

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES, INC.

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
**INCOMING
TELEGRAM**

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

1945 APR 13 AM 11 31

Mr. [unclear]
O. [unclear]

DC/L
LIAISON
MJW-970
Distribution of true
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arrangement. ([redacted])

Born
Dated April 12, 1945
Rec'd 6:46 p.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

CONTROL COPY

2144, April 12, 1 p.m.

X
WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Department's 1350 WRBS 284, April 5

ICRC informs me that it is unfortunately no longer physically possible ship relief goods from Switzerland to region of Yugoslavia where Camps of Masenovac and Starmgradiska are located. Along with camp of Jablanac they are on Sava River about 100 kilometers due south east of Zagreb in territory either a fighting zone or already taken over by Tito. Only possible relief channel would, therefore seem to be via Italy.

Katzki is taking up question of Armenians in Germany and possible relief to them with Burekhardt of ICRC this week in Geneva.

HARRISON

VIMB

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By E. H. Parks Date **SEP 1 1972**

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES, Inc.

83 BEEKMAN STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

Telephone: BEekman 3-3639-1527

Files

DR. ISAAC ALCALAY
Chief Rabbi of Yugoslavia
Honorary President

April 7, 1945

OTTO HEINRICH
Honorary Chairman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

ROMAN SMUCER
President

Dear General O'Dwyer:

ALFRED BONDY
Vice-President

MANFRED STERNBERG
Vice-President

WILLIAM ZUCKER
Secretary

DR. LEO SUSSMAN
Asst. Secretary

GEORGE RADO
Treasurer

Thank you for your letter of
April 3. Permit us to express our gratitude for
the assistance that your Office is going to lend
to the refugees in Croatian concentration camps.

Believe us, dear General O'Dwyer,

MEMBERS

DR. PAUL NEUBERGER
CLARA ERES
LEO GOTTLIEB
DR. ERNA KONIG
DR. VICTOR KOERBEL
DR. LUJO WEISSMANN

Respectfully yours,

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS
IN THE UNITED STATES, Inc.

A. Bondy

Vice-President

W. Zucker

Secretary

WZ/BBK

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES TELEGRAPH SECTION

Distribution of true reading only be special arrangement. (SECURITY SERVICES)

April 6 1945 4 p.m.

W. R. ...
O. ...

1945 APR 7 AM 11 32

CONTROL COPY

AMLEGATION

DC/L
LIAISON

BERN
1350

The following for McClelland is WRB 484.

The Association of Yugoslav Jews in the United States has called to the attention of the Board the plight of 1,000 to 1,200 Yugoslav nationals who are held under appalling conditions in concentration camps near Jasenovac and Stara Gradiska in Croatia.

They represent this group to be the remnants of an original population of 20,000. Kindly call this matter to the attention of Intercross with a view (a) to making WRB food parcels available to this group, and (b) ultimate evacuation if such is possible.

Likewise, the Armenian Relief Corps, Inc. here has called our attention to the suffering of Armenian refugees and prisoners of war within Germany. Their informant, one Aramik Djamalian, an Armenian and resident of Geneva and Berlin, indicates that there are more than 40,000 who are in need of aid.

Mr. Djamalian advises that Lurckhard has promised to help with transportation of anything that can be sent to this group. Their needs are clothing, food and medicine. It is suggested that if this group can be reached, they, too, share in the distribution of WRB food parcels.

For security reasons the text of this message must be held in strictest confidence.

WRB:MMV:KG
4/8/45

WE

SE

NE

SWP

ACHESON
(ACTING)
(DIR)

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 1 1972**

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN, SWITZERLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

The Association of Yugoslav Jews in the United States has called to the attention of the Board the plight of 1,000 to 1,200 Yugoslav nationals who are held under appalling conditions in concentration camps near Jasenovac and Stara Gradiska in Croatia. They represent this group to be the remnants of an original population of 20,000. Kindly call this matter to the attention of Intercross with a view (a) to making WRB food parcels available to this group, and (b) ultimate evacuation if such is possible.

