

OF 3186  
Political Refugees  
Jan-June 1940

January 11, 1940

3186

Respectfully referred to the State  
Department.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

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Telegrams to the President from:

James N. Rosenberg, Baltimore, Md., 1/10/40 Expresses his appreciation re Pres far-seeing vision and deep understanding of the refugee problem and aid toward its solution.

Marie C. Cuddy, Chicago, Ill., 1/10/40.  
In behalf of Rene Belbenoit.

73/11/40

3186

March 5, 1940

My dear Mr. Morris:

The President has asked me to acknowledge the receipt of and to thank you for the copy of the Agreement between the Dominican Republic and the Dominican Republic Settlement Association concerning the settlement of refugees in the Dominican Republic, which was signed on January thirtieth.

x138

I am

Very sincerely yours,

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

~~Stephen V. C. Morris, Esq.,~~ \*  
~~Intergovernmental Committee on~~  
Political Refugees,  
Washington, D. C.

LD/EAK

x66

*General Watson  
to acknowledge*

*ack'd  
3/5/40  
sat*

Washington, D. C.

February 24, 1940

My dear Mr. President:

At the direction of the Right Honorable the Earl  
Winterton, Chairman of the Intergovernmental Committee  
on Political Refugees, I am communicating to you a copy  
of the Agreement signed on January 30, 1940 between the  
Dominican Republic and the Dominican Republic Settlement  
Association, Inc., regarding the settlement of refugees  
in the Dominican Republic.

Respectfully yours,

*Stephen V. C. Morris*  
Stephen V. C. Morris  
Secretary, Intergovernmental Committee  
on Political Refugees

Enclosure:  
Agreement.

The President,  
The White House.

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DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

AND

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SETTLEMENT  
ASSOCIATION, Inc.

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**Agreement**

*Dated January 30, 1940*

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**AGREEMENT** entered into this thirtieth day of January, nineteen hundred and forty, between the Dominican Republic (henceforth referred to as the "REPUBLIC") and the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, Inc., a corporation duly organized and existing under the laws of the State of New York, United States of America, (henceforth referred to as the "ASSOCIATION").

WHEREAS in 1938 His Excellency Franklin Delano Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, invited thirty-two governments to consult with the Government of the United States of America at Evian, France, regarding aid to refugees; and

WHEREAS these Governments constituted themselves as the intergovernmental Committee; and

WHEREAS His Excellency Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina as President and in the name of the Dominican Republic generously informed the intergovernmental Committee at its first meeting of the disposition of the Dominican Republic gradually to receive settlers up to 100,000 within its territory; and

WHEREAS the Intergovernmental Committee and the Coordinating Foundation of which the Hon. Paul Van Zeeland is Executive President have shown a desire to avail themselves of the opportunity so offered by His Excellency Rafael Leonidas Trujillo Molina on behalf of his Government; and

WHEREAS the Republic and the Association are equally desirous to help and stimulate Jewish and non-Jewish settlers to establish themselves within the territory of the Dominican Republic and to make themselves citizens thereof; and

WHEREAS the Association is desirous to avail itself of the goodwill of the Republic for these purposes; and

WHEREAS this agreement has for its object the realization of said purposes; and

WHEREAS this agreement has been entered into in accordance with the Constitution, laws, decrees and other legal acts of the Republic and in their fulfillment, and consequently is invested with all legal power necessary or appropriate for its validity and compliance therewith;

THEREFORE the Republic, represented by Messrs. Mayor General José García, Secretary of State for the Interior and Police, and Raúl Carbuccia, Secretary of State for Agriculture, Industry and Labor, who have been duly authorized by the President of the Dominican Republic to execute this agreement in conformity with the laws of the Republic; and the Association, represented by James N. Rosenberg, President, and Joseph A. Rosen, Vice-President thereof, who have been duly authorized by a resolution of the Association to execute and deliver this agreement in its behalf; hereby COVENANT AND AGREE AS FOLLOWS:

#### ARTICLE I

##### RIGHTS OF SETTLERS

The Republic, in conformity with its Constitution and laws, hereby guarantees to the settlers and their descendants full opportunity to continue their lives and occupations free from molestation, discrimination or persecution, with full freedom of religion and religious ceremonials, with equality of opportunities and of civil, legal and economic rights, as well as all other rights inherent to human beings.

## ARTICLE II

### SELECTION AND ADMISSION OF SETTLERS

(a) The Republic shall receive and give every possible opportunity and help to the Jewish and non-Jewish settlers in order to leave their present residences, to enter and reside in the Dominican Republic and to make their livelihood, establish their permanent homes and acquire citizenship in the Dominican Republic in accordance with its Constitution and laws. Settlements shall progress gradually in the course of the number of years which may be desirable or necessary in order that the settlers may be placed in position to establish themselves as citizens of the Republic and to reimburse the Association for its expenditures on their behalf. It is understood that the Republic shall not be responsible either to the Association or any other institution whatsoever for any of the financial obligations of the settlers to the Association or for payment to the Association of any disbursements in which it may incur.

(b) The Association shall have the right to select the settlers who will be chosen in accordance with their fitness and technical ability for agriculture, industry, manufacture and trades. The Association will from time to time submit to the Republic through the Secretary of State for the Interior and Police the names of settlers thus chosen with statements as to their place of origin, abilities, experience and whatever other data may serve for their identification and evaluation of their special qualifications. The Association assumes full responsibility for the correctness of this information. The Republic will within the most reasonably brief time, examine the information thus submitted and will promptly decide on its admission. As soon as this shall take place, the Department of Foreign Relations of the Dominican Republic shall instruct Dominican consular officers to provide said settlers with the proper documentation for their trip and admission to the Republic,

including visas and other formalities which may assist them to travel from their place of residence to the Dominican Republic, and said consular officers shall issue these documents to the settlers free of all costs, fees, taxes and any other charges. All settlers whose admission shall have thus been approved shall be freely admitted into the Dominican Republic upon their arrival at the Dominican port of entry.

(c) There shall be admitted to the Republic as the first contingent in one group or separate groups approximately 500 families of Jewish or non-Jewish settlers. There shall additionally and gradually later be admitted up to the number of 100,000 settlers in accordance with decision which in this respect shall be made jointly by the Republic and the Association. All settlers admitted to the Republic pursuant to this agreement shall have all rights granted and guaranteed by this agreement.

(d) The Association may furthermore recommend to the Republic the free admission in the manner previously stipulated of all those who may be specialized in their professions, trades or occupations, experts, artisans and other persons acceptable to the Republic.

(e) Infants of settlers born in transit shall have free right of entry and all benefits of this agreement.

### ARTICLE III

#### TAXES

It is specifically agreed that the Executive Power of the Republic shall initiate a law to modify the Immigration Law now in force in order to exempt from all entry taxes, or similar taxes, present or future, the settlers covered by this agreement, who shall not be subject to any entry charges established by any subdivision of the Republic. Likewise, the Executive Power shall initiate a law by means of which there shall not be required of the persons who may come as settlers to Dominican territory, the deposits now required of navi-

gation companies for the transportation of immigrants to the Dominican Republic, nor any other deposit of whatever nature, and so that these settlers may be permitted to bring with them, upon entering Dominican territory, free of duty and not for sale but for their own personal use in their agricultural enterprises and others incidental thereto, such furniture, personal effects, tools, equipment, materials and other instruments which they may need in order to establish themselves with economic solvency. It is understood that the present agreement shall become effective only after the Congress of the Republic shall have enacted, in accordance with the Constitution, the laws proposed in the present agreement, and likewise any other laws which may be necessary to give this agreement full legal force and validity.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE ASSOCIATION

(a) It shall be the duty of the Association to take care of and promote the economic life of the immigrants who enter the territory of the Republic for their enterprises;

(b) The Association should maintain in the Dominican Republic an office or offices, and its representatives, experts, and other officials and employees shall enjoy full rights in order to carry out their mission within the territory of the Dominican Republic in accordance with this agreement and the Constitution and national laws of the Republic. Officers and employees of the Association shall receive from the Republic suitable documents enabling them freely and effectively to perform their duties, including travel within, to and from the Republic, and shall enjoy the cooperation of the Republic and its officials in the execution of their duties.

(c) The Association shall not be subject to the payment of any tax on property, or other duties or contributions on the transactions or any other acts incidental

thereto which refer exclusively to the fulfillment of the essential purpose of transporting and establishing within the territory of the Republic the settlers referred to in this agreement, or to the carrying out of projects of general interest in the establishment of said settlers, provided they do not imply competition with other similar activities open to private initiative;

(d) The Association shall pay and supply or cause to be supplied all funds necessary to cover transportation expenses of settlers, their disembarkation and their needs in the Republic, until such time as they may become self-supporting;

(e) The Association shall have the right to buy, lease, receive by donation, concession or exchange, alienate, and in general to acquire, possess or enjoy real or personal property, to burden, mortgage, lease, sell, sub-lease, or otherwise dispose of, and in general to cede any of these rights to settlers or groups of settlers; to loan monies to them, sell them properties or in any form deal with the settlers as the Association may deem necessary or convenient; to make regulations as to the mode of economic activities and conditions of granting loans, etc. etc., to settlers; and in general, shall have full rights to deal with the settlers and with others, as it may see fit, in accordance with Dominican law;

(f) The Association shall have the right to equip and maintain or otherwise dispose of places for the reception, training and education of the settlers; to construct for them adequate dormitories, school buildings, houses of worship, dwellings, experimental agricultural fields and in general supervise and promote the physical, social, economic and spiritual wellbeing of the settlers, as well as to organize, foster and assist purchasing, selling, credit, production, and consumption cooperatives and other types of cooperatives among the settlers.

(g) The President or Vice-President of the Association or their designees, when carrying out any project of the Association in respect of which the laws of the

Republic may require action or intervention by the Government, shall get in touch previously with the department or official entrusted with taking cognizance of such case;

(h) Nothing said or stipulated in this contract shall be construed as meaning that the shareholders, officers, directors or employees of the Association are or will be subject to any personal or individual responsibility by reason of this contract or for the acts, deeds or omissions of the Association or of the settlers;

(i) It is understood that under the terms of this agreement the settlers are not to be considered in any way as employees of the Association but merely as beneficiaries of its activities.

(j) The Association shall have the right to take such steps and to petition the Executive Power of the Dominican Republic as may be necessary in the personal or collective interest of the settlers until such time as they may have acquired Dominican citizenship;

(k) It is understood that the rights which settlers and the Association may acquire pursuant to this agreement or any acts thereunder shall not be abrogated by subsequent legislation, as the principle of non-retroactivity of laws established by Article 42 of the Constitution of the Republic does not permit it;

(l) The Association shall have the right to engage in any lawful activities which it may deem necessary or convenient to carry out this agreement.

## ARTICLE V

### COOPERATION OF THE REPUBLIC

(a) The Republic shall by all the means in its power, except when of a monetary nature, facilitate the efforts of the Association for the selection, construction and maintenance of adequate living quarters and other buildings which will so far as feasible be built with material

existing within Dominican territory, and shall cooperate with the Association insofar as feasible for the proper employment of settlers in agricultural enterprises, construction of highways and other similar activities. The Republic, likewise, shall take appropriate measures through the departments of its administration to help in the selection of suitable lands for agricultural purposes and for the acquisition of said lands by the Association, and shall give its best assistance to the Association for the purpose of giving or obtaining desirable options to the Association for agricultural lands which may be deemed adequate and necessary for future large settlement;

(b) The Republic, in order to make this agreement effective and to insure the acquisition by the Association or settlers of suitable lands, buildings, water rights and other inherent rights, shall authorize and direct its appropriate departments to take such official measures as may from time to time be necessary or advisable in order to obtain and grant sound and valid titles, as well as the right to use said properties and to grant the Association and the settlers such rights, titles and benefits.

(c) The Republic hereby guarantees that all rights which may from this date be extended by the Republic to any other association, groups or agencies engaged in similar activities, will automatically thereupon accrue to and operate for the benefit of the Association and all settlers hereunder.

## ARTICLE VI

### VALIDITY AND EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT

The present Agreement shall not bind the contracting parties until the following conditions have been fulfilled:

1. That this Agreement has been ratified by express resolution of the Board of Directors of the Association;

2. That the Congress of the Republic, within the free exercise of its constitutional rights, shall have enacted a law whereby persons who may come for the purpose of establishing themselves in the country under the protection of a colonization agreement are exempt from discriminatory taxation; and likewise a law whereby persons who may come as settlers to Dominican territory shall not be obliged to make the deposits at present required of navigation companies for the transportation of immigrants to the Dominican Republic, nor any other deposit whatsoever, and so that these settlers may be permitted to bring with them, upon entering Dominican territory, free of duty and not for sale but for their own personal use in their agricultural enterprises and others incidental thereto, such furniture, personal effects, tools, equipment, materials and other instruments which they may need in order to establish themselves with economic solvency; and furthermore, a law whereby associations organized for the establishment of colonies in the Dominican Republic shall be exempt from taxes on property or other duties or contributions on the transactions or any other acts incidental thereto which refer exclusively to the fulfillment of the essential purpose of said associations of transporting and establishing settlers in the Republic; and that said laws shall have been duly promulgated and published;

3. That the present Agreement has been approved by the Congress of the Dominican Republic.

The present Agreement will come into full force and effect as soon as these conditions have been fulfilled, whereupon the Association, without further formalities on the part of the Republic, will proceed to engage in the activities mentioned in the present Agreement.

