

OF 1395  
Political Refugees  
(European) 1934-1940

1395

December 27, 1934

MEMORANDUM FOR ACTING DIRECTOR BELL;  
Bureau of the Budget. x79

The attached is self-explanatory.  
Will you please advise.

M. H. McINTYRE  
Assistant Secretary  
to the President

mwd

# Memorandum for the President, dated 12-26-34, re contribution to the High Commission for German Refugees, stating that Mr. James G. McDonald called on the phone to find out if anything new about Pres. request to Bureau of the Budget; Memo for Mr. McIntyre, same date, from Miss Grace Tully, stating Pres. sent a memo to the State Dept. on this, and asking Mr. McIntyre to clear through Budget or State; copy of Pres. memo to State on 12-21-34. x

x198-A  
x76-6

Budget says will  
have answer in  
tomorrow morning

December 21, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE: *x 20*

Should we not ask Congress for  
\$10,000 for the Jewish Refugee organization  
of which Mr. McDonald is the Commissioner  
appointed by the League?

F.D.R.

FDR/dj

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*File*

1-3-35

Memorandum for Mr. McIntyre:

Mr. James G. McDonald called Grace Tully today to find out what the word from Budget was. I gave Grace this memo., and after she showed it to President, she told Mr. McDonald about it over telephone, at instruction of President.

RB

January 12, 1935

MEMORANDUM FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT

The attached is self-explanatory.

Will you please advise.

M. H. McINTYRE  
Assistant Secretary  
to the President

tmb

File -- Memorandum for the President, dated 12-26-34, re contribution to the High Commission for German Refugees, stating that Mr. James G. McDonald called on the phone to find out if anything new about Pres. request to Bureau of the Budget; Memo for Mr. McIntyre, same date, from G. Tully, stating Pres. sent a memo to the State Dept. on this, and asking Mr. McIntyre to clear through Budget or State; copy of Pres. memo to State on 12-21-34, memo dated 12-27-34 to the Acting Director of the Bureau of the Budget from Mr. McIntyre attaching above mentioned memoranda, asking for advice; memo 1/3/35 to Mr. McIntyre from R. Barrows stating that Mr. McDonald phoned to find out what the word from Budget was and Miss Tully after showing letter from Budget to Pres. told Mr. McD. about it over the phone; Memo 1/3/35 from Director Bell to Mr. Mac states there is no substantive law authorizing an appropriation for such purpose and suggests it would be better to secure legislation authorizing the appropriation before sending an estimate to Congress. Understands a draft of bill along these lines is being prepared by State. Memo 1/7/35 re Mr. McDonald's suggestion that perhaps it would be possible to have the \$10,000 he is asking for could be included in State Dept's. contingent fund. Suggests we communicate with Professor Joseph P. Chamberlain at Columbia if we have any further info. on this.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 26, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Mr. James G. McDonald called on the phone to find out if there has been anything new in connection with your request to the Bureau of the Budget about the contribution to the High Commission for German Refugees.

He said he went over the next day after talking with you, to the State Department and explained to them what you had said. They suggest that perhaps it would be better to clear through the State Department. Mr. McDonald spoke to the Secretary of State and he knew nothing about that kind of thing so he referred him to Mr. Carr. Mr. Carr explained that, of course, there were some technical difficulties. He said if you spoke to the Bureau of the Budget and they in turn get in touch with the Department that the Department would do its utmost to carry out your wishes, and that in the normal course it would have to proceed in this way. He thought there would have to be a special bill authorizing the appropriation; otherwise it might be thrown out.

Mr. McDonald's address is Foreign Policy Association, 8 West 40th Street, New York City - Tel. No. Chickering 4-6390

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 26, 1934.

MEMO FOR MAC

The President sent a memorandum to the State Department on this. Will you please clear through Budget or State Department?

G. G. T.

SEVENTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

JOHN O'CONNOR, N. Y., CHAIRMAN

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House of Representatives U. S.  
Committee on Rules  
Washington, D. C.

JOHN O'CONNOR  
NEW YORK

THE WHITE HOUSE

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RECEIVED

1395

March 29, 1938.

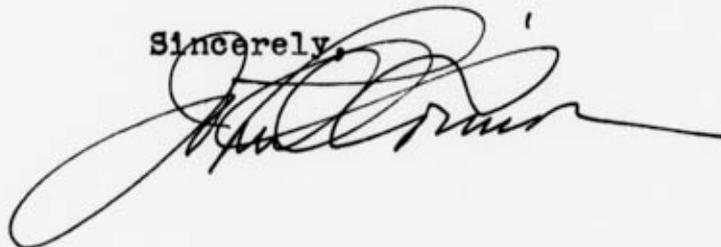
The President

White House.

My dear Mr. President:

Permit me to heartily endorse the appeal of the Jewish Peoples Committee that a refuge be assured in this country for an unfortunate Jewish people who are now being persecuted in Austria.

