

Summer Welles Papers  
Box 92 Folder 10  
Office Correspondence  
Taylor, Myron C May-Aug 1943

August 4, 1943

A-L/B - Mr. Brandt:

For such action as  
you consider desirable.  
Please have drafted some  
reply for my signature.

U:SW:IJ

TAYLOR, M.C.  
8-2-43

YUGOSLAV INTERNEES IN ITALY

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



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

July 23, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. WELLES:

Assuming that you have not been fully informed in relation to the recent action regarding the Intergovernmental Committee I am sending you this memorandum which will bring you up to date and at the same time has nothing in it that will cause you any real concern.

The President approved the plan, as did the Secretary and Mr. Long, the synopsis of which I then gave Lord Halifax (copy attached). His confirmation came through the Foreign Office to the Department as did a message from the Prime Minister to the President. The necessary authorizations have been given, and the meeting of the Executive Committee of the Intergovernmental Committee, Mr. Winant acting in my stead, will occur on August 3.

I am attaching a memorandum that describes the relationship between the Intergovernmental Committee and the International Relief Organization (Governor Lehman) which I dictated after a discussion with him today. I approached James McDonald to accept the Vice Directorship but he was not able to accept. I had already approached Robert Pell with the same result. I then approached Mr. George Warren who found himself so entrenched in the Lehman organization that he could not accept. After considerable investigation we found Patrick Murphy Malin who had been associated with migration problems and who is presently part of the Lehman organization, and after interviewing him and discussing his qualifications with others I was pleased to find that he would make himself available for this service. Governor Lehman was reluctant to release him but after a personal talk he acquiesced.

I introduced



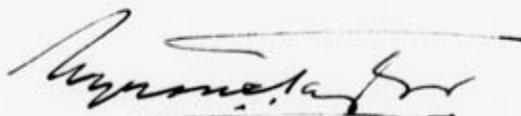
TAYLOR, MYTON C.

-2-

I introduced Mr. Malin to the Secretary and to Dr. Bowman who had a meeting with him and members of the Territorial Committee who have studied Palestine particularly and many other countries generally as the situs of refugee colonies. Dr. Berle, as Chairman of the Economic Committee on Migration and Settlement, was also good enough, upon my introduction, to meet Mr. Malin to discuss the subject. Mr. Malin is planning to leave for London early in August. His salary will be ten thousand dollars. We have indicated that we would be agreeable to Sir Herbert Emerson, the Director, having a salary of twelve thousand dollars. Mr. Malin is forty years of age, very energetic, knows Europe thoroughly, and is somewhat of a linguist. I believe this is a good appointment.

I had anticipated retiring from the Intergovernmental Committee once these plans were completed and was surprised to receive the attached letter from the President. I also attach my reply. The President has acted upon the suggestion to appoint Mr. Fell as my alternate. The Secretary in the Director's office in London will be appointed by the Executive Committee at their meeting in August and our suggestion is that he be from one of the other countries, particularly Holland or Brazil. All of those countries, including France and the Argentine, and Lord Winterton and myself, have heretofore been members of the Executive Committee. Under this plan these conditions, except perhaps France, will continue for the present.

It would seem that for the first time we have a commitment of Governmental financing and a definite commitment regarding at least one place of temporary refuge - North Africa. I believe that ultimately it may develop that questions of migration and settlement and the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee will merge into the latter. This single agency aimed at the discovery of places of temporary and permanent residence, tied with the international relief organization to carry on the work of relief in the places of temporary residence, forms a suitable and adequate plan for organization both during and after the war to deal with the whole problem of refugees and of migration and settlement, as well as relief in that general field.



Myron C. Taylor

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 7, 1943

My dear Myron:

You started the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees at Lvian in 1938 and have been my principal reliance in all of its activities since. It is about to enter a more active phase in connection with the refugee problem created by the enemy powers. I know you are heavily engaged in the postwar studies and other duties here and to an extent which might justify your desire to withdraw from the work of the Intergovernmental Committee, but your long experience with it and understanding of its problems constitute the predicate of my real desire that you continue that work.

You need not necessarily devote your personal time and energy to attending meetings. You could designate an alternate and could in fact name the Vice Director of Operations under the revised plan. This person could report to you through the State Department so that you could be generally advised of the movements and developments of the work carried out by the Executive Committee, and I am sure that your continuing identity with the work would be particularly welcome to the groups directly interested in it and would likewise assist greatly in the successful completion of its labors.

So I am asking you to dismiss any thoughts in conflict with this and to continue to give it the benefit of your active service and guidance.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

The Honorable  
Myron C. Taylor,  
71 Broadway,  
New York, New York.

COPY

71 Broadway  
New York

July 13, 1943

My dear Mr. President,

Responding to your favor of July 7th in respect to the work of the Intergovernmental Committee on Political Refugees, I would like to make my position a bit more clear to you than it perhaps now is.

My first concern at this time is to assist definitely as your personal representative to His Holiness Pope Pius XII in the accomplishment of a wise and constructive result of our long labors in achieving peace with Italy.

My second desire is to contribute in a concrete way to the development of the principal U.S.A. post-war policies to aid you in guiding the ultimate negotiations for peace in this war-disturbed world.

Now in regard to the Intergovernmental Committee. I have not been in harmony with much that has taken place, particularly in the recent past, but, even so, I have endeavored through the Secretary, and more particularly through Mr. Breckinridge Long and to some extent with Mr. Welles, to bring to your attention the essentials that must be agreed upon between Mr. Churchill and yourself, lacking which neither conferences nor any sort of successful action could or can be undertaken.