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THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 484

2:15 p.m.

April 4, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Cohn, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Hutchison, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files.

P.J.M.

PJMcCormack:ar 4/2/45

APR 3 - 1945

Mr. Roman Smoer, President
Association of Yugoslav Jews
in the United States, Inc.
83 Beekman Street
New York 7, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Smoer:

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of March 19 regarding the plight of the 1,000 to 1,200 Yugoslav nationals who are held in concentration camps near Jasenovac and Staro Gradiska in Croatia.

For your information, we have directed a communication to our representative in Switzerland advising him of this information. Our representative has been instructed to do everything possible to assist these refugees.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

EBT
FH:PM:inp 4/3/45 JCA

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES, Inc.

83 BEEKMAN STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

Telephone: BEekman 3-3639-1527

March 13, 1945

DR. ISAAC ALCALAY
Chief Rabbi of Yugoslavia
Honorary President

OTTO HEINRICH
Honorary Chairman

Brig. General William O'Dwyer, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear General O'Dwyer:

ROMAN SMUCER
President

ALFRED BONDY
Vice-President

MANFRED STERNBERG
Vice-President

WILLIAM ZUCKER
Secretary

DR. LEO SUSSMAN
Asst. Secretary

GEORGE RADO
Treasurer

We have learned of the great rescue work that is being implemented by the War Refugee Board with a view to saving the few remaining survivors of Nazi terror in Europe to whom rescue still can be brought.

In deep appreciation of this action, we deem it our duty to call your attention to a group of Yugoslav nationals, reported to number 1000 to 1200 who are held under appalling conditions in the concentration camps near Jasenovac and Stara Gradiska in Croatia. - They are the remnants of an original 20,000 - the others were murdered or died from starvation. These few survivors are the only Yugoslav Jews who could still be rescued. Every day counts, in fact, we do not know how many will have survived the last winter. A year or so ago, the International Red Cross appealed for help to them and was willing to assist in transmitting parcels with food and clothing. That action, however, met with difficulties because of objections raised by the Blockade Authorities in London.

In the present situation rescue would be possible. Jewish Relief Organizations in Switzerland are well acquainted with the circumstances, as is the delegate of the World Jewish Congress, Dr. Leon Kubowitzki who is now in Geneva, Switzerland.

We appeal to you to do everything possible to save this group of Jews as, according to information obtained from refugees who managed to flee, it is certain that the inmates of these camps will be killed by the Ustashi before the Army of Liberation will be able to set them free.

May we express in advance our gratefulness for every action that will be taken toward the speedy rescue of the survivors in these camps.

MEMBERS

DR. PAUL NEUBERGER
CLARA ERES
LEO GOTTLIEB
DR. ERNA KONIG
DR. VICTOR KOERBEL
DR. LUJO WEISSMANN

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES, Inc.

83 BEEKMAN STREET
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

Telephone: BEEKman 3-3639-1527

March 13, 1945

DR. ISAAC ALCALAY
Chief Rabbi of Yugoslavia
Honorary President

- 2 -

OTTO HEINRICH
Honorary Chairman

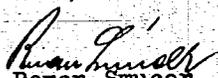
Believe us, dear General O'Dwyer,

Respectfully yours,

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS
IN THE UNITED STATES, Inc.

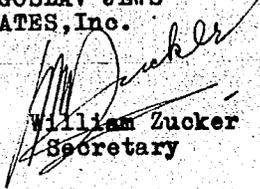
ROMAN SMUCER
President


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President

ALFRED BONDY
Vice-President

MANFRED STERNBERG
Vice-President

WILLIAM ZUCKER
Secretary


William Zucker
Secretary

DR. LEO SUSSMAN
Asst. Secretary

GEORGE RADO
Treasurer

MEMBERS

DR. PAUL NEUBERGER
CLARA ERES
LEO GOTTLIEB
DR. ERNA KONIG
DR. VICTOR KOERBEL
DR. LUJO WEISSMANN

MAR 10 1944

In reply please
refer to: 279

Dear Dr. Neuberger:

Thank you for your letter of March 3, 1944, in response to my request for advice and suggestions to aid the Board in formulating its rescue programs.

