3 -

(b) Restitution for the Jews is essential from the standpoint of psychological warfare to show to the world that the guarantees of the United Nations in the Atlantic Charter against racial discrimination means what they say, and that the Allies are fighting the methods of Hitler as well as Hitler himself.

The modification embodying an additional point is to provide a means for not disturbing the delicate Arab-Jewish relationship.

The strength of the argument contained in 2(a), as reported by you, is recognized by us, but we have concluded that the considerations set forth in 4(a) and (b) overweigh this argument.

5. We request that unless you perceive some objection, the position of this Government be presented to the appropriate French authorities. It should be made clear to the authorities at this time that it is clearly recognized by us that the decisions are for the French to make and merely present our views to them for their consideration.

6. You are informed that we are repeating this to London with the request that the British be strongly urged to take a similar position and to do so without delay because of the urgency of the matter.

The Embassy in London has been informed to keep you informed directly in the matter.

STETTINIUS

COPY

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Consulate General - Algiers
TO: Secretary of State - Washington
DATED: November 20, 1943
NUMBER: 2035

CONFIDENTIAL

Reference is made herewith to paragraphs five and six of the telegram dated November 2, 1943, no. 2048.

The presentation of the program contained in your reference cable to the French at once seems inadvisable in view of local political considerations. Meanwhile have your London any further word on position of the British. No instructions have been received by the British here and we have heard nothing from the Embassy at London.

The foregoing message has been repeated to London for the information of our Embassy there.

/s/ WILEY

CABLE FROM SECRETARY MORGENTHAU TO HOFFMAN, ALGIERS

From Secretary Morgenthau to Hoffman. In a telegram from Stettinius and Morgenthau to Murphy and you of November 2, No. 2048, we presented the position of this Government with respect to the fines and levies imposed on the Jewish Community in Tunisia and war damage in general. We requested that this position be presented to the appropriate French authorities unless Murphy or you perceived some objection. We further stated that it should be made clear to the French authorities at this time that it is clearly recognized by us that the decisions are for the French to make and that our views should be merely presented to them for their consideration.

In a cable from Wiley of November 20, No. 2035, it was indicated that the prompt presentation of this Government's position on this matter to the French authorities for their consideration and decision was deemed inadvisable in view of local political considerations.

Despite the strong interest which the Treasury has shown in this matter as evidenced in our cables, I have not received any information from you concerning developments since the dispatch of cable 2048. In your BOC 1718 of November 21 you refer to our 2048 but merely indicate that the French have been asked to set aside for the present final decision with respect to Jewish Community fines and levies, and request our views as to whether the French should be asked to alter their policy on the general question of war damages in view of our cable. Snider, who left Algiers on November 26, had no information on this matter.

You are hereby requested to furnish to me directly a full detailed report concerning all developments in this matter since the dispatch of our 2048. You should cover the following points:

(1) Did you discuss cable 2048 with Murphy or Wiley and make clear our concern regarding this matter.

- 2 -

(2) Explain fully if known to you the reasons that it was decided that local conditions would not even permit the presentation (repeat presentation) of this Government's view to the French authorities and whether you were in agreement with such decision and reasons. In this connection it was our understanding that the French authorities had requested and were awaiting our recommendation and advice on this question and we had stressed the urgency of the matter in our cable.

(3) Why no response to cable 2048 of November 2 was made before November 20.

A prompt reply is requested.

JEDuB ois:ecr - 12/6/43

EXCERPTS FROM:

7 December 1943

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION OBTAINED IN BRITISH MIDDLE
EAST CENSORSHIPS

JEWISH ACTIVITIES

There were two references to the position of the Jews in Salonica. The first letter written by Maitre Leon J. Israel, Of Cairo on 18.1.43 said that the writer had just met someone from Salonica. The news that had been given him was not reassuring as not a single Jew in Salonica had been spared and they had all been deported to Poland.

The second letter was in a batch of letters sent from Ihud Olami of Tel Aviv to Dr. SZ. LEVENBERG, c/o Zionist Organisation, London. These letters had apparently not been received by mail, and had all come from enemy occupied territory. The letters gave various reports on the conditions of the Jews in the various countries. The letter referring to Greece was dated Athens 15th August, and started by saying that the letter dated 13th July was the first reply to their call of help. It then went on to give a description of what had happened during the last few months in Salonica and said that in June 1942 Salonica Jews were forced to wear the shield of David on their clothes and were ordered to leave their homes in town and to concentrate in the Ghetto. On March 14, 3000 persons - the aged, women, boys and girls - were taken out of the Ghetto and locked in closed cattle trucks. After the first train had left others were sent off in the same way in batches of 3000, altogether 53000. The report went on to state that about 3000 managed to escape to Athens, most of them arriving bare footed and in rags. The Athens Jewish Community did all they could although they had enough worries regarding their own fate. The report also stated that the Greeks in Athens headed by the Patriarch did all they could to help them. In Salonica all the synagogues were in ruins, the Library with all the Community registers had been burned, and all the property confiscated.

