

Jewish National Workers' Alliance

000761

JUN 26 1945

Dear Mr. Segal:

For your information and that of other interested persons, this is to advise you that, in view of the early termination of the War Refugee Board, over-all responsibility for the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, has been transferred from the War Refugee Board to the Department of the Interior.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel  
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Louis Segal,  
General Secretary,  
Jewish National Workers' Alliance,  
45 East 17th Street,  
New York 3, New York.

EBT:inp 6/26/45

000762

Jewish Nat'l workers Alliance

CABLE ADDRESS: "JEWNAWALL"

TELEPHONE: STUYVESANT 9-4677

# Jewish National Workers' Alliance



אידיש-לאנדארבעטער ארגאניזאציע

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R. TEMPER

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

May 21, 1945

*File  
ENT*

Hon. William O'Dwyer, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. O'Dwyer,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 19th, in reply to my letter of May 11th, 1945, which was a source of great encouragement to me.

Please be good enough to keep me informed as to any further developments in connection with the refugees at the Shelter at Oswego, New York.

Thanking you, I am

Very sincerely yours,  
*Louis Segal*  
LOUIS SEGAL  
General Secretary

LS:PMK  
AFOE

000763

## Jewish National Workers' Alliance



אגודת העובדים הלאומית היהודית  
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45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 30, 1944

Mr. John W. Pahle, Executive Director  
 War Refugee Board  
 Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle,

Thank you very much for your letter of November 28th, 1944, in reply to my letter of November 21st, referring me to the UNRRA and Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees for the information requested from you in my said letter.

Thank you, also, for the enclosure of the report of your Board on the German Extermination Camps - Auschwitz and Birkenau.

Looking forward to hearing from you from time to time in connection with future activities of your Board, and thanking you again for your kind cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL  
 General Secretary

LS:PMK  
 AFOE

File  
 off

000764

NOV 28 1944

Dear Mr. Segal:

Reference is made to your letter of November 21, 1944, enclosing a news item which appeared in the New York Times of November 20, 1944.

As you are no doubt aware, the War Refugee Board was established to undertake the emergency task of rescuing as many as possible of the victims of enemy oppression from enemy and enemy-occupied areas. The problems referred to in the news clipping relate to matters which are outside the jurisdiction of the Board. Accordingly, I suggest that you refer your inquiry to UNRRA or to the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, which organizations are concerned with the problems mentioned.

With respect to the sending of food to interned civilians in German-occupied Europe, I am pleased to advise you that several feeding programs are now under way which will bring assistance to some of these people. However, we have no information concerning the delivery by the International Red Cross of food packages to persons in German-occupied Poland.

Your interest is greatly appreciated and I assure you the Board will continue to do everything in its power to carry out the great humanitarian task it has been assigned.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Mr. Louis Segal,  
General Secretary,  
Jewish National Workers' Alliance,  
45 East 17th Street,  
New York, N. Y.

*Cleared  
with Pehle*

*PH*  
PH:hd 11/28/44

000765

# Jewish National Workers' Alliance



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TELEPHONE: STUYVESANT 9-4677

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HEIMENREICH	M. HERRINGMAN	R. TEMPER
PROF. H. FINEMAN		

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 21, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle,

I am enclosing herewith a news item which appeared in the New York Times of Monday, November 20th, 1944, in which Mr. James G. McDonald, Chairman of the President's Committee on Political Refugees, discusses the problems of utmost importance in connection with the rescuing of the unfortunate Jewish people in Europe, and the role that Palestine is to play in such rescue activities.

I would highly appreciate it and be very thankful to you if you would give me information for the benefit of the membership of the Alliance as to your observations in regard to Mr. McDonald's statement, and that the outlook is that rescue activities should be conducted on a larger scale, and, also, what the possibilities are to send food to the unfortunate Jewish sufferers in the Ghettos of the Nazi-occupied portions of Poland, under the supervision of the International Red Cross.

I am constantly receiving inquiries from the members of our organization from different parts of the country with regard to these problems.

