April 13, 1943

Hon. Sumner Welles,
Under Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

You might like to refer the enclosed document to the proposed committee attending the Bermuda conference, which has just come to me from Mr. M. Lewis.

Very sincerely,

[Signature]

71 Broadway
New York

April 13 1943
April 12 1943

Mr. Taylor:

This is an ambitious--and extravagant--plan for "the Solution of the Jewish Problem," by M. Lewis, 34-58 74th St., Jackson Heights.

He starts his paper by stating that solution of the Jewish problem cannot be attained by democratic propaganda and liberal education of the European nations, but only by mass resettlement; that Palestine possesses the greatest advantages for such resettlement; that an immigration is suggested of 2,700,000 people to Palestine, increasing the population to 4,000,000; that an additional 1,000,000 can be placed in agricultural colonization territories--making a total of 3,700,000 Jews.

The plan proposes a broad industrialization of Palestine; electrical power to be developed by utilizing potential water power of the Dead Sea, the River Jordan and the Galilee Sea. This necessitates creation of artificial lakes and other engineering works. Adequate electrical power would reclaim from the Dead Sea potash and bromine worth 330 billion dollars! Electrical power would also admit of the development of iron and other ores in nearby Greek islands for use in Palestine industries. Agricultural possibilities of the country would be developed. The proposed reorganization of the water system involves alterations in salt and in sweet water resources which would benefit agriculture and improve the fishing industry.

The plan, it is asserted, would utilize for the industrialization of Palestine much of the surplus mechanical equipment of Germany which would otherwise be destroyed after the war in order to prevent preparation for a new future war of revenge.

It proposes that part of material and financial reparation for the destruction of American shipping and the seizure of Jewish property be devoted to Palestine development, and that the mechanical development would serve as security for the investment which must be made by international help.

Mr. Lewis's document closes with the suggestion of Palestine as the best possible location for a junction of 5 continental air routes--which he believes would also add to the development of the country.

The document indicates a good deal of study and of engineering knowledge. No estimate of cost is stated, but it would undoubtedly be tremendous.

W.C.F.
Mr. Myron C. Taylor  
State Dept.  
Washington, D.C.  

Honorable Sir:  

Your sympathy with Europe's tortured Jews and your clear realization of the danger of antisemitism for Christian Civilization and freedom of all Christian nations, makes me confident that you will give full attention to the enclosed study entitled "A suggestion for the Solution of the Jewish Problem" and addendums pertaining to same:  

Add.1. Industrialization of Palestine - Problem of Prosperity of forty million people in East-Mediterranean  
Add.2. Preliminary studies of Palestine's Water Economy and Settlement possibilities  
Add.3. Possible Resources for Palestine's re-habilitation  
Add.4. The Jewish Palestine-country of a "National Capitalism"  
Add.5. Palestine's significance for the Global Air-routes and the Suez-Canal.  

I am quite certain that you will agree with me that the battle of workable and durable peace cannot be won without a radical solution of the Jewish Problem.  

Very truly yours,  

M. LEWIS  

ML:pw  
Enc.
A SUGGESTION FOR THE SOLUTION OF THE JEWISH PROBLEM

The leading statesmen of the world's two largest democracies have long recognized the radical solution of the Jewish Problem as one of the fundamentals on which to build a permanent peace and for the prevention of future world conflicts and wars.

It is sufficiently proved that the Axis powers have used the antisemitic movements in the various countries for their own interests and that services antisemitism rendered to undermine the moral resistance of the adversaries. The solution of the Jewish problem must be undertaken not to save the Jewish people from "Blitz"-extinction, but to remove this tool of creating division and confusion preparatory to breaking up of civilization and to world conquest. This aim cannot be attained by democratic propaganda and liberal education of the European nations, but only by organized mass resettlement of the Jews from various European countries. This emigration will also contribute to diminish several overpopulated regions which form the "Milky Way of Nations" between the Finnish Bay and the Balkans, on one side, and, between central and east Europe, on the other hand.