Done and signed in four originals, in Ciudad Trujillo, District of Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, this thirtieth day of January, nineteen hundred and forty.

JOSÉ GARCÍA,  
Secretary of State for the  
Interior and Police

JAMES N. ROSENBERG,  
President, the Dominican Republic  
Settlement Association, Inc.

RAÚL CARBUCCIA,  
Secretary of State for Agriculture,  
Industry and Labor

JOSEPH A. ROSEN,  
Vice-President, the Dominican  
Republic Settlement Association, Inc.

WITNESSES:

For the Chairman  
RT. HON. EARL WINTERTON

For the Director  
SIR HERBERT EMERSON

By STEPHANUS V. C. MORRIS  
Secretary Intergovernmental Committee

FOR THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
COORDINATING FOUNDATION

By: HAROLD F. LINDER  
Member of Executive Committee.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSLATION

I hereby certify that this is a true and exact translation of the official Spanish text of the Agreement today entered into by the Dominican Republic and the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, Inc., and that I have been authorized by the Hon. Vice-President of the Dominican Government to make this translation and furnish this certificate.

FRED Q. RICKARDS.

Seen:

M. DE J. TRONCOSO DE LA CONCHA,  
Vice-President of the Dominican Republic.  
(SEAL)

3186

March 12, 1940

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

The splendid work undertaken to assist relief in war torn lands bears eloquent witness to our traditional interest in alleviating human suffering.

Throughout the long history of this country, repeated appeals have been made for American assistance in time of need. I am proud to be able to say that America's answer to these appeals has sprung from the wells of human kindness, and has never been colored or distorted by political or nationalist motives. At one time or another, we have freely assisted the unfortunate of other nationalities, of all races, and all creeds.

The spear-head of our relief policy is the American Red Cross, a national institution, nationally chartered, which has entered into the familiar life of every American home. In an emergency, this organization is the first to enter the field.

In addition, we have had many separate and temporary organizations to care for various groups, and distinct phases of need. It is unhappily clear that the effect of the present war must create new areas of distress and need. Men will differ as to the causes which have led to this distress. It must never be forgotten, however, that whatever the cause, children, women and men are naked and must be clothed, are hungry and must be fed, are sick or in prison, and must be comforted. The carrying forward of this work is obedience to the highest voice of humanity. By listening to it we fulfill the best that is in ourselves.

I think it fair to point out certain obvious problems which must always be kept in mind. Warfare today is economic, even more than military. In consequence, even relief of human suffering enters into the complicated calculations of overseas politics, and may all too easily become a pawn in the diplomatic and military chess game. There will be occasions in which we shall be obliged to take this fact into account.

Clear heads are as necessary as kind hearts if suffering is really to be alleviated. Only those responsibilities must be undertaken which can be adequately discharged. For this reason, the Congress has wisely determined that organizations for overseas relief, particularly in regard to belligerent countries, must give an accounting of their activities. I have endeavored personally to maintain contact with them through the agency which the Congress established in the Department of State, and through the American Red Cross.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

March 29, 1940

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT

I return, with many thanks, the copy of Earl P. Hanson's article entitled "Geography Goes Fluid".

White settlement in the tropics is likely to be very important. Dr. Ernst, of the Public Health Service, with whom I discussed it, brought in "White Settlers in the Tropics", by A. Grenfell Price, (American Geographical Society, 1939), a copy of which I am sending herewith. Price's basic conclusions are the same as Earl Hanson's; he winds up: "Recent experience in such regions as Florida and Queensland, as well as centuries-old experience in Costa Rica and the West Indies, indicates that both northern and Mediterranean whites can carry on even manual labor in the moderate tropics and that, far from being deleterious, this physical exertion is essential to health".

*Adolf*  
Adolf A. Berle, Jr.

April 4, 1940.

3186

Dear Mr. Berle:-

The President asks me to thank  
you for letting him see "White Settlers in  
the Tropics". He was much interested and  
I am returning it herewith.

Very sincerely yours,

M. A. Le Hand  
PRIVATE SECRETARY

#  
Hon. Adolf A. Berle, Jr.,  
Assistant Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

(Enclosure)



MIAMI SECTION

National Council of Jewish Women

MIAMI, FLORIDA

3/86

729 Euclid Avenue,  
Miami Beach, Florida  
April 6, 1938

PRESIDENT  
MRS. RALPH NEUFELD  
1796 S. W. 12TH ST.

HONORARY PRES.  
MRS. ISIDOR COHEN

1ST VICE PRESIDENT  
MRS. MORRIS ALPERT

2ND VICE PRESIDENT  
MRS. HARRY MARCUS

3RD VICE PRESIDENT  
MRS. HARRY BARNHARD

RECORDING SECRETARY  
MRS. LEWIS E. ROTHLEIN

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  
MRS. JACK SIMON

FINANCIAL SECRETARY  
MRS. A. FRANKLYN FRIEDMAN

TREASURER  
MRS. A. M. REDER

AUDITOR  
MRS. SAMUEL BEARMAN

President Roosevelt,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We, The Miami Section, National Council Of Jewish Women commend you upon the humanitarian stand you have taken by inviting other nations to join with us in opening their doors to refugees from oppressed countries.

Respectfully yours,

*Golda Barnhard*

Mrs. Harry Barnhard

Peace Chairman

May we kindly have an acknowledgement of the above for our files.

M. MICHAEL EDELSTEIN  
14th Dist. New York

*ab 4/18/40  
mw*

COMMITTEES:  
CIVIL SERVICE  
PATENTS  
PUBLIC LANDS  
REVISION OF THE LAWS

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

*file*

3186

April 16, 1940

APR 17 8 54 AM '40  
RECEIVED  
THE WHITE HOUSE

*My Assistant*

*x 76 - e*

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,  
President of the United States,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

Mr. Alexander Kahn, Editor of the Jewish Daily Forward, would consider it a very great honor if you would be kind enough to send a message to the National Labor Committee for Palestine, on the occasion of the annual Third Seder, which will take place in the Astor and Commodore Hotels in New York City on April twenty-eight.

*x 700*

The Seder commemorating the Passover Holiday, is sponsored by the National Labor Committee for Palestine, which was organized in 1923 by the United Hebrew Trades, and is composed of representatives of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers' Union, the Hat, Cap and Millinery International Union, Bakers Union, and many other fraternal and civic organizations. Together, the National Labor Committee represents two thousand central and local organizations with a total membership of over 500,000 people.

The purpose of the National Labor Committee is to render moral and financial assistance to the Jewish workers and pioneers in Palestine, who sacrificed so much for the rehabilitation of the ancient Jewish homeland. The Palestine Federation of Labor is now engaged in the supreme and heroic task of receiving thousands of immigrants and refugees from war-torn Europe and providing them with homes in the cities and in the colonies. The proceeds of the above-mentioned affair will be dedicated to this great humanitarian effort. Since its inception, the National Labor Committee for Palestine raised close to \$3,000,000 for the constructive work of our pioneers.

↓

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

M. MICHAEL EDELSTEIN  
14th Dist. New York

COMMITTEES:  
CIVIL SERVICE  
PATENTS  
PUBLIC LANDS  
REVISION OF THE LAWS

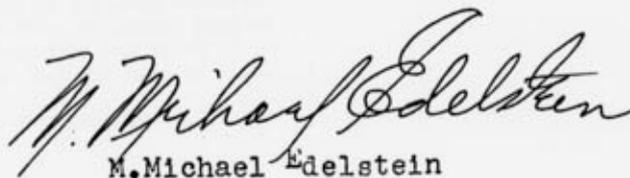
**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D. C.**

Mr. Kahn, who is now eighty years of age, was formerly associated with the New York World, and is now Editor of the Jewish Daily Forward which is the largest Jewish daily in the Country. The Forward has always been your ardent supporter and has daily advocated the principles of the New Deal.

The Third Seder is one of the most important Jewish events of the year and over 5,000 tickets have been sold. A message from you would bring cheer and hope to hundreds of thousands of people.

I hope you will find it possible to send this message and I wish to assure you it will be appreciated not only by the National Labor Committee, but by myself as well.

Respectfully yours,

  
M. Michael Edelstein

+

↓

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

MR. INGLING:

Have we ever send messages for the Natl. Labor Committee for Palestine in connection with a "Seder" (whatever that is)?

mw

*Nope*

April 18, 1940

Dear Congressman Edelstein:

This acknowledges your letter of April sixteenth requesting a message from the President to the National Labor Committee for Palestine on the occasion of the annual Third Seder, which will take place in the Astor and Commodore Hotels in New York City on April twenty-eighth. I note that the purpose of the National Labor Committee is to render moral and financial assistance to immigrants and refugees from Europe.

The President has received so many requests in connection with war relief activities that he prepared a general statement of his views on that subject, as it would not be possible for him to prepare separate messages in connection with each of the many requests which he receives. I am, therefore, enclosing copy of the statement which the President made and trust it will be helpful for the purpose that you have in mind.

Very sincerely yours,

STEPHEN EARLY  
Secretary to the President

Honorable M. Michael Edelstein,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure.

*Statement by the President of March 12 1940 on the general subject of relief.*

wdb-mw

TELEGRAM

The White House  
Washington



Miss Jones:

Before leaving Washington, dictated to Miss Williams for Mr. Early's signature letter to Congressman Edelstein turning down request for Palestine message. All correspondence should be in the files. Regards.

W. D. H.

April 22, 1940 3:10 p.m.

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1926

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM **The White House**  
Washington

3186

April 22, 1940

\*\*\* 16-6481

Memo for Mr. Hassett:

Could you please advise if you have a letter from Congressman Edelstein regarding a requested message from the President for National Labor Committee for Palestine on April 28th. The Congressman's office was calling and said you talked to him on Thursday.

Thanks a lot and my regards.

Dot

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1925

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM The White House  
Washington

May 10 1940

\*\*\* 10-0481

Mr. Bernard Baruch *x 11-788*  
597 Madison Ave.,  
New York City.

Regret in view of present situation appointment  
for May sixteenth indefinitely postponed.

Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President.

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1925

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM The White House  
Washington

May 10 1940. *file*

\*\*\* 10-0481

Dr. Paul Van Zeeland *x 11-4714*  
Room 3162 *Sen.*  
630 Fifth Ave.  
New York City.

*3186*

Regret in view of present situation appointment  
for May sixteenth indefinitely postponed.

Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President.

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1926

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM The White House  
Washington

May 10, 1940.

\*\*\* 16-6481

Mr. Lessing Rosenwald *x 1171365*  
Sears-Roebuck *x 22m*  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Regret in view of present situation appointment  
for May sixteenth indefinitely postponed.

Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President.

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1926

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM The White House  
Washington

May 10, 1940.

\*\*\* 16-6481

Mr. Henry Ittleson, *x*  
1 Park Ave.,  
New York City.

Regret in view of present situation appointment  
for May sixteenth indefinitely postponed.

Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 9, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL WATSON:

Henry Ittelson, Sr., #1 Park Avenue, New York, phoned long distance. He says he, Rosenbaum and von Zeeland have been invited to come down for an appointment with the President on Thursday, May 16th. The appointment to be around tea time, probably, but suggested they phone General Watson around noon that date.

Mr. Ittelson is anxious not to have to spend the whole day in Washington and would appreciate knowing as soon as possible a more exact hour. He is, of course, happy to come down at any time.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

5-9-40

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

At the direction of the President I have arranged with Sumner Welles for Dr. Paul Van Zeeland, Mr. Rosenwald, Mr. Ittleson and Barney Baruch, to come down on the afternoon of May 16th. I have written all of these gentlemen except Barney Baruch, and Welles suggested that perhaps the President or I would want to call him on the 'phone. Of course Mr. Welles wants this appointment for tea time, but I have made no commitment on that before asking the President.

E. M. W.

COORDINATING FOUNDATION

ROOM 1508 8122  
630 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK, N. Y.  
—  
CIRCLE 5-5762

STRICTLY PERSONAL  
AND CONFIDENTIAL

May 8, 1940

Major-General Edwin M. Watson,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear General:

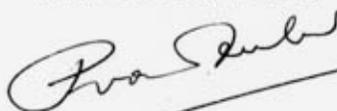
Thank you very much for your kind note of May 7th, 1940.

I shall be very glad indeed to conform to your suggestion.

I will telephone to you around noon on May sixteenth, from our  
Embassy.

Hoping to be able to see you on this opportunity, I beg to  
remain, my dear General,

Very sincerely yours,



Paul van Zeeland.

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ALVERTHORPE GALLERY  
JENKINTOWN PENNSYLVANIA  
OPPOSITE 466  
LESSING J. ROSENWALD ELIZABETH MORGAN

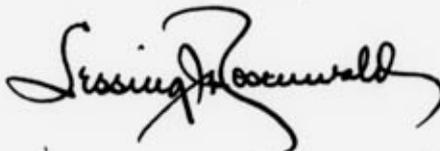
May 9, 1940

My dear Mr. Watson:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 7th.

