

FRENCH COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

000115

*Hodel*

**WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS**  
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON  
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA  
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES  
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM  
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL  
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY  
Sonora 174-4

In reply refer to No.171

Hon. John W. Pehle  
Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington 25, D. C.

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

July 25, 1944

*Discussed.  
with Kuhnert  
8/2/44  
JH*

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I beg to refer to your letter of July 1st, addressed to Dr. Wise and conveying a message to the latter from Mr. Weisman.

In the first part of this message Mr. Weisman states that he has transmitted through the WRB for us copies of the cables he exchanged with the French Finance Commissioner Mr. Mendes France. May I ask you to be kind enough to let us have the copies in question?

In the second part of the same message Mr. Weisman calls our attention to an action taken by the Ecuador Government, whereby it has cancelled all passports issued by its Stockholm Consulate. I would be grateful to you for informing me whether the Board has taken up this matter with the Ecuador Government and, if so, what results were achieved.

Sincerely yours,

*A. Leon Kibowitzki*  
A. Leon Kibowitzki,  
Head, Rescue Dept.

ALK:lw

000116

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE July 25, 1944

TO Mr. J. W. Pehle  
FROM Mr. Friedman

Attached is the material in our files concerning the request made by Weissman to Mendes-France. After reading this material, I have discussed with Jim Mann, Weissman's more recent request for \$100,000.

Mann's reaction is that if any sum even approximating \$100,000 is given to Weissman, he may then insist on setting up a separate rescue organization of his own in Spain and thereby upset the recent arrangement which has been worked out by the JDC and the WJC. Mann, however, feels that it would not be objectionable, and perhaps might be helpful, if a small sum, say \$20,000, were given to Weissman on the understanding that it would be used only for rescue work and would be paid over to the Joint Rescue Committee which has been established. Jim feels that this contribution by Weissman to the joint work might improve relations with JDC. If such a payment were made, it should obviously be made through the War Refugee Board's representative in Lisbon and specifically earmarked for rescue purposes.

I agree with Mann that a payment of the nature indicated might be helpful. I do not think we should insist with the French, but should merely indicate that if they are in a position to make a contribution of the size and in the manner indicated above, we are sure that it will be used to good advantage in rescue work.

Attachment

7-26-44  
Mandelstam advised  
that we had no  
objection to reasonable  
amount being made  
available thru  
W.R.B. representative

JBF

JBF

100117

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

*MB*

MAE-133

CONTROL COPY

PLAIN

*War Ref Bd  
(Mr.  
Pehle)*

Lisbon

Dated June 26, 1944

Rec'd 11:39 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
JUN 27 1944  
RECEIVED

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

1979, June 26, 6 p.m.

FOR RABBI STEPHEN WISE FROM WEISSMAN WRB 83

Yours 119. Who is Gozlan? Cable exchange with Mendes France transmitted through WRB Washington whom please consult. Cannot understand lack my news since WRB informed with request transmit to you cables. [Also letter dated May 24, apply again WRB] All endeavors communicate by mail Silberschein failed, continuing efforts.

Intervened at Easterman's request Ecuador Legation Madrid regarding 3 families having Ecuador passports issued Stockholm. Ecuador Legation declares impossible intervention to prevent deportation these people actually interned since Ecuador Government issued instructions cancelling all passports delivered by Stockholm Consulate. Please intervene Ecuador Government accordingly. Cable. *B*

*6/30/44  
Discussed  
with JWP  
who suggests  
delegation  
letters sent  
to WSC until  
after Nansen's  
report.*

*Message  
sent to  
WRB with  
delegation  
JH*

NORJEB

WMB EMB

000118

1025

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

*War Ref Bd  
Mr. Pehle*

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Legation, Lisbon  
DATED: June 3, 1944  
NUMBER: 1601

*1 Copy only*

**CONTROL COPY**

From War Refugee Board to Norweg

Please deliver the following message to Isaac Weissman,  
c/o American Legation, Lisbon, from Mr. Mendes-France of the  
French Committee of National Liberation:

"I thank you for your message. The question is  
now being considered both in Algiers and in Washington,  
in order to procure you the help you are asking for."

THIS IS WRB LISBON CABLE NO. 33.

HULL

SO 11 MA 7 JUN 1944

WASHINGTON D.C.  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
RECEIVED

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

000119

CABLE TO LISBON

From War Refugee Board to Norweb

Please deliver the following message to Isaac Weissman,  
c/o American Legation, Lisbon, from Mr. Mendes-France of the  
French Committee of National Liberation:

"I thank you for your message. The question is  
now being considered both in Algiers and in Washington,  
in order to procure you the help you are asking for."

THIS IS WRB LISBON CABLE NO. 33

\*\*\*\*\*  
June 1, 1944  
11:15 a.m.

*F&I - Received*  
*W. J. G. P. P. P.*  
FH:lab 5/31/44

000120

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE

DELEGATION  
DU COMITE FRANÇAIS DE LA  
LIBERATION NATIONALE  
AUX ETATS-UNIS

CONTROLE FINANCIER

TELEPHONE DECATUR 7935  
1763 R STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

May 29th, 1944.