In consideration of the urgency and importance of such a solution we must first think of the old Jewish Home, Palestine. This little country has many advantages compared with other regions or countries. The history of the Jewish colonization has proved beyond doubt that in Palestine and nowhere else has there been reached the highest degree of enthusiasm and willingness to sacrifice. The ideals which brought Jewish settlers to Palestine have become the foundation of their success. The Jewish youth brought to Palestine a tremendous amount of readiness for sacrifice, self-sacrifice and working capacity in order to prepare the swamps and stone deserts for the highly developed cultivation. The Jewish settlers are proud of their work and love the country immensely, the country which they have brought to new life after thousand years of devastation. They really did a wonderful job which is being admired by every newcomer and taken as an example. Only in Palestine itself can the new immigrants find suitable instruction in accordance with climate and soil conditions, based on experiences which although acquired under difficult circumstances, are dependable. In Palestine alone can the Jewish immigrants find a familiar milieu, where their own language is spoken, people live with their customs, and in which their moral strength and idealism can grow. Only there will it be possible for them to reach a new evolution after all those persecutions through which they lived in Europe. In Palestine alone will the immigrants find suitable schools, hospitals, synagogues, and all the other things which belong to their cultural life.

Here in Palestine it is not necessary to lose time by experimenting and cultivating virgin soil. No other country in the world will be able to take in the Jewish immigrants as fast as Palestine and provide for them in an adequate way with a relatively high standard of living. It is wrong to assume that it will be sufficient to cultivate a certain amount of land for agricultural purposes in order to provide for a fair standard of living for the pioneers. It is important to find markets to sell the products.
However, other immigration territories will also gain in importance if they will cooperate with Palestine and there find a market for their purely agricultural products. Those districts can become really important if they concentrate on agricultural products and agricultural raw material which through lack of territory cannot be produced in Palestine. Through cooperation of industrial and agricultural economy, Palestine with its highly industrial population and these additional immigration districts will very well work together and help each other out.

Considering the part of Palestine in the solution of the Jewish Problem, we must here investigate the question whether or not Palestine will really be able to take in so many Jewish immigrants in order to build the foundation for the largest emigration from Europe.

In the enclosed article "Industrialization of Palestine - problem of prosperity of forty million people in East Mediterranean" you will find treated in detail the question as to how Palestine can employ 400,000 industrial workers. In the second article, "Preliminary studies of Palestine's water economy and settlement possibilities" you will find how it will be possible to settle 150,000 farmers with 50,000 additional workers, in order to provide food for the grown population. The possibility of occupying 600,000 persons in industry and agriculture together, the two foundation marks of any economic process in every country, permits us to assume that another 600,000 persons will be able to make a living in various vocations, trade, transportation, construction service personnel and finally as employees in public service, religious cultus, in professions, charities, etc. This would give us a division of the population engaged in connection with the economic structure of the country as follows: 33,5% in industry, 16,5% in agriculture, 10% in vocations, 20% in commerce and transport, 5% in construction, 10% in public service and free professions, and the remaining 5% as servants. This structure of the economic life will be very similar to that of existing smaller and larger countries. Considering that for every 100 persons connected with the economic life, there will be 125 dependent persons, we may assume that an approx. total of 2,700,000 persons may immigrate. This will mean that in Palestine, like in other countries, from every 100 persons of the total population, 44 will be working people assured of a sufficiently high standard of living. With an immigration of 2,700,000 persons, and considering the Jewish and Non-Jew population long established there, the population of Palestine will increase to about 4,000,000. However, Palestine's soil can only provide for a part of a 4,000,000 population. The remaining easily transportable food and fodder must be imported, whereby additional territories with purely agricultural structure can be colonized. These additional purely agricultural colonization territories, which are in close cooperation with Palestine's economy, will provide room for the settlement of another 1,000,000 persons. In this manner, Palestine will give, with its additional territories, a possibility for the emigration from Europe of 3,700,000 Jews, and assure a sufficiently high standard of living.
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WELLES:

I have just received the attached letter from Dr. Nahum Goldmann in which he quotes cables which he has now received from Europe.