I shall be glad to hold myself in readiness to see the President at his convenience, and I will call you during the day of May 16th to learn at just what hour the President desires to see me.

Very sincerely yours,



Lessing Rosenwald

LJR:EW

Mr. Edwin M. Watson,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

May 16

May 7, 1940

My dear Dr. Van Zeeland:

I believe Secretary Welles has already spoken to you about the appointment we have arranged for the afternoon of May sixteenth for yourself, Mr. Lessing Rosenwald and Mr. Henry Ittleson. I am merely confirming this and will let you know upon your arrival in the city just what the hour will be. I rather think it will be at tea time at the White House but that is not, of course, definite as yet.

I will appreciate very much if you will telephone me around noon on May sixteenth.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

RE/mma

Dr. Paul Van Zeeland,  
Coordinating Foundation,  
Room 3162,  
630 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.

Copies to Mr. Rosenwald and Mr. Ittleson.

May 7, 1940

My dear Mr. Rosenwald:

Dr. Van Zeeland has doubtless informed you that the President wishes to see you, Dr. Van Zeeland and Mr. Ittleson on the afternoon of May sixteenth. I have just written Dr. Van Zeeland regarding this appointment and enclose herewith, for your information, copy of my letter, which is self-explanatory.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

RB/mma

Lesing Rosenwald, Esq.,  
Sears-Roebuck,  
Philadelphia,  
Pennsylvania.

Enclosure

May 7, 1940

My dear Mr. Ittleson:

Dr. Van Zeeland has doubtless informed you that the President wishes to see you, Dr. Van Zeeland and Mr. Rosenwald on the afternoon of May sixteenth. I have just written Dr. Van Zeeland regarding this appointment and enclose herewith, for your information, copy of my letter, which is self-explanatory.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

RB/mma

Henry Ittleson, Esq.,  
1 Park Avenue,  
New York, N. Y.

Enclosure

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

May 4, 1940

Dear General:

In accordance with your request, I am sending you herewith the full names and addresses of Messrs. Rosenwald and Ittleson. They are as follows:

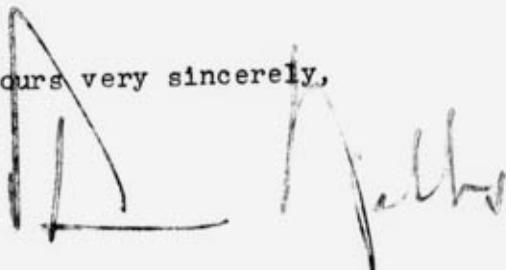
Mr. Lessing Rosenwald,  
Sears Roebuck,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mr. Henry Ittleson  
1 Park Avenue,  
New York, New York

I have just spoken with Paul Van Zeeland on the telephone and he is tremendously encouraged by the willingness of the President to have the interview scheduled for May 16.

Believe me

Yours very sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'R. H. H. H.', written over a horizontal line.

Brigadier General Edwin M. Watson,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 3, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR  
GENERAL WATSON

Will you and Sumner Welles  
arrange for this next week?

F. D. R.

*Date suggested is  
Thursday aft May 16<sup>th</sup>*

The status of this case is that  
Sumner Welles is going to send  
me the names of the two gentlemen  
I am to write and ask to come  
down to see the President. He,  
himself, will contact Van Zeeland.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

May 1, 1940

My dear Mr. President:

With reference to your memorandum to me of today's date concerning Mr. Van Zeeland's suggestion, I am afraid that the plan you proposed would not cover what Mr. Van Zeeland had in mind.

He told me specifically and very emphatically that unless you saw personally the three men he mentioned and indicated in this way your own interest in immediate and effective action, there would be little likelihood that the plan he outlined could be carried out.

I hesitate to suggest anything which imposes any additional demand upon your time, but from my knowledge of the gentlemen concerned, I think he may probably be right. Would it not be possible for you some time next week or the week following to let the three of them meet with you at the White House some afternoon with Van Zeeland himself preferably present. That will give Rosenwald the opportunity of saying to you that he and his

The President,

The White House.

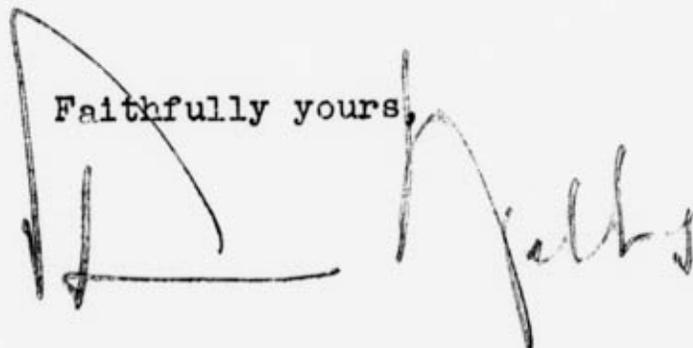
-2-

family were prepared to make initially this large subscription, and presumably the other two would then have to define their position concretely.

I forgot to mention in my earlier letter to you on this subject that Mr. Van Zeeland said that all of the members of the Rosenwald family were meeting on May 12 to determine the exact amount which each member of the family should put up and that, consequently, he thought if it proved convenient for you, and you desired to adopt his suggestion, the suggested meeting with you might be fixed for some date after May 12.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. H. [unclear]". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed phrase "Faithfully yours,".

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 1, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE *x 20*

I am glad Mr. Van Zeeland is making progress and I think the best thing would be for me to send a personal request to Mr. Baruch that he meet with Mr. Van Zeeland and possibly with Mr. Rosenwald and Mr. Ittelson - preferably in New York. I will tell Mr. Baruch, however, that the general plan has my full approval.

Will you let me know what you think?

F. D. R.

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

April 30, 1940

My dear Mr. President:

Paul Van Zeeland called to see me today to tell me of the progress made in the work of the Refugees Committee.

He told me that in the course of his recent visit to Europe, whence he returned only three days ago, he received formal assurances from the Secretary of the Colonies in England and from the Secretary of the Colonies in France that the British and French Governments would respectively make available for settlement British Guiana, New Caledonia, and the Marquesas. Mr. Van Zeeland said that with these areas now available for settlement, together with the areas which will be available in the Philippine Islands and the area already under development in the Dominican Republic, the moment had come when he felt it imperative to commence the collection of the initial amount of capital required for the work involved. He added that detailed plans had been prepared for settlement projects in all of the areas mentioned.

He asked me to tell you confidentially that Lessing

The President,

The White House.

-2-

Rosenwald had given him formal assurances that the Rosenwald family would subscribe several millions of dollars in the purchase of the proposed refugee bonds. He was further assured that if Bernard Baruch and Mr. Ittelson would subscribe equivalent amounts and an announcement could be made to that effect, a very considerable number of other individuals would be willing to subscribe for lesser amounts. He thought that by these means between fifteen and twenty millions of dollars could be obtained as the initial capital investment toward the realization of the various settlement projects.

Finally, he stated that there was no one but yourself who could give the necessary impulse to the attainment of these objectives. His feeling was that if you were willing to suggest to Mr. Baruch that he meet with Mr. Rosenwald and Mr. Ittelson at a confidential meeting at the White House under your auspices, both Mr. Baruch and Mr. Ittelson would equal the subscription already promised by Mr. Rosenwald.

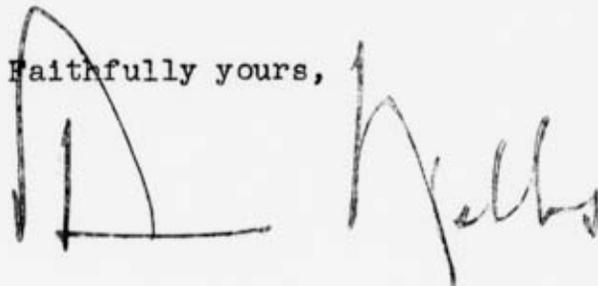
I told Mr. Van Zeeland that I would lay his suggestions before you and that I believed you would let me know for Mr. Van Zeeland's confidential information what your decision in the matter might be.

-3-

In conclusion I may say that Mr. Van Zeeland will attend a meeting of the Migrations Committee of the League in Geneva in July and from what he tells me, he has succeeded in coordinating the work of that committee with the work of the Refugees Committee. He feels very strongly that if through the subscription of the initial amount of capital needed, a concrete demonstration can be given at the meeting of the Migrations Committee this summer that the Refugees Committee is seriously undertaking the work devolving upon it, there should then immediately be held a meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee since he believes that many of the Latin American governments would be willing to take a more active interest in the project if they saw that capital funds really existed for the development of the enterprises involved.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. Kellogg". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "M" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

4/6/40

April 6, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL WATSON:

Secretary Welles talked to Van Zeeland in New York and it is Van Zeeland's opinion that it is not desirable that Mr. Rosenberg be present on the afternoon of May sixteenth, when the President will see him with Messrs. Rosenwald and Ittleson.

Mr. Welles says, however, that Van Zeeland says, and Welles agrees, that it would be enormously helpful if the President would receive Mr. Rosenberg with specific regard to the resettlement of the Dominican Republic project on which he has spent so much time and money and which has been successful. Mr. Welles thinks it would be an excellent idea if, when Van Zeeland and the other two come on May sixteenth, Mr. Rosenberg could have had his appointment some days previous thereto.

You are to ask the President whether he wants to see Van Zeeland, Rosenwald and Ittleson here at the offices on the afternoon of May sixteenth or for tea at the House. Will you also ask him if he will see Rosenberg separately sometime before May sixteenth. The two files are attached.

Roberta

*an*

*James N.*

*x PP76364*

*x 138*

3186  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 10, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE <sup>x20</sup>

I have no objection to Dublin as the meeting place — the only objection being its inaccessibility for most of the people going to the Convention. What do you think of holding it in Monaco -- an accessible spot and sufficiently independent of France to make it worth considering?

F. D. R.

Letter from Hon. Sumner Welles, Under Secretary of State, 5/8/40 to the President, copy of which is in our files, with accompanying copy of telegram from Myron Taylors, 5/7/40 to the President, in re meeting of the officers of the Intergovernmental Committee.

May 8, 1940"

My dear Mr. President:

I enclose a copy of Mr. Myron Taylor's telegram of May 7, 1940 to you. In this telegram Mr. Taylor proposes that a meeting of the officers of the Intergovernmental Committee take place preliminary to a full meeting of the Committee. He suggests that this meeting be held at the end of this month, possibly in Brussels or Paris.

I believe that there is much that is commendable in Mr. Taylor's idea of a preliminary meeting of the officers similar to the meeting which was held here last October. Judging by the reaction after the Washington meeting, most governments participating in the Committee are satisfied to have the meeting confined to the officers as long as they obtain subsequently full minutes of the proceedings. In this way they are informed of current developments relating to refugees without any obligation on their part to take position at a time of extreme uncertainty.

Regarding

The President,

The White House.

-2-

Regarding the time of the meeting, I am inclined to believe that the end of May is somewhat soon. Mr. van Zeeland must be given a full opportunity to set up his proposed holding company. Mr. Rosenberg must have another month in order to report that the Dominican Settlement is in full swing (parenthetically, the first settlers have arrived in the Dominican Republic today). Mr. Liebman believes that the Philippine project will be in a position to take settlers by the middle of June. In short, there is every advantage in postponing the meeting until the end of June and nothing could be gained by holding it as early as the end of May.

As to the place of the meeting, two possibilities present themselves to mind. In the first place, the possibility might be considered of holding the meeting of officers at Geneva simultaneously with, or, preferably, immediately following, the meeting of the Labor Office's Migration Committee in Geneva at the end of June. Mr. van Zeeland, Professor Bowman, Mr. Warren (Secretary of the President's Advisory Committee) will attend the Migration Meeting, as will Sir Herbert Emerson. Senhor Lobo, the Brazilian Vice Chairman, is attached to the I.L.O. and Geneva would be readily accessible to Mr. Taylor and to Lord Winterton and the French, Argentine and Dutch representatives. The occasion would lend itself to confidential discussion of the refugee question without too much attention being

focused

-3-

focused on it. Much of the ground that would be covered at the officers' meeting will be gone over at the Migration Committee meeting anyway and the officers will thus be in a position to approve that part of the Migration Committee's recommendations which appeals to them. Of course, the consent of the Swiss Government will have to be obtained, but the Swiss are more apt to agree to a session at Geneva than at some other point on Swiss territory. In any event, this possibility might be explored because it presents very tangible advantages. It is very doubtful whether the Belgian Government would wish to receive the officers at Brussels at this uncertain time and Paris is objectionable (as was decided when the matter was presented to you some weeks ago) as the seat of a belligerent Government.

x499

You may wish, however, to maintain a clear-cut distinction between the Intergovernmental Committee and the Labor Office's Migration Committee. In that event might not consideration be given to the possibility of our suggesting Dublin as a meeting place? The Eire Government has cooperated loyally in the work of the Committee and has evidenced a desire to contribute wherever practicable to the solution of the refugee problem. President de Valera personally has wished the Committee well and from time to time during 1939 caused inquiries to be made as to the

progress

x218  
x218-A

-4-

progress of the work. He would doubtless be complimented by the suggestion of Dublin as a meeting place, and it would present definite advantages as the capital of a neutral European country which is not under the shadow of a direct threat by Germany.