CV/am  
AK/50

Dear Mr. Pehle:-

I have been requested by Mr. <sup>✓</sup>Mendes-France,  
before his departure for Algiers, to ask you to send to  
Mr. Weissman the following answer to his confidential mes-  
sage:

"I thank you for your message. The question is now  
being considered both in Algiers and in Washington,  
in order to procure you the help you are asking for."

Thanking you in advance for your cooperation,

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

*Christian Valensi*

Christian Valensi,  
Maitre des Requetes au Conseil d'Etat,  
Controleur Financier des Missions Fran-  
caises aux Etats-Unis.

Mr. J.W. Pehle,  
Executive Director,  
War Refugee Board,  
Washington, 25. D.C.

000121

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

June 2, 1944

Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
JUN 4 - 1944  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

**CONTROL COPY**

AMLEGATION,

LISBON.  
1579X

The following is from Pehle for Main care Dexter  
and is RB cable no. 35.

On arrival Algiers suggest Ackermann and you see  
Mendes-France or Guindey of Commissariat de Finance  
regarding Lisbon cable no. 1446 of May 13 containing  
message, delivered in Washington, to Mendes-France  
from Weissman.

HULL  
(GIN)

WRB:MMV:KG  
6/2/44

WE

S/OR

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

000122

CABLE TO LISBON

From J. W. Pehle, War Refugee Board, to Norweb for Mann  
c/o Dexter.

When you get to Algiers will you and Ackermann please  
see Mendes-France or Guinday of Commissariat de Finance concerning  
cable no. 1446 from Lisbon dated May 13, 1944, containing message  
from Weissman to Mendes-France which was delivered in Washington.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO LISBON NO. 35

\*\*\*\*\*  
June 1, 1944  
4:05 p.m.

JW - Discussed with Mr. Pehle  
FH:lab 6/1/44

000123

May 29, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

✓ Mr. Pehle discussed this matter with Mr. Guindey of the French Commissariat de Finance. Mr. Guindey advised Mr. Pehle that the Comité had indicated a willingness to help Weissman but before doing so they wanted to have further advice from the War Refugee Board. Mr. Pehle advised Mr. Guindey of Mr. Mann's present trip to Portugal and suggested that arrangements be made to discuss the problem with Mr. Mann in North Africa.

✓ Accordingly, a cable was prepared for despatch to Mann, requesting him to get in touch with Mendes-France or Guindey in Algiers.

*JK*  
F. Hodel

000124

May 29, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Mr. Pehle discussed this matter with Mr. Quindey of the French Commissariat de Finance. Mr. Quindey advised Mr. Pehle that the Ocmite had indicated a willingness to help Weissman but before doing so they wanted to have further advice from the War Refugee Board. Mr. Pehle advised Mr. Quindey of Mr. Mann's present trip to Portugal and suggested that arrangements be made to discuss the problem with Mr. Mann in North Africa.

Accordingly, a cable was prepared for despatch to Mann, requesting him to get in touch with Mendes-France or Quindey in Algiers.

F. Hodel

PH:lab 6/1/44

000125

*War Refugee Bd  
Mr. Peltz*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

*copy only*

FROM: American Legation, Lisbon  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATED: May 13, 1944  
NUMBER: 1446  
x

*mess. sent  
Mendes 5/25/44*

**CONTROL COPY**

RECEIVED  
MAY 13 1944  
STATE DEPT.

Following is WRB no. 31 from Weissman, for Pierre Mendes-France Finance Commissar of French National Liberation Committee now in Washington.

I am happy to inform you that children's rescue program bringing excellent returns. Among children in Portugal now six French. Entrance of large number of children without papers has been agreed to by both Iberian countries. Our frontier organization is now developing on scale that we hope to save hundreds. Also we have offered to rescue non-Jewish children. List of Catholics is being prepared by Monsignor Boyer-Mas, French Red Cross delegate in Spain, and we have other lists Protestants.

I am reminding you of your promise to place money at our disposal in view of the fact that we are suffering from shortage of funds for intensified work. I am now asking for immediate help. You can send funds through the War Refugee Board.

NORWEB

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

000126

MAY 25 1944

Dear M. Mendes-France:

The following confidential message for you from Mr. Weissman was received from the American Legation, Lisbon, under date of May 13, 1944:

"I am happy to inform you that children's rescue program bringing excellent returns. Among children in Portugal now six French. Entrance of large number of children without papers has been agreed to by both Iberian countries. Our frontier organization is now developing on scale that we hope to save hundreds. Also we have offered to rescue non-Jewish children. List of Catholics is being prepared by Monsignor Boyer-Mas, French Red Cross delegate in Spain, and we have other lists Protestants.

"I am reminding you of your promise to place money at our disposal in view of the fact that we are suffering from shortage of funds for intensified work. I am now asking for immediate help. You can send funds through the War Refugee Board."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle  
J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

M. Pierre Mendes-France,  
Commissioner of Finance,  
French Committee of National  
Liberation,  
1523 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.,  
Washington 9, D. C.

*Original signed by Mr. Friedman*

*De SA* Cleared with  
Mr. Warren at State.

PH:lab 5/25/44

100127