Myron C. Taylor
Myron C. Taylor
March 24th, 1943

Mr. Myron C. Taylor
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I am sure that you have received the telegram which Dr. Stephen S. Wise and Judge Proskauer sent you day before yesterday after a meeting of our joint Emergency Committee. They attached to this telegram several communications which we have received in the last few days from London.

Yesterday afternoon I received another cable from the British Section of the World Jewish Congress, which is based on information received from the Geneva office of the Congress. I am giving you the content of this cable so that you should have the latest information available. The cable reads as follows:

"GRAVEST POSSIBLE NEWS REACHING LONDON PAST WEEK SHOWS MASSACRES NOW REACHING CATASTROPHIC CLIMAX PARTICULARLY POLAND ALSO DEPORTATIONS BULGARIAN HUNGARIAN JEWS ALREADY BEGUN STOP URGING YOU ENERGETICALLY TAKE ADVANTAGE PRESENCE OF OUR VISITOR (MR. ANTHONY EDEN) SOLEMNLY IMPRESS BRITISH AMERICAN AUTHORITIES DUTY RESPONSIBILITY CONVENE IMMEDIATELY OTTAWA CONFERENCE FOR ACTION NOT EXPLORATION OTHERWISE TOO LATE RESCUE SINGLE JEW STOP WE ARE DOING ALL POSSIBLE BUT EFFECTIVE ACTION NOW RESTS AMERICA STOP WE RECEIVED TODAY REIGNERS (THE WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS REPRESENTATIVE IN GENEVA) FOLLOWING LATEST REPORT FROM 26TH FEBRUARY TO 2ND MARCH 15,000 JEWS BERLIN DEPORTED IN CARS TO CAMPS SS OFFICERS DECIDED MAKE BERLIN FREE JEWS BY 15TH MARCH STOP RABBI EMLCH PRESIDENT STATE ASSOCIATION GERMAN JEWS DEPORTED TEREZIN STOP DUTCH DEPORTATIONS JANUARY 17,000 STOP EXTERMINATIONS REACHED PEAK STOP URGE ALLIED RELIEF ACTION PARTICULARLY EXCHANGE JEWS TO GERMANY AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES AGAINST GERMANS ALLIED COUNTRIES EXCHANGE SHOULD BE EXECUTED ON BLOCK BECAUSE SELECTION IMPOSSIBLE STOP AMERICA BRITAIN SHOULD SUBMIT CONCRETE PROPOSALS THROUGH NEUTRALS COVERING RELOCATION MAINTAINING REFUGEES"

As I said, this cable emanates from the British Section of the World Jewish Congress of which the Marchioness of Reading is president and Mr. Silverman, Member of Parliament, chairman.

I do not know if Dr. Wise sent you another cable we received three days ago from the London Office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine.
Palestine. It reads as follows:

"LICHTHEIM (JEWISH AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE IN GENEVA) CABLES: UNDERSTAND NUMBER OF JEWS PROBABLY YOUNGER GENERATION BULGARIA NOW ALSO MENACED BY DEPORTATION POLAND STOP SUGGEST YOU CONTACT NEW YORK CONSIDER APPROPRIATE MEASURES WARNINGS (TO THE BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT)."

Barlas (the Jewish Agency representative in Istanbul) received information 8,000 Jews Bulgaria already deported Eastwards.

I would also like to add another piece of information. The "Krakauer Zeitung" the official Nazi organ in Poland reports that Fischer, Nazi Gauleiter for Poland, has made a public statement announcing that the Jewish problem in Poland is nearly liquidated. All this indicates how urgent it is to take immediate steps.

The suggestion made to you in the telegram of Rabbi Wise and Judge Proskauer that America and Great Britain should publicly and solemnly ask Germany to let the Jews go or offer them to feed the Jews if Germany would stop the massacres, seem to all of us the only possible way to stop the final extermination. As for the beginning of deportations in Bulgaria, a warning to the Bulgarian government through diplomatic channels may produce some effect. We know that the Bulgarian government would be ready to let the Jews leave and it is urgently necessary to find immediately some refuge for them. The most natural refuge for them would be Palestine, as Bulgarian Jews could go there by rail transportation via Turkey.