Sincerely,



Staff of John O'Connor  
1395

1395

RECEIVED  
3 HARVARD CLUB  
27 WEST 44TH STREET  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

March 26 1938.

1938 MAR 2 PM 4 08

33 Fifth Avenue,  
New York City,  
February 26, 1938

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

56 My dear Mr. President:

As a Harvard man, an ex-publisher and writer, a liberal and an American Jew, both of whose parents were born in this country, I am writing to ask whether you can do anything to mitigate the suffering of Jews throughout the world.

From the days of the original thirteen colonies, the American ideal has always been to regard this country as a refuge for those politically or religiously oppressed. It is only too true that in the world today there are other minority groups besides the Jews suffering from such oppression, but there is no group, who are simultaneously persecuted in so many different countries and denied refuge anywhere.

I can well realize the almost insuperable difficulties involved in the situation, and the impossibility of letting down the gates indiscriminately

Franklin D. Roosevelt

HARVARD CLUB  
27 WEST 44TH STREET

to a huge group of immigrants, at the very time when you are attempting to adjust the financial situation so as to adequately provide for our present population.

But would it not be possible, for example, to pass legislation permitting Jewish refugees from all countries a five year provisional citizenship here, provisional upon good behavior and satisfactory financial assurances that the new citizen would not become a public charge, with deportation as the penalty for the breach of this passport? Suppose the entire matter was placed in charge of a committee, who had the authority to admit Jewish refugees here after they had (in advance) established some place of residence or some plan of life for the individual, and had posted a financial bond, say of from one to two thousand dollars, with the Government.

The committee could function so as to provide a wide distribution, both geographically and economically, of the newly arrived citizens. Naturally every attempt should be made to locate them in localities not too densely over-populated at present, and to take due advantage of their previous scientific, business or professional training. I need hardly

- 3 -

HARVARD CLUB  
27 WEST 44TH STREET

point out to you, in this respect, that England has actually profited from the Jewish enterprise and funds invested in the upbuilding of Palestine, -an empire in the making now retarded by Arab unrest and protest.

I realize I have here outlined only the most superficial skeleton of a plan, - a plan so obvious that in all probability it has previously been called to your attention.

The important thing is not my plan, but any plan, that will aid the Jews.... and you, as a foremost liberal and as a champion and defender of oppressed minorities, are the fitting person to lead such a plan. Everyone knows that you have pity and sympathy for the Jews, -but it would be an act of eternal nobility for a christian idealist and statesman, such as yourself, to transmute these feelings into action, and to again lead the Jews out of the wilderness.

In closing, may I emphasize that I am writing solely as an individual American citizen, who hates intolerance and bigotry, and that in presenting this suggestion I have no connection with any Jewish society or organized group for whom I am acting as spokesman.

- 4 -

HARVARD CLUB  
27 WEST 44TH STREET

May I beg you to give this matter your earnest consideration?

Respectfully yours,  
*Cowell Brentano.*

LB/CT

Est. No. \_\_\_\_\_, 76th Cong., 3rd Sess.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

BUREAU OF THE BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D. C.

The President,  
The White House.

1395

July 30, 1940

Sir:

I have the honor to submit for your consideration a draft of a proposed provision pertaining to the appropriation for the purchase, transportation and distribution of agricultural, medical and other supplies for the relief of refugee men, women and children contained in Section 40(b) of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1941.

Draft of a Proposed Provision

Not to exceed \$125,000 of the appropriation of \$50,000,000 for the purchase, transportation and distribution of agricultural, medical and other supplies for the relief of refugee men, women and children contained in Sec. 40(b) of the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act, fiscal year 1941, is hereby made available for allocation by the President to the Children's Bureau, Department of Labor, for all expenses necessary for the establishment and maintenance of standards for the care of children obtaining refuge in the United States from conditions arising out of the war in Europe, including the maintenance of a register of such children, such expenses to include personal services in the District of Columbia and elsewhere.

The coming into the United States under visitor or immigration visa of great numbers of children from Europe is imposing on the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor the duty of establishing and maintaining standards to govern the reception and care of these children while in the United States, and the establishment of a register of such children. These standards will cover such factors as conditions of foster homes or institutions, medical, nutritional and educational facilities, and procedures of public and private societies and institutions who will concern themselves with the placement of these children. The existing appropriations for the Children's Bureau are not sufficient to absorb this additional burden and funds will have to be provided for that Bureau to enable it to perform the additional duties imposed on it by this emergency.

The draft of a provision suggested for enactment into law is made necessary by reason of a contingency which has arisen since the transmission of the Budget for the fiscal year 1941, and I recommend that it be transmitted to Congress.

Very respectfully,

*Harold Smith*  
Director of the  
Bureau of the Budget.

OK  
JHR