The proposals to be submitted by the World Jewish Congress will be carefully studied and, in accordance with your letter, will be regarded as representing the views of your organization.

I shall, of course, be pleased to receive any supplemental suggestions which you may wish to offer, as our programs take shape.

Your good wishes for the success of the Board are greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Poble

J. W. Poble
Acting Executive Director

Dr. Paul Neuberger,
President,
Association of Yugoslav Jews in
the United States, Inc.,
381 Fourth Avenue,
New York, New York.

EMH

BBHutchison:agr 3-9-44

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES, Inc.

381 FOURTH AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY
Telephone: MUrray Hill 4-3427

W. R. B.
Filing Authority
Ans.
No. Ans. Req.
Initial
Date

DR. ISAAC ALCALAY
CHIEF RABBI OF YUGOSLAVIA
HONORARY PRESIDENT

March 2, 1944

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
AND
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- OTTO HEINRICH
PRESIDENT
- DR. PAUL NEUBERGER
VICE-PRESIDENT
- AVRAM JUDITCH
VICE-PRESIDENT
- ROMAN SMUCER
SECRETARY
- FRANCIS HUBER
ASSISTANT SECRETARY
- CLARA ERES
TREASURER
- ELIA GABAY
ASSISTANT TREASURER

MEMBERS

- ALFRED BONDY
- DR. EMIL FLESCH
- ING. BERTHOLD FREUND
- ANDREW FISCHER
- RASHELA JELINEK
- ADOLF SCHLESINGER
- MANFRED STERNBERG
- DR. LAV SUSMAN
- MARY VUCHETICH-MOSTER
- DR. LUJO WEISSMANN

COMMITTEE FOR
WAR PRISONERS

- CLARA ERES
- AVRAM JUDITCH
- ROMAN SMUCER

Executive Office of the President
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Attention: Mr. J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Dear Sir:

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 8 and thank you for the opportunity which you are giving us to cooperate with you for the relief and rescue of Jews and other minority groups threatened with extermination by the enemy.

As a representative group of a community which has suffered great losses and the problems of which are, undoubtedly, greater than those of the average individual at the hand of the enemy, the problem of relief and rescue of our co-nationals and co-religionists are undoubtedly more urgent than problems of similar representative groups of other nationality. This urgency is justified by the political and geographical situation and the fact that there is still an actual possibility for rescue.

As a voluntary association consisting of a group of individuals gathered in this country, we, of course, have no necessary means to effect singly and directly relief and rescue of our people to an extent of any magnitude. On the other hand from our midst has been formed the Yugoslav Jewish Representative Committee, affiliated with the World Jewish Congress where we are working in cooperation with the Representative Committees from other European countries and the World Jewish Congress.

Therefore, our suggestions of any specific action which we believe your Board should take to effectuate the policy announced in the Executive Order shall be submitted through the World Jewish Congress by the Yugoslav Representative Committee. We believe that in that manner the work of your Board shall be simplified and much unnecessary

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS IN THE UNITED STATES, Inc.

- 2 -

Executive Office of the President

March 2, 1944

correspondance directly with many representative groups similar to ours be obviated, because we feel that the opportunity we have in submitting to you our ideas through the World Jewish Congress is ample and adequate.

On behalf of the members of our Association we wish to express our gratitude to the President of the United States and the members of the War Labor Board on the action taken for the rescue of the minority groups at present in the hand of the enemy. No nobler and more humane task could have been undertaken and we sincerely hope that your efforts will meet with full success.

Very respectfully yours,

ASSOCIATION OF YUGOSLAV JEWS
IN THE UNITED STATES, INC.


Dr. Paul Heuberger
President


Roman Smicer
Secretary