23 December 1943

YUGOSLAVIA

The only letter of interest this week which referred to Yugoslavia was from Hakibutz Hamouchad, Tel Aviv, to Istanbul, which was dated 10th November 1943. This letter was in the form of a report about the condition of the Jews who had escaped from death by the Croats and whom the writer had met in Taranto and Bari. The writer said that on the 9th November he met a group of about 100 refugees in Taranto and on 10th November about 500 in Bari. Part of them had been on the island of Corzola and the remainder at Split. As soon as the Italian Armistice was signed, the Germans invaded these places but some refugees succeeded in chartering boats and arrived after numerous adventures with the help of Italian sailors in British-occupied territory. The writer having examined these Jews states that he secured the following details about the fate of the Yugoslav Jewry.

The only Jews out of the 75000 to remain alive were those who fled to Italian-occupied territory. Their number amounts to over 10000. Of these, 500 are refugees in Allied-occupied territories, 4000 in Dalmatia, 3000 on the iale of Raab and 1000 still at Split. Inthe North of Italy there were 1500, and 3500 in different parts of central and southern Italy. The writer then went on to say that the responsibility for the destruction of the Yugoslav Jewry went wholly to the debit of the Croat 'Ustzehi' who surpassed their German teachers by their furious hostility. He then went on to give various descriptions of the tortures and killings carried out by the Croats.

Yugoslavia, 29 December 1943, (page 2)

The only other paragraph of interest referred to the Yugoslav Jews in Dalmatia and Northern Italy in which he said that until recently both Raab and Split had been in the hands of the Yugoslav guerillas, who had treated the Jewish refugees with every kindness. Referring to Northern Italy he said that in Modena there was a training farm with about 100 youths and children which was supported by a special committee, founded by the Jewish communities in Italy. After the German conquest the children had been distributed among the Italian peasants and were scattered all over Italy. He then went on to suggest the possibility of chartering boats and coastal craft in order to evacuate the Jews from Dalmatia and supply the Jewish children who were scattered all over Italy with the necessary immigration certificates to go to Palestine.

December 9, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

I had luncheon today with Bernard Meltzer, now an Ensign in the Navy, and formerly Acting Chief of the Foreign Funds Control Division of the State Department. I arranged this luncheon specifically with Meltzer with the end in mind that I might obtain from him such information as he had relating to the financial program for the evacuation of Jews from France and Rumania. At the time that the cable of August 6 (stating that the Treasury was prepared to issue license in this matter) was sent out, Meltzer had called me and told me that he had been instructed by the State Department to say that State had no comments to make on the proposal, but that State would raise no objections to the Treasury issuing a license with respect to the transaction. Meltzer made it clear at that time that he thought State Department's method of handling the matter made no sense and further indicated his bitter resentment of the way the matter was being handled. He told me at that time that he would like to discuss the matter in more detail with me "after he was in the Army".

I told Meltzer of the delays which had occurred in connection with this matter and he immediately volunteered to furnish me with such information as he had on the subject. He thereupon proceeded to relate the following story:

(1) At the time this matter originally arose in the Department, in April of this year, the cables from Berne transmitting messages from Riegner were referred to Dr. Herbert Feis by Sumner Welles. Normally this type of communication would probably have been referred to the Special Division under Breckinridge Long. Whether Welles referred this to Feis because of the economic aspects of the problem or because he felt that Feis would be most apt to react favorably, Meltzer said he did not know. Feis called Meltzer in on the problem. They put their heads together and, having decided that this would be a matter which would probably be opposed by Long and his crowd, they mapped their plans accordingly.

- 2 -

(2) Feis and Meltzer drafted the telegram of May 25, 1943, raising with Berne the type of financial arrangements which might be entered into in this case. The telegram was worded in such a way as to request clarification and further information. By the tactics of arguing with Long and Brandt, Executive Assistant to Long, that this cable merely requested further information, and as a result of Feis carrying the cable directly to Welles, the cable was dispatched.