Faithfully yours,

Sumner Welles

75/14/40

3186

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

May 11, 1940

My dear Mr. President:

With reference to your memorandum of May 10, commenting upon my letter to you of May 8, which I am returning herewith, would you consider San Sebastian as a suitable alternative to Monte Carlo? While Monte Carlo would be ideal in every way under present conditions so far as its situation is concerned, I rather have the feeling that public opinion here might treat the selection of that spot with some flippancy and for that reason underestimate the importance of the work to be done. San Sebastian, I think, will be equally accessible, and by having the meeting held in the Spanish city it might be possible to interest the Spanish Government in the objectives sought and make it thereby easier for us to persuade the Spanish authorities to give more favorable treatment to the refugees in Spain.

x422  
x422-A

If you will let me have your decision, I will see that the necessary steps are taken.

Believe me

Faithfully yours,

SUMNER WELLES x20

S. W.

San Sebastian is O. K. - But I didn't suggest Monte Carlo!  
I said MONACO!

F. D. R.

5/14/40

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

My dear Mr. President:

May 8, 1940

I enclose a copy of Mr. Myron Taylor's telegram of May 7, 1940 to you. In this telegram Mr. Taylor proposes that a meeting of the officers of the Intergovernmental Committee take place preliminary to a full meeting of the Committee. He suggests that this meeting be held at the end of this month, possibly in Brussels or Paris.

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Regarding

The President,

The White House.

-2-

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focused

-3-

focused on it. Much of the ground that would be covered at the officers' meeting will be gone over at the Migration Committee meeting anyway and the officers will thus be in a position to approve that part of the Migration Committee's recommendations which appeals to them. Of course, the consent of the Swiss Government will have to be obtained, but the Swiss are more apt to agree to a session at Geneva than at some other point on Swiss territory. In any event, this possibility might be explored because it presents very tangible advantages. It is very doubtful whether the Belgian Government would wish to receive the officers at Brussels at this uncertain time and Paris is objectionable (as was decided when the matter was presented to you some weeks ago) as the seat of a belligerent Government.

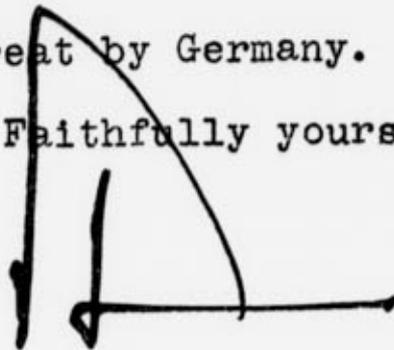
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progress

-4-

progress of the work. He would doubtless be complimented by the suggestion of Dublin as a meeting place, and it would present definite advantages as the capital of a neutral European country which is not under the shadow of a direct threat by Germany.

Faithfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'H' that loops back over the first part of the name. The rest of the signature is less distinct but appears to be a first name.A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'H' that loops back over the first part of the name. The rest of the signature is less distinct but appears to be a first name.

REC  
This telegram must be  
closely paraphrased be-  
fore being communicated  
to anyone. (br)

FLORENCE

Dated May 7, 1940

Rec'd 2:18 p. m.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

4, May 7, 6 p. m.

FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM MYRON TAYLOR.

"Referring to suggestion of meeting of Inter-  
governmental International Committee after considering  
present uncertainties it might be advisable to hold a  
meeting of officers similar to Washington meeting at  
Brussels or even Paris at end of month. Full reports  
of past months and of present situation could be  
presented by Emerson and others (?) committee being  
promptly thereafter circularized with copies of  
proceedings. This would avoid bringing together at  
this moment so large a body and avoid possible  
extension of the field of discussion for which no  
adequate preparation could be reasonably foreseen. A  
meeting of (?) at a later date could be forecast in the  
minutes of the proceedings. I am sending copy of this  
message to Achilles for his information."

PUTNAM

NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS



FREID AGENCY

NATIONAL CITY BUILDING, 17 EAST 42ND STREET  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

M. E. APPELBAUM

TELEPHONE  
MURRAY HILL 2-4500

Dear Mr President :-

3186

May 23/1940

As a suggestion, a request from you  
that each person in this country - who is well -  
to fast a half day each week and contribute  
the savings to the refugees' funds so that their  
lot may be easier.

I believe that this will be readily  
accepted - will work no hardships and in fact will  
also be good for our health.

At your service, as ever  
M. E. Appelbaum

May 27, 1940

3186

Respectfully referred to the American  
Red Cross for consideration and acknowledg-  
ment.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

esr/

Tel. to the President 5-26-40 from:

Raymond Harper,  
Newtown, Pa.,

"In the name of the International Committee for refugees in France concerning which Countess of Abingdon and H. E. Kershner spoke to Mrs. Roosevelt last week-end. It is my deep conviction that we the citizens of the U.S. Believing in the cause of the Allies should at once assume the responsibility of feeding and caring for the refugees and evacuees in France and Great Britain."

2263-a

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SAMUEL L. RUSS  
*51 Chambers Street*  
*New York City*

May 27, 1940.

Mr. Stephen T. Early,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Early:

Supply ships from Canada to  
England and France presumably are returning  
empty. Isn't it possible that they could  
bring back children to American safety for  
the duration of the war, and at the same time  
relieve the pressure upon the Allies for food?

I am sure thousands of American fam-  
ilies would welcome such refugees; my wife and  
I would be glad to take care of one or two and  
perhaps a young woman to help with them.

Such a plan might appeal to the Pres-  
ident and certainly a word from him would set  
the wheels of some such organization as the Red  
Cross in motion and clear immigration barriers.

Yours very truly,

Oliver Holden

+

3186

+ 48-B  
+ 48-a  
+ 203-a

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

May 27, 1940.

My dear Mr. Holden:

Please let this be by way of acknowledging and thanking you for your letter of May twenty-seventh. Your thoughtfulness in writing as you did is appreciated and I shall be glad to pass your suggestion along to the President for his attention.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

STEPHEN EARLY  
Secretary to the President

Mr. Oliver Holden,  
American Press Society,  
36 West 44th Street,  
New York City, N. Y.

dj

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3186

**FILE MEMO,  
6-13-40**

The President wrote to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, this date, quoting in full, for the information of the House of Representatives, the attached letter to the Vice President. The President also said "I trust that if the Senate aids such an appropriation to the Relief Bill, the House will give it approval".

Copies of letters filed 1435-G

1435 G

FOR THE PRESS                      IMMEDIATE RELEASE } June 11, 1940

My dear Mr. Vice President:

World events have made it clear to the American people that in the interest of American defense it is necessary for us to engage in a greatly enlarged program of training and armament.

At the same time our deepest sympathy has gone out to the civilian populations of war-torn areas, and I believe that this sympathy should be expressed by a concrete example of our inherent and decent generosity.

Many millions of dollars have been given to the American Red Cross for relief purposes in Europe, but I feel that the Government itself should greatly add to the assistance that is now being given.

In the pending Relief Bill before the Congress we are making possible the expenditure of over one billion dollars for the relief of the needy unemployed in the United States. And in addition to this, large further sums are being spent from day to day by states and municipalities in the care of the needy who cannot be given employment on work relief projects.

In view of these large sums spent at home, I feel that the Congress would receive nation-wide support if it were to add an appropriation to the Relief Bill in the sum of at least fifty million dollars as a token of our deep-seated desire to help not only Americans but people who are destitute in other lands.

Clearly the greater part of the amount appropriated will be spent in the United States for the purchase and export of food materials -- nearly all of which represent surplus in this country. These surpluses are due principally to the war situation in other lands. We have used and are using a part of these surpluses for distribution to our own needy families. But there is still an excess which tends, incidentally, to depreciate the prices which American farmers receive for their products. Further export of these surplus food products will help the economies of our very large agricultural population.

There are other things which the destitute refugees need across the seas -- medicines and medical and nursing aid; bandages, surgical dressings, hospital garments and even coats and blankets and sheets; ambulances; clothing against the winter which will be upon them soon; safeguards against epidemics which could well spread throughout the world.

The funds of the Red Cross will be needed and used for these purposes. The appropriation I am suggesting will supplement their efforts.

The appropriation should, I think, be kept in somewhat elastic form because it is clear that at this time it is impossible to forecast either the exact needs or the exact methods of meeting them.

I call attention to the fact that such an appropriation in no way lightens the burden which the American Red Cross has already assumed. It is necessary that the American Red Cross continue its splendid service for wounded and sick soldiers and civilians. An appropriation by the Congress will supplement the work of the Red Cross to meet the many additional crying needs of the civilian populations who have been driven from their homes.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

The Honorable  
The Vice President of the United States  
The United States Senate.

3186

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON June 15, 1940

Memorandum For The President.

Refugee Children

The Solicitor General asked me to give you the attached memorandum. It advocates an amendment to the 50 million dollar Red Cross appropriation amendment, to provide that one million dollars may be used to defray transportation cost of refugee children.

It does not relax the immigration laws. Of course, the next step would be to attempt such relaxation since the quotas available July 1 are 60,000 (France); 1500 (Holland); 1000 (Belgium). Naturally these will all be greatly oversubscribed by adults and children. In other words, this is a mere first step.

Harry Hopkins tells me this question was presented to you last week and you turned it down. Because Biddle and others are so insistent, Hopkins thinks it might be brought to your attention again. The French and British Ambassadors are, of course, tremendously interested. Mrs. Roosevelt is also interested.

Several Bills have been introduced along this line. If you do not feel you can publicly approve it, Biddle asks if he and other interested governmental officials may be active in its behalf privately, although not of course publicly.

JHR  
J. H. R.

It is very improbable anything can be done about this in connection with the Red Cross Bill since the Senate will finish debate today and send the Red Cross amendment back to the House for concurrence, thereby removing the necessity for a conference.

3186  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR  
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE <sup>x3</sup>

Will you speak to me  
about this?

F. D. R.

Memorandum for the President from Hon. James H. Rowe, 6/15/40 in re Refugee Children, with attached memorandum regarding the matter from the Solicitor General, which accompanied the Solicitor General's letter of 6/14/40 to the President, also attached. Suggests an amendment "Provided that a sum not exceeding \$1,000,000 may be reserved by the President out of the amount appropriated to be used as the President may direct to defray the transportation and reception costs of refugee children who may be lawfully admitted into the United States", (amendment to the 50 million dollar Red Cross appropriation amendment) Also attached is a letter from Katharine F. Lenroot, Chief, Children's Bureau, Dept. of Labor, 6/15/40 to Mr. Rowe, with attached telegram from (over)

Juliet Lowell, Member Authors League of  
American English Speaking Union Vassar Club,  
Beverly Hills, Calif., 6/15/40 in re refugee  
children.

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x15-E

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION



THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON

y

June 28, 1940

Miss Grace Tully  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Grace:

I have already talked to the President about  
this in accordance with his memorandum of June 17,  
so this can be sent to the files.

Very sincerely yours,

  
Secretary of Commerce

Enc.

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

100



Office of the Solicitor General  
Washington, D. C.

June 14, 1940

FB:vb

My dear Mr. President:

There seems to be a very strong public opinion in favor of bringing over children, who have now become refugees on account of the war, from France, England and perhaps other countries. One bill has already been introduced into the House for this purpose; and another is about to be. I have discussed the matter in detail with Clarence Pickett of the Friends Service Committee, Miss Katharine Lenroot of the Children's Bureau, and other representatives of the child agencies.

In view of the possibility of such legislation being adopted, it seemed to us wise to suggest to you the advisability of having included in the Red Cross amendment to the relief bill, or in some later appropriation, a provision authorizing you, in your discretion, to reserve a sum not to exceed one million dollars to pay for the traveling expenses of any children who might be admitted under existing quotas or under this legislation.

The British Ambassador tells me that he has described the plan and mentioned the possible reservation in the appropriation

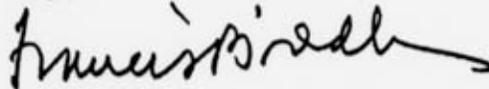
ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

-2-

bill to Mr. Norman Davis of the American Red Cross. The chief purpose of the reservation would be to provide a basis for immediate action whenever that becomes possible, and further to encourage voluntary contributions for the care of the children in this country. Very large contributions are already in sight.

I am enclosing also a draft of such suggested provision in the Red Cross relief bill, together with a brief memorandum.

Respectfully,



FRANCIS BIDDLE  
Solicitor General

The President

The White House

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

MEMORANDUM

There has been introduced in Congress and referred to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization H. R. 10083, providing for the admission of children from Great Britain, France, Belgium and The Netherlands, as non-quota immigrants for the duration of the war. At least one other bill with a similar purpose is now being drafted and will shortly be introduced, providing for the admission of a limited number of children from certain specified countries. Under both bills the statutory requirements with respect to papers accompanying the visas and passports will be modified or waived and will be made subject to regulations promulgated by the Attorney General.