I believe there is before you at this moment a telegram which, if it contains the essential principles of the recent program (copy attached) which I submitted to the Secretary and Mr. Long and later to Lord Halifax, will enable the Director's Office of the Intergovernmental Committee in London to be reinforced and authorized, as well as financed, to do something definite to help those unfortunate refugees who are scattered along the Mediterranean, so that they may be taken to some place of temporary refuge and later be able to return to their homes or transported to agreed places of permanent residence. I would like to see the completed telegram, however, before it is sent.

Your wish as expressed in your letter in regard to my further activities will of course be heeded to the fullest extent of my ability.

Very sincerely yours,

MYRON C. TAYLOR

The President.

COPY

71 Broadway  
New York

July 14, 1943

Dear Mr. President:

Referring to the letter regarding the Intergovernmental Committee, I think that it would greatly forward the work if I did in fact designate Mr. Robert Pell, who has been associated with me in this work from the beginning, as my alternate.

We are casting about for a suitable Vice Director of Operations in London under the revised plan with which you are familiar. I hope shortly to have a name that will appeal to your judgment. This plan will enable both the Department and myself through Mr. Pell, who is a departmental official, to keep in touch with the details of the situation without too great difficulty.

I believe it would be of first importance if you would write me a letter approving the appointment of Mr. Pell as my alternate and send a copy of that letter to the State Department in order to make perfectly clear Mr. Pell's relationship and authority.

With these steps taken I see no reason why the work cannot go forward if the revised plan in its other aspects is authorized by yourself.

Sincerely yours,

MYRON C. TAYLOR

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

My dear Myron:

I have your letters of July 13 and 14. I am happy to have your acceptance of the request conveyed by my letter of July 7 that you continue to give the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees the benefit of your active service and guidance.

I am glad to give my approval of your designation of Mr. Robert Pell of the Department of State to act as your alternate here in your work on the Intergovernmental Committee.

I am sending this letter to you through the Department of State so that that Department may be informed, as you request, that Mr. Pell is to act as your alternate as indicated above.

Very sincerely yours,

The Honorable

Myron C. Taylor,

Care of the Department of State.

A-1/B:GLB:MSL

CI/L

Eu

7/20/43

July 22, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR GOVERNOR LEHMAN FROM MYRON TAYLOR

Recalling our several conversations, and particularly the one on the telephone this morning, I thought it wise to have prepared a memorandum clearly stating the relationship between the activities of the Intergovernmental Committee from this point forward and the Relief Organization of which you are Chairman.

It is intended under the arrangements made between the President and the Prime Minister, and between the British Foreign Office and the Department of State, U.S.A., that the Intergovernmental Committee's duties will be (1) to explore the field for places of settlement of European refugees, either for temporary or permanent residence; (2) to arrange through the American or British Embassies or Legations at the point of departure of refugees to such places of temporary or permanent residence all matters affecting transportation and maintenance; (3) that upon arrival at the places of temporary residence your organization will assume entire charge both of housing and of maintenance during the period of such residence; (4) if and when permanent places of settlement have been found the Intergovernmental Committee will arrange transportation and maintenance en route to such destinations.

Unless this plan be changed by mutual agreement between the British, our Government, and your organization, it seems to furnish a simple and clearly defined field of action as between the Intergovernmental Committee and your Relief Organization.

Myron Taylor

- I. Agreement between Britain and U.S.A. on place of temporary refuge.
- II. Agreement to bear expense jointly.
- III. Meeting of Intergovernmental Executive Committee in London to
  1. Appoint a full time Vice Director (American) ?
  2. Appoint a full time Secretary (?)
- IV. Agreement that after arrival at place of temporary refuge, International Relief Organization (Lehman) will maintain refugees until end of war when they may
  - A. Return to their homes
  - B. Be transferred to places of permanent residence.

British and American Embassies or Legations in the countries concerned would delegate each a representative to carry out the plans for transit and reception of refugees.

With these agreements the Director's Office in London may contact all countries represented upon the Intergovernmental Committee to secure

- A. Offers to accept refugees
- B. Contributions to the fund for support of the office
- C. Contributions to the funds for transit of refugees and their maintenance in places of temporary refuge.

Under these conditions no meeting of full Intergovernmental Committee would be necessary at this time.

Any change of authority by Intergovernmental Committee enlarging scope to include all refugees can be accomplished without Intergovernmental Committee full meeting by letters to be secured from representatives of government members in London.

June 23, 1943

Mr. Taylor:

I have refused this invitation. Not only the more conservative Jewish organizations and leaders but also such leaders as Rabbi Wise, who was with me this morning, are strongly opposed to the holding of this conference, have done everything they could to prevent it, and are trying to get Bishop Tucker and one or two others who have accepted this invitation to withdraw their acceptances. In a personal letter to Louis Bromfield I have suggested that he drop in to see me when he is in Washington so that I can talk over this matter with him.

U:SW:DMK

INVITATION TO MR. MYRON TAYLOR TO BE AN HONORARY  
CHAIRMAN OF EMERGENCY COM. TO SAVE JEWS OF EUROPE

Taylor, Myron C.  
71 Broadway,  
NY NY  
6-14-43

L from Charles J. Liebman re interest of Union  
of Universally Organized Orthodox Jewry in  
Portuguese Angola as a refuge

June 15, 1943

SD:

For such attention as  
may be required.

U:SW:GES

May 28, 1943

Eu - Mr. Atherton:

For your information.

U:SW:GES

71 Broadway  
NY NY 5-26-43

Internees on the island of Arbe