I would like to inform you finally that I had the opportunity yesterday of talking over the oldest problems with Mr. William Strang, Assistant Under Secretary of the Foreign Office. He promised us to convey our suggestions to Mr. Eden.

We all hope that you, dear Mr. Taylor, will have a chance to discuss the problems these days both with the State Department and Mr. Eden and we are all looking forward to some positive decision at this very late moment.

With best greetings,

Very sincerely yours,

DR. NAHUM GOLDMANN
LA445W (FOUR) 235-4G NEW YORK NY 24 115P=

HON MYRON C TAYLOR=

MAYFLOWER HOTEL = (WASHINGTON DC) (MF)=

WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED FROM RESPONSIBLE GROUP IN ENGLAND THE FOLLOWING CABLE. QUOTE GRAVEST POSSIBLE NEWS REACHING LONDON PAST WEEK SHOWS MASSACRES NOW REACHING CATASTROPHIC CLIMAX. PARTICULARLY POLAND ALSO DEPORTATIONS BULGARIAN RUMANIAN JEWS ALREADY BEGUN. EUROPEAN JEWRY DISAPPEARING WHILE NO SINGLE ORGANIZED RESCUE MEASURE YET TAKEN. URGE YOU ENERGETICALLY TAKE ADVANTAGE PRESENCE OUR VISITOR SOLEMNLY IMPRESS BRITISH AMERICAN
AUTHORITIES DUTY RESPONSIBILITY CONVOKE IMMEDIATELY OTTAWA CONFERENCE FOR ACTION NOT EXPLORATION OTHERWISE TOO LATE RESCUE SINGLE JEW. WE DOING ALL POSSIBLE BUT EFFECTIVE ACTION NOW RESTS AMERICA. WE RECEIVED TODAY RIEGERS FOLLOWING LATEST REPORT FROM 26TH FEBRUARY TO SECOND MARCH FIFTEEN THOUSAND JEWS BERLIN DEPORTED IN CARS TO CAMPS AS OFFICERS DECIDED MAKE BERLIN FREE JEWS BY FIFTEENTH MARCH, RABBI BACH PRESIDENT STATE ASSOCIATION GERMANY JEWS DEPORTED TEREZIN. DUTCH DEPORTATIONS JANUARY SEVENTEEN THOUSAND, EXTERMINATION REACHING PEAK, URGE ALLIED RELIEF ACTION. AMERICAN BRITAIN SHOULD SUBMIT CONCRETE PROPOSALS THROUGH PROTECTING POWERS GUARANTEE NEUTRALS SHOULD BE GIVEN IMMEDIATELY COVERING REPATRIATION MAINTENANCE REFUGEES UNQUOTE. WE EARNESTLY URGE THAT STATE DEPARTMENT WITH THE HELP OF LORD HALIFAX MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO PRESENT TO SECRETARY EDEN AN EARNEST PERSONAL APPEAL TO FURTHER THE ATTAINMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES SET FORTH IN THE NEARLY MEMORANDA WHICH WE HAD THE PRIVILEGE OF PRESENTING TO YOU. WE WOULD BE ADDITIONALLY GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD HAVE THE KINDNESS TO CALL THIS TO THE ATTENTION OF SECRETARY WELLES.

JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER STEPEHEN S. WISE.
March 25, 1943

A - L - Mr. Long:

For your information.

U: SW: IJ
March 23, 1943

PA/D - Mr. Dunn:

For your information.

U: SW: GES
March 24, 1943

A-L - Mr. Long:

For your information.

TAYLOR, MYRON C., RE: L FROM APOTOLIC DELEGATE RE TRANSFER OF YUGOSLAV
3-22-43  JEWISH INTO POLAND AT HANDS OF GERMAN GOVERNMENT
March 22, 1943

Hon. Sumner Welles,
Under Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary,

Hereewith I enclose a letter from Mr. George L. Warren, Executive Secretary of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees, to which is attached a proposed communication for yourself and which it is intended that Mr. James G. McDonald and Mr. Warren shall present to you at an early date.