Even without such legislation, several thousand children could be admitted within present quota restrictions.

Comprehensive plans for the reception and support of the children have been developed under the leadership of Clarence Pickett of the American Friends Service Committee and other experienced persons, which will insure coordinated operation by all the organizations concerned. According to these plans, all unaccompanied children admitted under the proposed bill or under the provisions of existing law would clear through organizations approved by the Children's Bureau, subject to the

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

final approval of the Attorney General. Many details of the plan have already been worked out.

There is no doubt that very large sums of money can be raised for this purpose. Considerable amounts are already pledged. Payment by the government, however, of the traveling and reception expenses of the children would help to meet the immediate emergency, and permit private funds to be reserved for the actual care and support of the children. It is indicated that this action would have the vigorous support of papers such as the New York Times, the New York News, the New York Herald-Tribune, and the Philadelphia Record. Several of the Foundations have indicated their support of the program.

The Counselor of the French Embassy has stated that his government has cabled him that large numbers of children are concentrated in the territory around Bordeaux and that some provision is urgently needed for these children. It would seem, therefore, that they could be put on an American vessel if one could be sent to Bordeaux immediately. The Commercial Secretary of the British Embassy has also indicated his sympathy with the plan.

SUGGESTED AMENDMENT

Provided that a sum not exceeding \$1,000,000 may be reserved by the President out of the amount appropriated to be used as the President may direct to defray the transportation and reception costs of refugee children who may be lawfully admitted into the United States.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
CHILDREN'S BUREAU  
WASHINGTON

June 15, 1940

Mr. James Rowe,

The White House.

Dear Mr. Rowe:

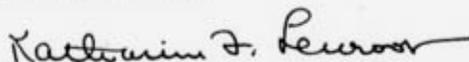
Attached herewith is a telegram which has just been received from a member of the English Speaking Union urging the development of plans for bringing children to Canada and the United States. She states that the move has been endorsed by William Allen White, Walter Lippman, and others. We are continually getting offers of help and indications of interest in the Children's Bureau.

I have just discussed informally with Admiral Land, of the Maritime Commission, what could be done about a ship in case the decision was made to try to get children over here. Admiral Land has given me the following information:

He would not advise using anything smaller than the Washington, the Manhattan, or the America. If the America were used it would be her maiden voyage. He thinks arrangements could be made with the United States lines to use either one of these ships, or all three of them if it were desired to bring over children to the number of five or six thousand. Each would accommodate about 2,000 people. The cost could be figured at from \$80. to \$100 a head, or a total cost per ship of from \$160,000 to \$200,000. He thought perhaps \$100 a head would be a safe estimate. If the decision were made, the first ship could be ready within a week, the second ship within two weeks, and the third ship within three weeks.

I am in constant touch with Clarence Pickett, of the American Friends' Service Committee, and others, and I am sure that well-developed plans for the reception and care of children could be put immediately into effect if arrangements could be made to get them over to this country. Organizations in the United States would be in a position to furnish necessary personnel over and above the regular ship personnel for the care of the children enroute.

Sincerely yours,



Katharine F. Lenroot,  
Chief.

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

6418

TELEGRAM

44WU, 41DL

The White House  
Washington

*Del. reply drafted 6/18  
JED*

NSH New York NY 240pm June 17 1940

The President

The White House

Believe you could greatly serve the United States by saving the valuable lives of leading anti-fascists now in France such as Negrin Sforza Titulescu Picciardi. Beg you most earnestly to facilitate their departure on next ship carrying refugees from France.

Freda Kirchwey, Editor the Nation.

333pmd

76/20/40

3186

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

THE WHITE HOUSE

June 18, 1940

Miss Freda Kirchwey, <sup>x pp 5107</sup>  
Editor, The Nation, <sup>x</sup>  
New York, New York.

I need not tell you how deeply sympathetic and concerned I am over the problem which you present in your telegram. The State Department is giving the matter immediate and intensive study, which I hope may be productive of some result. The practical difficulties which confront such a plan, in the face of the fast moving events, and the limitations of time within which facilities might be provided make the problem formidable and difficult. However, we are trying to do what can be done and are exploring all phases of the matter. Any further suggestions which you have in mind will be welcome.

---

Franklin D. Roosevelt

SD:JED:LMF

x463-6

June 20, 1940

Respectfully referred for the <sup>x 20</sup>  
files of the State Department.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

hm

Transmitting copy of telegram which the President received from Freda Kirchwey, Editor the Nation, NYC, 6/17/40 urging action to save valuable lives of leading intellectuals who are anti-Fascists and political refugees now in France, and copy of President's reply of 6/18/40.

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

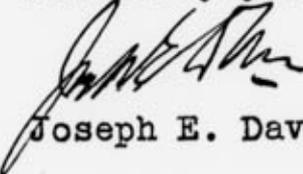
June 19, 1940

My dear Mr. President:

Herewith, for your consideration, is a draft reply to the telegram from Miss Freda Kirchwey, editor of The Nation, urging action to save valuable lives of leading intellectuals who are anti-Fascists and political refugees, now in France.

This is sent by me by direction of the Under Secretary.

Sincerely yours,



Joseph E. Davies

The President,

The White House.

3156  
June 19, 1940

MLS

Respectfully referred to the State Department for attention by memorandum.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

Telegram to the President, all dated 6/18/40, from the following:

- Bleasby, Leah and family of 6, Detroit, Mich. Urges that U. S. take a firm stand on moral issues involved in European war without fear.
- Hart, Mildred, Cleveland, Ohio. Endorses President's actions, and suggests that leaders of opposing political party be called in for conference on foreign policy to insure mutual agreement.
- Weinstein, Wm., Accord, N. Y. Makes appeal for Congress to remove ban on volunteers; says thousands of Jews ready to sacrifice themselves.
- Hunt, Elizabeth Pinney, Haverford, Penn. Suggests merger of British Empire with U. S.
- Ridley, Mrs. Frances, Fairfax, Calif. Says heart of America will die with defeat of France and urges help now.
- Mandel, Frances, New York, N. Y. Urges silent message be sent to Pres. LeBrun advising him against peace with Hitler and alliance with England to end.
- McCarty, John A., Chairman, Waltham Comm. to defend American by Aiding the Allies, Waltham, Mass. Resolution voted endorsing all possible aid to Allies even to permitting our citizens to volunteer for military service in their ranks; the speeding of war materials for Allies and this country; Congress remain in session.
- Kirkland, Leontine, 39 E. 79 St., New York, N. Y. "Hurry for military service. Speeding everywhere. Please urge France they must fight to the last".
- Barsky, Dr. Edw. K., Chairman; Biedenkapp, Fred, Executive Sec'y, United American Spanish Aid Comm., New York, N. Y. Committee representing 1/2 million Americans urges President to use his high office to obtain release of all Spanish refugees and international volunteers from French labor camps and prisons. Also, to obtain just amnesty for all political and war prisoners in Franco's prisons.
- Hays, Aline Davis, Sandpoint, N. Y. Urges State Department's intervention for anti-Fascist refugees in Franco held in concentration camps.
- Brono, Clinton, Omaha, Nebraska. Reactionary Republican appeals to President to order the Pacific fleet to the Atlantic to assist France in effecting negotiable peace and encourage England.
- Wankan, Fred E. Sr., Athens, Tenn. Thinks this is time for U. S. with Latin-Americans to take possession of Allies holdings in Western hemisphere and to negotiate with Canada for a union. Thinks navy should be trebled, and air force made 3 times the strength of that of Europe.
- Wethelen, H. W. Recommends open declaration to Hitler that we stand back of Allies with everything at our command.

owr/

June 20, 1940.

Respectfully referred for consideration and acknowledgment.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President.

3186

Following referred to State Dept.:

- PARENT, Robert - 69 Cornelia, Brooklyn, N. Y. 6/18/40 - Re an alliance with Canada.
- SHULER, Rev. A. C. - Pastor, Emeritus Calvary Church, Jacksonville, Fla., 6/16/40 - States that 98% of Southern Baptist Churches are with the President heart and soul in program for National Defense, etc.
- PATERSON, Elmer J. - 224 N. Sandusky Ave., Upper Sandusky, Ohio 6/17/40 Suggests setting-up of an Western Hemispher Marine Government.
- GUILFOYLE, Mrs. Zelde - 111-14 - 76th Ave., Forest Hills, N. Y. 6/17/40 Re France cancelling its war debt to U.S. by turning over her North American possessions.
- SEEGER? Mrs. Paul A. 1915 Sherman Ave., Evanston, Ill., 6/17/40 Asks the President to make the Monroe Doctrine effective both ways.
- KLINGHOFFER, Paula - 1531 Carroll St., Brooklyn, N. Y. 6/18/40 - Keep out of war.
- MATZ, Herman L. - 5154 N. Clark St., Chicago, Ill., 6/18/40 - Re England and Frances transferring to U. S. islands near us for their war debt.
- GOLL, W. B. Pres., Carrollton Excelsior & Fuel Co., LTD., 7445 Leake Ave., New Orleans, La., 6/16/40 - Re the President's recent cable to Premier Reynaud of France.
- DEJANIS, Mrs. A. R. - 115 W. 3rd St., N. Little Rock, Ark., 6/17/40 Says this country ought to, without waste of time take over any and all possessions of England, France, Holland, etc., in this hemisphere. Other views on war.
- KLEIN, C. M. - RFD1, Millerville, Brandon, Minn., 6/17/40 - Views and suggestions on international situation.
- SUMERALL, Daisy D. - 410 N. Poplar St., Greenville, Miss., 6/16/40 - Re trade pact with Russia.
- PEARSON, L. B. - Box 12, Tuzowell, Va., 6/18/40 - Suggests that the U. S. Great Britain, and perhaps other Republics now unite in one great nation, says will eventually be done, why not now? -
- REYNOLDS, Mrs. S. - 3040 Lafayette St., St. Joseph, Mo., 6/17/40 - Says she doesn't believe report that there are thousand of Americans in Europe trying to come home, believes they are European refugees,
- 
- WOLFFER, Mary A. - 9530 - 119th St., Richmond Hill., L. I. N. Y. 6/19/40 Wants to exchange Canadian dime for an American dime. Encl. dime. Referred to Treasury by memo - receipt requested.

STANDARD FORM NO. 14A  
APPROVED BY THE PRESIDENT  
MARCH 10, 1926

# TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM **The White House**  
Washington

June 20, 1940.

\*\*\* 16-6481

X  
Hon. James G. McDonald  
The President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees  
122 E. 22nd St.,  
New York City.

Because of terrific pressure on the President's time  
you are requested to see Mr. Breckenridge Long, Assistant  
Secretary of State regarding subject you mention. Regards.

Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President.

3186

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

6-20-40

TO TAKE UP WITH THE PRESIDENT:

1. To ask the President if there should be both a Cabinet Meeting and the Advisory Council meeting this afternoon. This contingent on the trip to Hyde Park materializing.

2. Mr. James G. McDonald, president of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees, would like to come down when convenient to the President, bringing with him Professor Chamberlain, Rabbi Stephen Wise, and Geo. Warren.

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO  
THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to  
Eu

My dear General Watson:

I have been requested by the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees to ask you whether it would be convenient for the President to give an appointment to the Chairman and one or two members of the Committee who wish to place the Committee's views regarding the present refugee situation on record with the President.

122  
622  
10/15/51

The Chairman of the Committee, you will recall, is the Honorable James G. McDonald. He will be accompanied, probably, by Professor Chamberlain, Rabbi Stephen Wise and someone representing Archbishop Rummel, also Mr. George Warren, the Secretary of the Committee.

Sincerely yours,

*[Handwritten signature]*  
x 20

Robert T. Pell  
Assistant Chief, Division of  
European Affairs

Brigadier General Edwin M. Watson,  
Secretary to the President,  
The White House.

Smarron

Ask President if he wants  
to see Bob Doeth

6/18/60

Robert: file  
Summer Wells  
will see them  
Saturday  
O.K.

June 20, 1940

3186

Respectfully referred to the officials  
of the State Department for consideration  
and acknowledgment to Dr. W. A. McMillan.

**STEPHEN EARLY**  
Secretary to the President

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Letter to the Pres., dated 6/18/40

Honorable M. M. Neely, /  
United States Senate,  
Washington, D. C.

Letter from Senator Neely submitting plan from Dr. W. A. McMillan, /  
McMillan Hospital Building, Charleston, W. V.a., for the care of  
/ refugee children from the British Isles.

x 48-a

June 21, 1940

3186

Respectfully referred to the  
State Department for acknowledgment  
to Mrs. Nims.