(3) When a reply was received from Riegner on June 14, 1943 there was considerable discussion in the State Department concerning the matter. Meltzer made it clear that at this time and during the whole time that he was in the Department, he and Feis were the only two men in the Department who favored taking action to implement the proposal (aside from a man named William Hall, who was working under Meltzer - and who incidentally is also no longer with the Department). The rest of the State Department boys who had anything to do with the matter, particularly Long, Brandt and Reams (Foreign Service Officer, presently assigned to the European Division and also assigned as State Department refugee expert), all opposed taking any such action. They based their arguments primarily on economic warfare reasons contending that the program would make foreign exchange available to the enemy. Meltzer said he used the tactics with them that the economic warfare aspects of this matter were questions for decision by the Treasury Department and that the only interest of the State Department was whether or not such action was politically advisable; and that from the standpoint of political considerations it was the policy of the State Department to promote relief activities. On this basis he finally got agreement from the politicians that the matter should be presented to the Treasury in so far as the economic warfare aspects were concerned. Meltzer further pointed out that in discussing this matter with these men he was instructed that in preparing any memoranda, etc. he should limit his arguments purely to the financial aspects of the matter (which, he added, he did not do).

(4) Meltzer mentioned the conference which was then held with the Treasury Department on the matter, at which Reams attempted to throw cold water on the whole proposal.

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(5) When Treasury advised State, the day after the conference, that Treasury was prepared to issue a license in this matter the politicians again raised the economic warfare argument contending that the proposed arrangement would result in financial benefit to the enemy. During the course of this discussion Feis and Meltzer prepared a memorandum, which Feis sent to Secretary Hull, pointing out why the transaction would not benefit the enemy financially; and Brandt sent a memorandum to Secretary Hull to the contrary. Thereafter Brandt conferred at some length with Secretary Hull on the matter, at which time Meltzer said he understood that Brandt argued strongly that the proposed transactions would benefit the enemy financially. Neither Feis nor Meltzer (both of whom were around the Department at the time and could have readily been at the conference) were asked to be present.

(6) After the above mentioned conference between Secretary Hull and Brandt, Feis and Meltzer again prepared a memorandum which was sent by Feis to Secretary Hull answering Brandt's economic warfare contentions.

(7) Thereafter Treasury communicated to the State Department the text of the letter which Wise had written to the President and which the President had referred to Secretary Morgenthau. The text of this letter was called to Secretary Hull's attention.

(8) As a result of the second memorandum which Feis had sent to Secretary Hull (which Meltzer said was very strong) and as a result of the letter from Wise to the President, and also probably as a result of Secretary Morgenthau's letter to Secretary Hull (although in this latter point Meltzer was not sure), Secretary Hull decided not to raise any objections to the program. Meltzer recalled his conversation with me at that time, in which he told me that he had been instructed to say that State Department had no comments but would raise no objections. He also pointed out that the letter which Secretary Hull sent to Secretary Morgenthau made it clear that Hull was taking the position that he would not object to the proposal, rather than that he was behind it.

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(9) When questioned as to the motives of the men in the State Department who opposed a proposal such as this (and the Tunisian program) Meltzer commented along the following lines. Although he was in no position to accuse these men of opposing such proposals because of anti-Jewish sentiments, since he could not support such an accusation with concrete evidence (and furthermore because he preferred to be charitable in forming opinions in cases such as this), it was striking that in a case like this such men should be arguing against the proposal on economic warfare grounds. He pointed out that usually it was his division which was arguing against a proposal on these grounds, and that usually it was the foreign service group that argued that economic warfare considerations were not important.

(10) Meltzer confirmed that Hull knew that he and Feis were the only two men in the Department who had fought for this proposal and that the rest of the men who had been concerned with it had opposed it.

(11) When questioned as to the matter of clearance with the British in this case, Meltzer stated that he had not attempted to formally clear the matter with the British because there were so many obstacles in its way without adding that one. He did point out however that Palin of the British Embassy heard about the matter in talks with Mahun Goldman of the American Jewish Congress. Palin then called Meltzer and Meltzer furnished him with copies of the pertinent cables. Palin did not request that the British be given an opportunity to pass on the matter.

(12) Meltzer pointed out the difficulties in dealing with the Department on matters such as this today. He mentioned Dean Acheson, Donald Hiss and Thomas Finletter as being about the only men left in the Department whom he could think of as being willing to fight on issues such as this. He pointed out, however, that normally matters such as this would not fall under the jurisdiction of these men.

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(13) Meltzer also mentioned that in the case of the fines and levies imposed on the Jews in Tunisia, the President had sent a note to the State Department congratulating them on the cable which State sent out supplementing the President's message. (We have never seen this note.)

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