I gave a copy of these communications to Assistant Secretary Breckinridge Long last week when I was in Washington, for his confidential information.

I shall be returning to Washington Tuesday evening, and shall be present at the meeting Wednesday morning at ten o'clock in your office as heretofore arranged.

With best regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Myron C. Taylor

WCF
Mr. Myron C. Taylor,
17 Broadway, New York.

Dear Mr. Taylor:

The President’s Advisory Committee on Political Refugees at its recent meeting on March 9th discussed the projected meeting of British and American representatives at Ottawa. The discussion led to the drafting of the enclosed memorandum which it was suggested that Mr. McDonald and I present to Mr. Sumner Welles. We have asked Mr. Welles for an interview some time next week.

As you may note from the memorandum particular problems arise with respect to the provision of guaranties for the removal of stateless refugees from neutral countries and with respect to relief through lend-lease arrangements for stateless refugees. British Honduras might provide an answer to many of these problems as lend-lease arrangements could be made with the British Government provided they were willing to accept refugees, including the stateless, in one of their colonies. Good land areas in British Honduras have already been surveyed. Some houses are available, many more could be built quickly, and food supplies could be moved to British Honduras more readily than to any other area.

Mr. McDonald and I will be available at your convenience if you wish to discuss the contents of the enclosed memorandum with us.

Yours very truly,

(Sd) GEORGE L. WARREN.
March 23 1943

Hon. Sumner Welles
Under Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Welles:

The President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees notes with satisfaction that British and United States representatives are to meet soon at Ottawa to explore the possibilities for intergovernmental relief action in behalf of persons fleeing from persecution for religious, racial and political reasons.

The Committee, as you know, has given constant attention to the problem since its appointment and in recent days has given consideration to the various proposals advanced and particularly to the contents of the note delivered to the British Government by the Secretary of State on February 25, 1943. The Committee hopes earnestly that the exploratory meeting at Ottawa and the later meeting of the Executive Committee of the Intergovernmental Committee will result in the early undertaking of practical measures to rescue substantial numbers of refugees from the threat of death and persecution which they face in Axis dominated Europe. In the effort to achieve such results the Committee respectfully makes the following comments and suggestions:

1. Paragraph "A" of the United States note of February 25, 1943, proposes "that the problem should not be considered as confined to persons of any particular race or faith as Nazi measures against minorities have caused the flight of persons of various races and faiths." The purpose of this proposal, in which we heartily concur, is that all refugees whatever the origin or cause of their persecution or danger be benefited by the measures to be adopted according to their needs. We consider this proposal extremely important because experience has demonstrated that those refugees who have been denationalized by the Axis powers or by the countries which they occupy or dominate and those refugees who though not denationalized lack the protection of their governments of origin often fail to qualify as beneficiaries of relief measures which have been available to nationals of the United Nation countries. In consequence relief to the stateless refugees and to those who lack the protection of any government has
become a responsibility which has fallen instead of in a vacuum on existing private agencies and which indeed they have readily assumed within the limits of their resources. We earnestly hope that this proposal will meet with final acceptance because we are convinced that official measures will be required to meet the relief needs of this particular group of refugees if they are to be assimilated in status with those who have retained their nationality.

2. We concur in the suggestion contained in paragraph "B" of the note that "wheresoever practical *** arrangements may be determined for temporary asylum for refugees as near as possible to the areas in which those people find themselves at the present time." However, with respect to Europe the neutral areas of Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey present different possibilities which may require different treatment for each area. Well known reasons still continue to be a strong motive for private agencies to find ways and means of accomplishing the emigration of some 6,000 to 8,000 refugees from Spain. It is reported that certificates for admission to Palestine are available for as many as 2,000 to 3,000 refugees in Spain. This number of refugees could be transported to Lourenço Marques in Portuguese boats. Their removal from Spain awaits the provision of boats to transport them from Lourenço Marques to Palestine. The British Government has indicated that such shipping facilities may become available in the future but cannot at this moment determine the exact date. In this circumstance the Director of the Inter-governmental Committee has requested the Union of South Africa to grant temporary haven until British shipping becomes available at Lourenço Marques. An early favorable decision by the Union of South Africa would facilitate this movement.