STEPHEN EARLY  
Secretary to the President

mg

RICHARDS, J. P., House of Representatives, Washington, D. C., 6/19, enclosing letter of 6/17 from Mamie J. Massey Nims (Mrs. Frederick Nims, Fort Mill, S. C., suggests adoption of refugee children

June 21, 1940

MLS

Respectfully referred to the State Department for attention by memorandum.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

Letters to the President from:

- Connell, Mrs. Louise M., 175 Market St., Lexington, N.Y., 6/16/40.  
Suggests the use of "death-ray machine" for protection of Iceland.
- Conant, Melons, 2700 18th Ave., San Francisco, Calif., 6/17/40.  
Plan for united democracies.
- Anonymous, Newark, N. J., 6/19/40. Suggests making a secret pact with Russia and Balkan States to overcome Nazism.
- Schols, Chas., 219 W. Cook St., Springfield, Ill., 6/18/40. Printer suggests that advertising will be important factor in Western Hemisphere trade block.
- Fleischer, Rabbi Benjamin, Cong. Beth Hamadrash Hagadol, Norfolk St. New York City, N. Y., 233 Broadway, East., Undated. Suggests negotiating with Russia to enlist its championship of liberty.
- Clark, W. W., Box 721, Mason City, Wash., 6/16/40. Would have U. S. take Greenland. Warns against invasion of Canada, U. S., which he believes imminent danger.
- Pettes, Elizabeth Greenleaf, A.I.A., Peters, Constance T., A.S.L.A., 23 W. Cedar St., Boston, Mass., 6/19/40. Urges all possible aid to the Allies.
- Yost, Edna, 61 Irving Place, New York, N. Y., 6/19/40. Suggests calling upon every liberty loving nation to unite in fighting Germany.
- Roworth, E. C., Allen Creek Rd., Rochester, N. Y., 6/19/40. In favor of acquisition of French colonies in West.
- Farry, Cyril, V. Pres. & Mgr., DeKalb Division, The Rudolph Wurlitzer Co., DeKalb, Ill., 6/18/40. Urges all possible help to Great Britain; in favor of universal military training; recommends approving mass production of airplanes and tanks; and suggests securing British agreement to our occupation of its possessions in this hemisphere.
- Liphan, E. J., Liphan Manufacturing Co., Greenery, Pa., 6/19/40. Suggests that President appeal over radio for families to care for British refugee children.
- Loewen, Miss Auto van, Riverside Drive, 214, Apt. 7, New York, N. Y., 6/19/40. Suggests colonization of undeveloped areas for sheltering European refugees.
- Planik, V. S., Pres., National Slovak Society of the U. S. of America, Pittsburgh, Pa., 6/16/40. Slovak Society pledges loyalty to U. S.
- Divino, Teher, Ashbury Park, N. Y., 6/19/40. "Petition"  
Sends in a petition as a follow-up to telegram on the subject of Peace - a union of the three Americas.

June 21, 1940

MLS

Respectfully referred to the Department of State for attention by memorandum.

3186

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

Telegrams to the President urging him to secure release of Spanish refugees and members of international brigades, from:

Williamsburg Peace Group, Brooklyn, N. Y., 6/19/40.  
Amador, Dr. Raul Cordoro, MWGM Grand Lodge Valle De Mexico Doncellos  
No. 14, Mexico City, Mexico, 6/19/40.  
Faubo, Adelo L., 400 E. 59 St., New York, N. Y.

Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, 145 W. 41 St., New York  
N. Y., 6/19/40

Aaron, Dr. Harold, New York, N. Y., 6/19/40.

Schnoller, Scar, Executive Sec'y, New York Peace Ass'n., New York, N. Y.  
6/19/40.

Eastern East New York Youth Group, 367 New Lots Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.  
6/19/40.

Fuenteo, Cosar, Nat'l Sec'y, Spanish Section International Workers,  
New York, N. Y., 6/19/40.

Riskin, Mrs. S., Hollywood, Calif., 6/19/40.

Dutch, Babetto, New York, N. Y., 6/19/40.

McMichael, Jack, Chmn., American Youth Congress, New York, N. Y.,  
6/19/40.

Flatbush Peace Group, 1502 Avenue P, Brooklyn, N. Y., 6/19/40.

Johnson, Eugene and Ella, Brooklyn, N. Y., 6/19/40.

Martinez Gil, Gran Maestro Lucio, Mexico City, Mexico, 6/19/40  
Gran Maestro Lucio Martinez Gil, Mexico City, Mexico, 6/19/40.  
New York West Side Youth Peace Group, New York, N. Y., 6/19/40.

Schonck, A., Beauty Culturists Union 1133 Broadway, N. Y., 6/20/40.

Klein, Harold, Organizer Local 45-B, United Furn. Workers of  
America, CIO., New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.

3186

June 21, 1940

MLS

Respectfully referred to the Department of State for attention by memorandum.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

Telegrams to the President urging him to secure release of Spanish refugees, from:

- Poulson, Harper, Chmn., United Student Peace Comm., New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- American Labor Party, 7th Assembly Dist. Club, New York Co., N. Y., 6/20/40.
- International Workers Order Lodge 795, Brooklyn, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Teachers of Abraham Lincoln High School of Brooklyn, Brooklyn, N. Y., 6/20/40
- Social Service Employees Union Local 19, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40
- Starr, Geo., N. Y. C. Central Comm., Int'l Workers Order, N. Y., 6/20/40
- Greenwich Village Comm. of Greater N.Y., Comm. for Spanish Aid, N. Y., 6/20/40
- Nature Friends of America, 11 W. 18 St., N. Y. C., N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Goldman, Matilda S., Ossining, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Keller, Marvel, 2909 Olive Ave., NW., Washington, D. C., 6/20/40.
- Loomis, Roger S., New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Group of Patients of Montifiore Hospital, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Turner, Abe, Chmn. Peace Comm. United Wholesale & Warehouse Employees of N. Y. Local 65 CIO, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Hoffman, Alexander, Gen. Mgr., Cleaners & Dyers Union Local 239, ACW of A 750 Broadway, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Candola, Louis, Nat'l Soc'y, Italian Section, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Concourse Committee for Democracy, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40
- Feit, Emanuel, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- United American Artists, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40
- Ramirez, Armando, Soc'y, United Cigar Workers Union Local 273, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40.
- Berman, Jon L., Bus. Mgr., Window Trimmers & Displayers Union of Greater N.Y. Local 144 CIO, New York, N. Y., 6/20/40
- Prieto, Indalencio, Mexico City, Mexico, 6/20/40.

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Campbell, Mrs. Ronta V. T., 1224 M. St., N.W., Washington, D. C., 6/19/40.  
Would like a better position with WPA, present salary insufficient.  
Referred to WPA by memorandum.

Jones, Paul H., Pres., The Garden Education Department, Fordson High School, Ford Road and Maple Ave., Dearborn, Mich., 6/17/40. Suggests advisory boards to direct formation of war vegetable gardens. Encloses literature on plan. Referred to Secretary of Agriculture by memorandum.

June 22, 1940

Respectfully referred to the  
State Department for attention.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

MLS

x 422-a  
Telegrams to the President, all dated 6/21/40, urging intervention  
in behalf of Spanish refugees and international brigades in France  
to prevent their capture by Germans, from:

x  
Scherman, Harry, Pres., Book of the Month Club, New York, N. Y.,  
Workers Alliance Local 71, 2511 White Plains Rd., New York, N. Y.  
Detroit Chapter United America Spanish Aid Committee, Detroit, Mich.

x  
x 2366

3186

June 23, 1940

Respectfully referred to the  
Red Cross Chapter for consideration and  
acknowledgment.

3186

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

MLS

Fairfield, Wynn C., American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, 14 Beacon St., Boston, Mass., 6/18/40. Approves of President's action in requesting immediate appropriation of funds for Red Cross relief, and asks that some of it be made available for North China where there is a great scarcity of food supplies.

Hosmer, Hazel Ida, P. O. Box 56, Steinway Ave. Sta., Astoria, Long Island City, N. Y., undated. Takes exception to the demolition of 50-room mansion in Southampton, L. I., to avoid taxation, whereas it could have been converted into home for European refugee children.

June 26, 1940

MLS

3186

Respectfully referred for consideration and acknowledgment.

EDWIN M. WATSON  
Secretary to the President

Letters to the President referred to the State Department from:

- Starzenski, Victor, Burnt Hills, Saratoga County, N. Y., undated. Looks to the President for help to steady the ship of State. Thinks U.S. will not have a friend left when war is over; that Germany will not waste 5¢ worth of powder on us, but that its attack will be on world trade; that we have become weak due to conflict between Government and capital and management and labor and have destroyed our natural advantages and become the highest cost producing nation in the world; and that this internal problem should be solved. He appeals for aid of the Government in stopping our meddling in European affairs.
- Rising, Henry, Henry Rising & Co., 5606 Met Station, Los Angeles, Calif., 6/22/40. Wants the President to encourage the nation to drink more coffee in his next broadcast to stimulate the trade in Central and South America. Thinks the cartel idea a good one.
- D'Anato, Venice, 30-15 - 41 St., Astoria, N. Y., 6/24/40. Requests that before anything drastic is done in regard to European situation the people be permitted to vote on the measure.
- McRae, R. V., 307 Prospect Drive, Decatur, Ala., 6/22/40. Asks that President get in touch with him for unfolding of his plan for the capture of Hitler, which he thinks he can accomplish himself.
- Alger, Emily Anne, 430 North Sherman, Olympia, Washington, 6/18/40. Protests against shipment of war materials to Japan.
- Ukrainian-American Youth Club; Duhav, Michael, President; Soroka, Helen M., Secretary; New York, N. Y., 6/24/40. (Letter addressed to Count Rene de St. Quentin, French Embassy, Washington, D. C.) Asks that Spanish refugees and members of the International Brigade now held in France be released.
- Cartier, Mr. Mrs. R. E., 41 Ludger Ave., Aldenville, Mass., 6/22/40. Wants to know if it is safe for her and family to buy a home in view of possible war. Referred to F. L. A., F.H.A.
- Allon, T. G., McKenzie, Tenn., 6/20/40. Old man receiving a pension of \$19 per month wants to know how he may keep his home from being sold for unpaid taxes. Referred to F.L.A., F. H. A.
- Kassing, Walter, 8519 Minnesota Ave., St. Louis, Mr., 6/23/40. Veteran wants aid in saving his home from foreclosure. Referred to F.L.A., F. H. A.

76/28/40

3186

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
Washington

June 21, 1940.

My dear General Watson:

I have your communication of June 17, 1940, with which you transmitted the accompanying letters from Senator Radcliffe and Mrs. Hilles concerning the latter's desire to have her daughter, Madame Maurice Zuber, and three grandchildren come to the United States from France on an American vessel. \*

\* No American vessels are proceeding to France at this time; however, a regular weekly service between the United States and Lisbon, Portugal will be inaugurated by the American Export Line beginning June 27. This appears to be the only means of transportation with American vessels that might be available to Madame Zuber and her children provided, of course, they can obtain permission to proceed to Portugal.

It is assumed that Mrs. Hilles' grandchildren are not American citizens and in that event, of course, they will require visas for the United States. Madame Zuber would also require a visa in the event she has lost her American citizenship. The attached correspondence does not indicate whether this phase of the matter has been taken up with one of our consular officers in France. Before visas could be issued it would be necessary for the consular officer to have satisfactory evidence regarding the assurances of support of Mrs. Hilles' relatives.

Should it be desired I shall be glad to endeavor to obtain a telegraphic report from the consular officer at Bordeaux, at the expense of Mrs. Hilles, regarding her daughter and grandchildren, including information concerning their welfare and whether they are in possession of appropriate visas. I am sure that our officers in France who may be concerned with the cases of Mrs. Hilles' relatives will lend them any assistance that they appropriately may.

Sincerely yours,

BRECKINRIDGE LONG  
Assistant Secretary.

\*20

\*463-6  
\*203-A  
\*99

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 22, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS JOSEPH:

Dear Miss Joseph:

I talked with Miss Carroll in your office on Saturday and, accordingly, am sending the attached memorandum from the State Department regarding the wish of Mrs. Wm. S. Hilles to bring to the United States her daughter and grandchildren.

Lillian Dennison  
Secretary to General Watson.

PRYOR --

7

Please file with papers sent Sen. Radcliffe re Mrs. Hilles and Mrs. Zuber. Ltr was sent over Saturday.

ld

## TO STUDY EFFECT OF STRATOSPHERE

Aircraft Experts Would Learn Results On Pilots And Equipment

(By the Associated Press)

Seattle, June 23 — An exhaustive study of the effect of stratosphere flying on both pilots and delicate airplane equipment is being launched in connection with the sudden upsurge in the nation's air rearmament program.

A two-compartment steel chamber, for the first "differential" study of altitude changes ever undertaken in this country, was exhibited today at the plant of an aircraft company.

The use to which the chamber will be put in the next few months remains secret, but its construction implies that the altitudes at which warplanes will fight and bomb in the near future will be considerably higher than those at present.

American warplanes in standard use have been flown to almost 35,000 feet. Reports from Europe indicate that in the race for tactical advantage in air fighting, pilots are pushing their planes up as high as six miles.

### Chamber Divided

The altitude chamber is divided by a heavy steel partition. On one side pumps can exhaust the air to simulate "outside" air conditions above 40,000 feet—at stratosphere levels. Dry ice is used to cool the compartment to 61 degrees below zero—the minimum temperature reached in the stratosphere.

