November 8, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
HON. NORMAN H. DAVIS

FOR THE NECESSARY ACTION

F. D. R.

Letter from Hon. Myron C. Taylor, 71 Broadway, NYC, 11/3/41 to the President, enclosing letter he received from Harold Tittmann, Hotel Excelsior, Rome, 10/6/41, with attached two memoranda received from the Secretariat of State of His Holiness on 9/29/41, in re condition of the Poles and Lithuanians who were deported to Russia, and request that the American Govt. use its influence with the competent British authorities to facilitate the sending of food supplies to the Greek people, who are suffering from a shortage of food, sent to the Secy. State; copy of memo and explanation of enclosures to Mr. Davis.
MYRON C. TAYLOR
71 BROADWAY
NEW YORK
January 11 1942

Dear Miss Tully,

This is a copy of a letter which I am planning to send to Abba Hillel Silver, head of the United Palestine Appeal, to be read in lieu of my making a speech at their meeting in Cleveland on January 17th.

The President may be interested in reading it.

Thanking you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Myron C. Taylor

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

x76-16

TELEGRAM
OFFICIAL BUSINESS-GOVERNMENT RATES

FROM: The White House

January 13, 1942.

TO: Hon. Myron C. Taylor
71 Broadway
New York, N. Y.

O.K. to send letter we discussed

Grace G. Tully
Abba Hillel Silver,
United Palestine Appeal,
41 East 42d St., New York.

Dear Dr. Silver,

I greatly regret my inability to be present at the National Conference for Palestine to be held in Cleveland on January 17th and 18th.

I knew Palestine when, following the last great war, its doors were first opened to the homeless, the stateless and the impoverished from many lands. I saw the beginning of its development and sensed its objectives. It is an heroic undertaking, conceived of human sympathy, fostered by racial and religious fidelity and sustained by unparalleled generosity.

The refugee problem has grown by leaps and bounds since those days. These intervening years have been filled with fear, hunger, suffering, despair and death. The brute forces of the world are unleashed in final combat. Before the forces of seeming relentless destiny, we as individuals are as nothing, and it is easy to despair. But to despair is futile in a day when courage and action are needed. We are called to arms, not only as individuals, but as groups and as nations. Never before have the nations that love peace and justice assumed such a responsibility for the future of the world.

In the far past, exiles had to fight their way to new homelands, or, wandering as men and women without countries, they have become the slaves of whoever picked them up. In the near past, refugees have been no one's concern, and no international responsibility was assumed for those who were compelled to flee their homes, and who are today scattered throughout the world.
But in the recent past, under the leadership of President Roosevelt, many nations associated themselves in the Intergovernmental Committee on Political Refugees, to assist in arriving at a species of order in the transit of exiles and to introduce a policy of resettlement on an international basis. These activities, with which you are all familiar, went forward in whole-hearted collaboration with the Palestine movement which had already been launched and had progressed most commendably. A growing measure of success in the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee was in sight, when the war intervened and changed the scene and enlarged the problem. Its organization is intact, its office in London continues to function. Its future is important, for it is beyond question that when this war comes to its weary end, there will be a refugee problem which will be almost in the nature of a migration problem, and which, if not settled properly, may hold within it a whole new series of wars.

And so if the peace which comes to Europe, or if the peace which comes to Asia, is to be anything more than an armed truce, the peace treaties must be peace treaties and not war treaties, and the question of racial and religious minorities must be settled in those treaties.

In the interim, the utmost that this fine Palestine organization and its associated groups can contribute is to give and to serve as never before, to save what is left of honor and justice and decency from perishing.

Sincerely yours,

(Sd) MYRON C. TAYLOR.