It has also been proposed that from 1,000 to 1,500 Polish and/or Czech refugees in Spain might be removed in Portuguese boats to Jamaica for residence in Camp Gibraltar which is not completely occupied. It is reported that the Governor of Jamaica has not yet found it possible to accept these refugees. An early favorable decision by the Governor of Jamaica would facilitate the removal of this group from Spain.
The removal of these two groups from the refugee population in Spain would facilitate the arrival of additional refugees from France who might reach Spain on their own initiative and thereafter be evacuated.

Turkey is a neutral country of transit for refugees from the Balkan countries. In exploring the possibilities of temporary asylum for refugees this should not be overlooked.

Refugees now in Sweden and Switzerland are unable to depart from those areas because of the lack of transportation. Their number has undoubtedly been controlled by the limits of the resources of the two countries in providing maintenance for the refugees and by uncertainties as to their eventual emigration. If additional resources of maintenance were made available additional refugees who might reach these areas on their own initiative might be admitted. Such admissions would be further facilitated by the presentation to Sweden, Switzerland and possibly Turkey of guarantees by governments of the United Nations that their nationals among the refugees would be repatriated as soon as possible after the war, or efforts would be pledged for removal in some other way. It would seem to be a primary function of the British and American representatives meeting at Ottawa and of the Executive Committee of the Intergovernmental Committee meeting later to secure from governments whose legislations permit or from an international authority similar guarantees of removal with respect to the stateless and those who lack the protection of a government.

3. The proposal contained in paragraph "C" of the note that maintenance in neutral countries be provided by assurances of support from United Nations augmented by funds from private sources is considered by the Committee a most timely proposal and we emphasize its importance. The Committee respectfully suggests that such offers of support be made to Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and Spain not only with respect to the continuing maintenance of such refugees as they may have already accepted but with respect to such refugees as may be admitted hereafter to their territories as a result either of
infiltration across their borders or negotiations with the Axis powers. With respect to refugees accepted in neutral countries as a result of negotiations between the neutral countries and the Axis powers the United Nations may wish to prescribe certain limitations as to the age, sex and number of such refugees who may qualify for the support offered. The Committee expresses its full confidence that the private agencies will participate in these offers of support within the limits of their resources and after consultation in advance as to their particular commitments.

4. With respect to the temporary asylum of refugees in countries other than neutral and their dependencies referred to in paragraph "D" of the note, the Committee recognizes that the earlier flow of refugees to the countries of the Western Hemisphere was necessarily reduced for reasons of the public safety of Western Hemisphere countries when the United States entered the war in December 1941. It became necessary immediately to organize protective measures and to examine applications for admission with the greatest care.

Since then such protective measures have been adequately organized and the refugees who have been admitted to Western Hemisphere countries have clearly demonstrated their loyalties to the objectives of the United Nations. It is therefore suggested that the resumption of the flow of refugees in the volume immediately preceding the war would not now constitute a danger to the public safety of the Western Hemisphere countries.

Consequently, the possibilities of temporary asylum for refugees in Canada, the United States, Mexico, British Honduras, Jamaica and Cuba particularly, and other Latin and South American countries should be explored on the assumption that the methods of examination of refugees already in practice will be fully applied and with the additional provision, if necessary, that with respect to countries where such measures may fail to be adequate because of the comparatively small volume of immigration in recent years refugees
be admitted temporarily to relief centers until thorough examination of their loyalties can be accomplished.

Portuguese shipping is available for the movement of refugees to ports in the Western Hemisphere. In some countries interested private agencies may be in a position to participate in the management and conduct of relief centers supported by public and private funds. British Honduras is a case in point where land and buildings owned by the Refugee Economic Corporation in New York are already available.

The President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees will gladly prepare data on the possibilities of temporary asylum in specific areas if this will prove helpful.

Yours respectfully,

President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees

James G. McDonald

George L. Warren