On the other side of the partition is a supercharged airplane "cabin" where the pressure goes down more

## The Sun Calendar

Today's Almanac For Baltimore

Sun rises... 4:41 A.M. | Moon rises... 10:35 P.M.  
Sun sets... 7:37 P.M. | Moon sets... 5:53 A.M.

High tide..... 9:32 A.M., 12:25 P.M.  
Low tide..... 3:31 A.M., 6:21 P.M.

PHASES OF THE MOON FOR JUNE  
New moon..... 6:11 P.M. | Full moon..... 2:15 P.M.  
First quarter... 12:51 P.M. | Last quarter... 12:15 P.M.

## The Weather

Forecast for Baltimore and Vicinity—  
Showers and thunder storms and slightly warmer today; tomorrow fair and cooler.

### General Conditions

A disturbance of moderate intensity is moving eastward over Maine. Another disturbance is moving eastward over Lower Michigan, with a trough extending southwestward to the Upper Rio Grande Valley. Pressure continues relatively high over the South Atlantic and East Gulf States. Another high-pressure area is moving east-southeastward over the Plains States and Northern Rocky Mountains Region.

During the last 24 hours showers have occurred in the Lake Region, the Plains States, New Mexico, Virginia, the Ohio and Upper Mississippi valleys, in Maine and in portions of the South Atlantic States.

Temperatures have risen in the Middle Atlantic States, portions of the Lake Region and in Montana, while they have fallen in the Middle Rocky Mountain Region, the Plains States and the Upper Mississippi Valley.

### General Forecast

The outlook is for local showers and thunder storms today in the Ohio Valley, Tennessee, the Middle Atlantic States and the Western Lower Lake Region, and for showers today and tonight in the North Atlantic States and the Eastern Lower Lake Region. It will be slightly warmer today in the Appalachian Region, the Middle Atlantic States and the extreme south portion of the North Atlantic States. Cooler weather is indicated this afternoon and tonight in the Lower Lake Region, the Ohio Valley and Tennessee, and during tonight and tomorrow in the Middle Atlantic and North Atlantic States.

## Brings Children To America; Will Return To France Soon

Baltimore Sun, ~~JUNE~~ 24, 1940

Mrs. Zuber, Now French Citizen, Would Go Back,  
Now That Three Youngsters Are Safe

Mrs. Maurice Zuber, of Paris, France, who arrived in Baltimore two days ago with her three children after crossing from Bordeaux aboard the refugee ship Washington, said yesterday she would go back to France "just as soon as I can."

Mrs. Zuber, who was formerly Miss Mary Catherine Hillis, is the daughter of Mrs. William S. Hillis, of 4603 Millbrook road, Guilford. Mrs. Zuber became a French citizen when she was married. Her husband is a French banker.

She explained yesterday that she came back to the United States "so that my children will be out of danger."

### None Speaks English

Her children are William, 4; Dominique, 3, and Isabelle, 1. None of the children speaks any English. They were accompanied by a French governess.

Neither William nor his little sister, Dominique, expressed any desire to return to France when they were questioned. They were playing on the lawn of the Hillis home, and had not yet realized that another language was spoken in their new environment.

Mrs. Zuber said she did not know where her husband is at present, but assumed that he had left Paris and gone to Bordeaux before the German advance.

She said that when war was declared in September, she and the

children had gone to stay with friends in Normandie, but had later moved to Senlis, a small French town near Compeigne, where the World War armistice was signed and where Hitler handed his peace terms to the French last week.

The Zuber family left Senlis on May 15, as the Germans were driving onto French soil, and went to Brest, on the far western peninsula of France. After passage aboard the Washington was arranged, Mrs. Zuber, the governess, and the children went to Bordeaux. They boarded the Washington with more than a thousand other refugees on June 2.

"If there is no more fighting in France, I will go back there," Mrs. Zuber said. "I am a French citizen, and I want to be there with my husband."

She said she would leave the children in Baltimore if she returned to France.

### Reared in France

Mrs. Zuber herself went to France for the first time when she was 2 years old, and was reared there. Her last visit to the United States was in 1936, when she stayed for several months. All of her children were born in Paris.

Mrs. Zuber expressed the opinion that France was betrayed by "fifth columnists and traitors," but was unwilling to discuss the nature of the betrayals. She said that even with German occupation of French territory she would go back to her home in Paris.

June 17, 1940

**MEMORANDUM FOR:** Honorable Breckinridge Long,  
Assistant Secretary of State.

Dear Breck:

Could you give me some information so

I may reply to this?

Very sincerely yours,

**EDWIN M. WATSON**  
Secretary to the President

Letter from Senator George L. Radcliffe, June 4, 1940;  
enclosing a letter from Mrs. William S. Hilles, 4603  
Millbrook Road, Kernewood, Baltimore, Maryland asking  
that he grandchildren be brought over from France.

EMW/J/EA

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE

June 4, 1940

General Edwin M. Watson  
Secretary to the President  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Watson:

Enclosed is a letter to President Roosevelt from Mrs. Hillis of Baltimore, Maryland, asking that her grandchildren be brought over from France.

Mrs. Hillis, I believe, knows the President's mother who has, I understand, been kind enough to take some interest in the situation.

Mrs. Hillis is a relative of mind and I would be exceedingly grateful if some arrangement could be made by which the grandchildren could be brought over and placed in the custody of Mrs. Hillis who is a woman of quite considerable means and amply able to take care of the grandchildren. I would be grateful for anything which you do for Mrs. Hillis.

Sincerely yours,

*George L. Radcliffe*  
George L. Radcliffe

R/l  
Enclosure

innocent victims of this war, with  
their papers all in order, may  
not be able to come to this safe  
refuge unless they can sail from  
a French port on an American ship.  
Cannot you arrange that space be  
given my child and grandchildren  
in one of our ships? I am asking  
for this assistance with a very anxious  
heart as every day makes the  
crossing more perilous.

May I thank you for the interest you  
have shown in asking Mr Davis  
and Mr Bullitt to assist my daughter.  
Your mother was so kind and I  
am deeply grateful. Believe me

Yours sincerely  
Dessie Hillis  
(Mrs. J. S. Hillis)

June 4<sup>th</sup> 1940

4603 HILLBROOK ROAD  
KERNEWOOD

Dear Mr President

I have just received  
a cable from my daughter - Madame  
Maurice Zuber. She asks the  
favour of being allowed to  
bring her three children -  
(eldest five years old) over here on an  
American ship sailing from France  
so as to leave them in my care  
and she would immediately return to  
France. She says it would be  
practically impossible for them to  
come over here any other way as  
she could not get to St. Paul, Spain or  
Portugal. Doubtless many other

jh

WOODWARD, Stanley  
Acting Chief of Protocol  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.  
1/8/40

3186

Letter to Gen. Watson returning file on Mr. James N. Rosenberg sent him 1/5/40. Says Mr. Summerlin has discussed with a number of officials in the Department the desirability of the President's seeing Mr. Rosenberg for a few minutes before the latter's departure for the Dominican Republic on Jan. 11 in connection with the settlement of refugees in that country, and he believes it would be most helpful to the work and appropriate if the President could receive Mr. Rosenberg for a few minutes. --- Letter to the President, 11/22/39, from Mr. Rosenberg, referring to conference he had with General Trujillo and Minister Andres Pastoriza, with representatives of the State Department and the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees, and with Mr. Myron C. Taylor and others. Enclosed <sup>(copy)</sup> letter he received from Minister Pastoriza in which Pastoriza assured him that the Dominican Republic would take appropriate steps to see to it that there would be no discrimination against such settlers and that they should be given an honorable, just, and equal opportunity to pursue their occupations and life free of molestation and persecution. Said he planned to go to the Dominican Republic for the purpose of working out practical details and would appreciate seeing the President for a few minutes before he went. Praises President's leadership, and acknowledges appreciation of the cooperation of the State Department. --- 1/8/40, Memo for Mr. Kannee from RB, saying "Be sure and see that the General has this to give to the President when Rosenberg calls. Give it to me whenever the day is."

SEE P.P.F. 6364

rlv  
ewr (COPY)

HUTCHINS, Dr. Robert M.  
President, University of Chicago,  
Chicago, Illinois  
1-15-40

3186

Wrote to the President saying that a friend of his lately told him of the plight of the Anti-Nazi German Austrian refugees in France. Said the situation is so bad that it is alienating these people and their friends from the allied cause and they are being exploited by the Germans on the radio. Dr. Hutchins said he has been wondering if a word from the American Ambassador to the French Government might not improve the situation. --- The President wrote to Dr. Hutchins, Jan. 22, 1940 saying he is sending copy of his letter to Ambassador Bullitt in Paris, with suggestion that if the opportunity presents itself to drop a word where it will do the most good. The President referred to problem created for the French Government by the presence of these people in France, and to machinery which he understands has been set up to consider their cases. The President said he understands this "machinery" is functioning as well as could be expected in these difficult times and that accordingly, the French may feel that they are doing all that they can be expected to do under the circumstances. --- The President sent note to Ambassador Bullitt, Jan. 22, 1940 forwarding copy of Dr. Hutchins' letter and copy of his reply thereto. --- (The President's reply to Dr. Hutchins is as per draft supplied by A. A. Berle, Jr., Ass't. Sec. of State, Jan. 22 in response to memo of Jan. 17.) --- Preston S. Cutler, Sec. to Dr. Hutchins, wrote Jan. 24, 1940 saying President's letter will be brought to Dr. Hutchins' attention when he returns to Chicago middle of next month.

SEE P.P.F. 1834

VMB -

STATE, The Secretary of  
Jan. 27, 1940

The President referred for his information, a copy of his memo of Jan. 27, to the Sec. of Labor in re finger printing aliens coming to this country on quota visas in addition to having them photographed. Says, in part, that it is entirely possible that although the overwhelming majority of quota immigrants come here with every honorable intent, it is also possible that because of conditions in other nations some of them may be criminals, some spies and some coming here with definite objective of committing acts of sabotage, etc. Some may also be refugees. Says the Attorney General has rendered an opinion that it is wholly legal for the Commissioner of Immigration to require finger-printing of quota immigrants by Executive Order. Asks that they have an order issued, after consultation with Attorney General and the Sec. of State, and let him have a copy of it when issued.

SEE - 2030

3186

VMB -

LABOR, The Secretary of  
January 27, 1940

Sends by memo to the President suggestions for message in re naturalization bill. Attaches suggestions stating they have prepared 3 bills to deal with the 2 subjects - revision for Refugees and Compulsory Naturalization, stating she is inclined to favor Draft 3 which combines both subjects in one bill. Attaches memo for the President, of Jan. 5, from Commissioner Jas. L. Houghteling, Immigration and Naturalization Service.

SEE - 133

3186

rlv

ROSENBERG, James H.  
Ciudad Trujillo,  
Dominican Republic  
1-30-40

3186

Sent following wire to the President: "Have honor to report that highly satisfactory settlement contract signed this morning with Dominican Government. Generalissimo Trujillo has been marvellously cooperative. He has personally contributed 24,000 acre tract Northshore just the one we wanted with adequate houses and facilities for early settlement. All American delegation greatly pleased. Generalissimo Trujillo has personally assured me he will recommend early repeal of discriminatory legislation. Looking forward visit you on my return. Thanks again for your great help and leadership". ---- Attached is copy of wire brought over by Mr. Summerlin of State Dept., - from "Hinkle" Ciudad Trujillo, Jan. 30, 1940 addressed to the Secretary of State. It refers to Mr. Rosenberg's wire and adds that the contract includes a pledge on the part of Generalissimo Trujillo that existing general legislation discriminating against Jews will be repealed. Mr. Hinkle suggested advisability of acknowledging message. -- Attached is draft of message supplied by State Dept., Feb. 3, 1940 to Mr. Summerlin. --- Secretary of State Hull wired to the American Legation at Ciudad Trujillo, Feb. 6, 1940 asking that they convey following message to Mr. Rosenberg: "The President has received your telegram and is highly gratified to learn of the happy conclusion of your arrangements with the Dominican Government looking toward the settlement of refugees. The success of this venture will augur well for a gradual and progressive solution of this great humanitarian problem".

SEE P.P.F. 6364

jh

WISE, Jonah B.  
SILVER, Abba Hillel  
National Chairmen,  
United Jewish Appeal for Refugees & Overseas Needs  
New York, N. Y.

2/9/40

Write President saying outlook for 1940 with respect to the alleviation of the plight of Jewish refugees has given them great concern, as National Chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal, the unified fund-raising instrument of American Jewry on behalf of Jewish refugees in and of Europe, Palestine and the U. S. Ask for appointment with President to present to him personally certain facts related to the continuation of their program in which they feel he will be concerned. -- 3/12/40, Gen. Watson wrote Rabbi Wise he was arranging a fifteen minute appointment for him and Rabbi Silver on Wednesday, March 20. -- 3/13/40, Memo for Roberta Barrows, signed "ld", saying Rabbi Wise is out of town and cannot keep appointment on March 20 with the President. Will be back March 28; asks if appointment could be arranged for March 28 or 29? Information from Henry Montor, secretary to Rabbi Wise. -- 3/14/40, letter from Henry Montor to Gen. Watson, confirming his telephone conversation with Mrs. Dennison, thanking him for considering possibility of arranging for Rabbi Wise and Rabbi Silver an appointment at some time on March 28, 29, or 30 at the convenience of the President. -- 3/15/40, Gen. Watson wrote saying it was unlikely the President would be in Washington on March 28 or 29; suggests that they let the matter stand for time being; get in touch with him about April first and he will set convenient time for them. -- 3/18/40, Memo for R.B., from Mrs. Dennison saying Henry Montor phoned asking if Rabbi Wise could come down on March 23; will call again unless he hears before that time. -- 3/22/40, Gen. Watson sent day letter to Rabbi Wise saying because of the President's cold it would be impossible to arrange the requested appointment.

SEE PPF 2905

3186

Jh

ROSENBERG, James H.  
New York, N. Y.  
2/13/40

3186

Wrote President re progress of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, in re immigration. Generalissimo Trajillo personally contributed 25,000 acres of land for the settlement work. Some larger aspects of the refugee problem which he hopes to discuss with President. Mentions valuable assistance given him by Robert T. Pell of the State Department and Mr. Stephen V. C. Morris, Secretary of the Intergovernmental Committee. Enclosed photostat of the official English translation of the contract. -- 3/6/40 President wrote Mr. Rosenberg thanking him for his letter and photostat of agreement entered into by his Association with the Dominican Government. Congratulated him on the successful outcome of his negotiation which marks concrete progress in the realization of the Evian program. Wants to be kept closely informed of the further progress of his work. -- President's letter as per draft supplied 3/5/40 by Department of State, in response to request of 3/4/40.

SME P.P.F. 6364

VLE -

EDUCATION, The Commissioner of  
March 30, 1940

Mr. Hassett referred for draft of a reply for the President's signature, a letter of Mar. 30, to the President from Mrs. Dorothy Canfield Fisher, Arlington, Vt. who asks the President to speak over the radio on April 22 to the American school children in connection with the Children's Crusade for Children. Encloses lots of literature, posters and data re this crusade which is to be the week of April 23-30, 1940, for the refugee children of all nations. -- Commissioner Stulebaker replied Apr. 10, submitting draft. -- On Apr. 11, Mr. Early wrote Mrs. Fisher regretting the President cannot comply with request to speak over radio but encloses a letter which she is free to release over the radio any way she sees fit. On Apr. 11, the President wrote Mrs. Fisher that he thinks this is a magnificent gesture in keeping with the high tradition of our democracy. Mentions our Bill of Rights, religious liberty, and that every child in America ought to feel vividly the suffering and loneliness experienced by the children who are victims of a racial and religious intolerance. Cautions our children to be on guard against men and movements seeking to frighten and divide us, to arouse hatred and suspicions and to undermine the fair rules of our American democracy.

SER - P.P.F. 6570

3186

VMB -

STATE, The Secretary of  
April 8, 1940

Mr. Bassett referred for draft message, if advisable, and enclosed by memo a letter to the President, Apr. 1, from Solomon Kerstein, Convention Arrangements Committee, United Galician Jews of America, INC, asking for Presidential message for annual convention to be held in NYC on Apr. 7. This organization is devoted to aiding suffering brethren in war-stricken areas. -- On Apr. 4, Ass't. Sec. Berle supplied draft letter. -- On Apr. 5, Mr. Berle wrote Mr. Kerstein regretting that the President cannot comply with request, but says his views on subject of relief were set forth in a statement which he issued within the last month, copy of which is enclosed with hope that it will be helpful.

SEE- P.P.F. 5266

3186

STATE, The Secretary of  
April 13, 1940

Mr. Early referred to his letter addressed to Sen. Robert F. Wagner from Mrs. Mary Benedikt, Jonesboro, Arkansas, asking that her husband be permitted to enter this country from Cuba, where he is a Jewish refugee from Austria. -- Attached is copy of letter which A. M. Warren, Chief of the VISA DIVISION of the State Department wrote Sen. Wagner (undated) that he knows of no way under existing laws and regulations whereby Hugo Benedikt might effect his early admission into this country, since he must wait his turn.

SEE - 133-A

3186

VMB -

SUMMERLIN, Geo. T. - Chief of Protocol, State Dept.,  
Apr. 15, 1940

Gen. Watson referred for recommendation and draft, a letter from Geo. Meany, Sec.-Treas., American Fed. of Labor, Wash., D.C., Apr. 11, stating they have reliable information that a number of former members of German trade union movement who are exiles from their native country, at present residing in Copenhagen, Denmark, are in danger of being arrested by the German authorities who have taken control of that city. If returned to Germany, they face immediate execution. Gives list of names and asks that matter be taken up with American Legation in Copenhagen. -- Mr. Summerlin supplied draft Apr. 24. -- On Apr. 25, Gen. Watson replied that he believes it would be better for the State Dept. to answer Mr. Meany along usual lines as suggested in his attached memo.

SEE - 198-A

3/86

BAILEY, Gov. Carl E.  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
May 29, 1940

3186

Letter stating people are of one mind on the following proposition: first, that Congress remain in session until Nation is adequately rearmed; second, that this nation should make available to Allies as many planes as can be released without impairing our own armament; third, that one hundred million dollars should be made available for relief of refugees in war zone.

Referred by memorandum, 6/1/40 to the Department of State for preparation of appropriate replies.

On 6/22/40, the State Department sent copy of letter they wrote to Gov. Bailey dated 6/17/43.

MEMORANDUM

June 1, 1940.

Memorandum to the State Dept., transmitting letter from John T. Jones, Sao Paulo, Brazil, May 23, 1940, stating that Brazil is not shipping any coffee to Europe with result tons of coffee is being accumulated in warehouses; suggests some action - probably through Red Cross - whereby some of this coffee could be shipped to France for refugees from Holland and Belgium.

See 4003

3186

br

VNB -

DAVIS, Hon. Chester G.  
June 5, 1940

Writes to the President that this attempt to summarize his conception of how best to strengthen agriculture for the national defense is submitted for the President's consideration in connection with policies in related fields. -- Attached is a memo on this subject, saying, in part, that in addition to what is now being done to move farm products abroad, two additional steps are needed: 1. To supply destitute and starving refugees by greatly increased Red Cross shipments. Private donations will not begin to meet the needs. 2. To make the fullest possible use of farm products to pay for strategic raw materials purchased or contracted from abroad.

SEE - 813-A

3/86

BUDGET, Director of the  
June 12, 1940.

Mr. Forster referred for his information a letter from W. R. Ogg, Dir. of Research, American Farm Bureau Federation, Munsey Bldg., Washington, D. C., 6/12/40 to Mr. Forster, with attached copy of the letter sent by Edw. A. O'Neal, President of the American Farm Bureau Federation, to every member of the Senate in behalf of the Bilbo Amendment providing \$100,000,000 additional funds for the disposal of agricultural surpluses in export and domestic markets under section 32, and a copy of a letter which Mr. Ogg addressed to Sen. Alva B. Adams and several other Senators, 6/12/40 in support of an appropriation of \$100,000,000 to the Federal Surplus Commodities Corporation for the purpose of turning over a surplus food and other supplies to the American Red Cross for the relief of European Refugees.

SEE 1350

P  
3186

VMB -

STATE, The Secretary of  
June 13, 1940

The President referred for draft of a reply, a letter from Norman Thomas, NYC, June 11 to the President suggesting that an immediate conference be called in re problem of refugees in western Europe and that Congress be requested to make an immediate appropriation which, supplemented by private charity, may mean American assumption of responsibility for the refugees. — June 15, Sec. Hull supplied draft of reply. For the President's information (and not to be sent to Mr. Thomas) is copy of a memo of June 14 dictated by Joseph E. Davies on this subject and a memo of June 14 of a conversation between Mr. Jacques Truelle, Counselor for French Embassy and Mr. Davies, re "Evacuation of refugees children from France". — June 15, the President wrote Mr. Thomas assuring that aid for refugee children touches a most responsive chord in him. Says Depts. of State, Labor, Justice and American Red Cross are now and have been giving the matter careful study. Says this government has also been in touch with the British and French Governments re this.

SEE - P.P.F. 4840

3/86

VMB -

MALONEY, Senator Francis  
June 14, 1940

Writes to the President enclosing a letter he has received from Hendrik Willem van Loon, Old Greenwich, Conn., making certain suggestions re relief organizations, mentioning the Red Cross, and proposing that Herbert Hoover be placed in charge of the relief to the refugees, because of his splendid past record as Food Administrator during the World War. -- The President wrote Senator Maloney June 17 thanking for sending the van Loon letter, saying it shall receive very careful consideration in re handling of special fund of fifty million dollars for European relief which the Congress has been asked to appropriate. Presumes it will be necessary to ascertain view of State Dept. re certain aspects of the problem involved in administration and expenditure of this fund.

SEE - P.P.F. 2279

3186

xlv

ROSENBERG, James H.  
Dominican Republic Settlement Ass'n Inc.,  
New York, N. Y.  
6-15-40

3186

Wrote to Gen. Watson, enclosing copy of cable he received under date of June 17, 1940 from Gen. Trujillo, Ciudad Trujillo, re Gen. Trujillo's recommendation to Dominican Government re proposition of offering asylum in that Republic to a number of children and young men and women coming from England and France who will settle in the settlement at Sosua, as an extension of the covenant celebrated between the Dominican Government and the Association for the Establishment of Colonists in the Dominican Republic. Referred to desire of Great Britain and France to be relieved, at least to some extent, of the burden of refugees in their countries, and the cable from Gen. Trujillo indicates status of plans. Submitted draft of letter, along lines of which he would like the President to write to him in support of financial arrangements for this additional agricultural settlement of refugees. -- Wired to Gen. Watson, June 18 re letter and saying if the President approves, prompt action seems important. --- The President replied to Mr. Rosenberg, June 28, 1940 saying he has given careful consideration to his plan to expand activities of the Dominican Republic Settlement Association so as to include refugees from England and France, and that he hopes his efforts will succeed. The President also said he wished Mr. Rosenberg all success in his undertaking which the humanitarian support of the Dominican Republic has made possible. --- (The President's reply is as per draft supplied by Breckinridge Long, Ass't Sec. of State, June 27, 1940 in response to Gen. Watson's memo of June 20.)

SEE P.P.F. 6364

**MURPHY, The Director of the  
June 20, 1949**

The President referred to him, for draft of reply, letter received by him from Thomas J. Watson, NYC, dated June 18, urging that \$5,000,000 be made available for a Y.M.C.A. program in connection with the expansion of national defense. -- In accordance with draft submitted by Director Smith July 3rd, the President wrote Mr. Watson July 6th that he recognizes the value of such a program but there is no existing appropriations from which such an allocation can be made -- that emergency funds provided up to this time are required to be expended through Government agencies, except funds for relief of refugees in which the American Red Cross may participate. Said the proposal of the Y.M.C.A. has been referred to Budget Bureau, however.

**SEE - 68**

3186

VMB -

TUCKER, Mrs. Samuel (Anne Tucker)  
Bar Harbor, Maine  
June 20, 1940

Wires the President re her husband's sister's English grandchildren, asking that the London embassy be instructed to expedite their coming to this country. Children are Pamela, Allen and Lillian Synges. -- June 23, the President wired Mrs. Tucker that he is taking the matter up with the State Dept. and will let her know. -- Mrs. Tucker wrote June 26 thanking the President. -- Breckinridge Long, State Dept. wrote to the President re this and on June 25, the President wired Mrs. Tucker asking her to wire Mr. Long the names and addresses of the children. -- Sumner Welles wrote to the President June 27 that the State Dept. had sent a cable to the London Embassy asking that the visa applications be expedited in this case. -- June 29, Miss LeHend sent Mrs. Tucker a copy of State Dept. letter for her information.

SEE - P.P.F. 1940

3186

VMB -

HULL, Secretary Cordell - Chairman, Inter-departmental Committee on Pan American  
Economic Planning,  
June 26, 1940

The President referred for draft of a reply, asking Mr. Hull to read to the other members of the Committee -- Secretaries of Agriculture, Treasury and Commerce. Says this Mr. Jakob Goldschmidt is a German refugee and was an important banker in Germany before being forced out. Attaches Mr. Goldschmidt's letter (written from the Savoy Plaza, NYC) June 18 to Gen. Watson, enclosing letter for the President, thanking for his recent visit to the White House, and stating he is at the President's service. Encloses a memo in re erection of an Inter-American Central Import and Export Corporation. -- Mr. Hull replied June 27 stating the committee is examining this memo and is preparing a report for the Cabinet committee whom the President assigned task of Pan-American economic planning. Encloses draft. -- June 28, the President wrote Mr. Goldschmidt thanking for his memo re organization of economic relationships between the American republics. Says he is having this studied. Appreciates his offer of help and shall feel free to take advantage of it.

SEE - P.P.F. 6727

3186