Your information concerning these vital matters will be deeply appreciated.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL  
General Secretary

LS:PMK

AFOE  
ENC.

000766

## VOTES PLAN TO AID JEWISH REFUGEES

Parley on Palestine in Chicago  
Adopts 8-Point Program  
to Ease Problem

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—The National Conference on Palestine closed its two-day session tonight by adopting an eight-point program for Palestine and Jewish refugee problems.

The action came after James G. McDonald, chairman of the President's Committee on Political Refugees, condemned what he called half-way measures undertaken by both the League of Nations and the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees.

He said that the leading Governments represented in the League and on the committee never made the solution of the refugee problem a major objective and that "they have yet to demonstrate that they are seriously determined to use the committee to carry out a comprehensive program."

Mr. McDonald declared that he had come to the "inescapable conclusion" that "on the record Palestine offers incontestably the primary hope for the solution of the problem of Jewish refugees" because only in Palestine "will most of them feel that they have returned home."

"President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill, Marshal Stalin and General de Gaulle, if he should also be present, should be urged to place the future of Palestine on the agenda of their projected forthcoming meeting," he said. "Nothing less than an agreement among the four great powers interested in the Middle East can lay the basis for a real Palestine settlement."

Asserting that the great powers must be made to understand that the tragedy of the refugees constitutes a major problem in the planning and preparation for permanent peace, Mr. McDonald urged that the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees be strengthened and provided with the necessary funds to carry on its task of aiding the resettlement overseas of many hundreds of thousands of refugees who cannot return home.

Palestine, including Transjordan, should be opened to Jewish immigration "limited only by the

## Berlin Reports New Line Stronger Than Westwall

A propaganda broadcast from Berlin declared yesterday that the Germans had completed a new fortified line behind the Western Front that is a "masterpiece of improvisation and organization" and "far more dangerous for the Allies" than the Atlantic wall. The Associated Press reported.

Asserting that "time is working for the Germans," Berlin said "every week new camouflaged lines are growing into the depth of the Reich."

By this account, the new line features "invisible ditches" as well as camouflaged pillboxes adapted to the terrain and studding the countryside in large numbers.

Berlin said a colonel of engineers had declared that the fortifications had been built in accordance with "experiences in the east and west."

absorptive capacity of the area," he stated.

The eight-point program, as adopted by the conference, was as follows:

Unrestricted Jewish immigration to Palestine.

The right of Jews to buy land in Palestine on the same basis as all other residents.

The transplanting of hundreds of thousands of Jews who will desire and need to go to Palestine, which must have the full support of governments of the world.

Abandonment of the 1939 White Paper, which "stultifies every effort to build the Jewish homeland on stable foundations."

Recognition of the Jewish Commonwealth in Palestine.

Establishment of United Nations funds for resettlement of homeless Jews.

Making available necessary shipping by the United States for that resettlement.

Raising by American Jews of \$30,000,000 in 1945 for basic development in Palestine.

Dr. Bernard Joseph, legal advisor for the Jewish (land purchasing)

Agency in Palestine, who fought under General Allenby in the first World War, asserted that free immigration to Palestine was the world Jews' greatest need today.

He said that during the past five years "Little Palestine" had brought more succor to persecuted Jews of Europe than all other countries of the world combined.

Dr. Joseph announced that 59,000 Jews had entered Palestine since the outbreak of the present war and that of this number 17,000 had been rescued through underground channels.

## Jewish National Workers' Alliance



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 M. SILVERBERG  
 R. TEMPER

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

November 6, 1944

*no answer required  
 they will send some  
 one to Washington  
 A. L. G.*

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

Dear Mr. Pehle,

I wish to thank you very much for advising us through Mr. Laurence Lesser, that you were unable to answer our letter of October 20th, 1944, and furnish us with a report of what the War Refugee Board is doing in connection with the tragic situation of the Jews in Hungary, because same was too lengthy and bulky for correspondence.

Since the next meeting of the General Executive Committee of the Alliance will be held on Wednesday evening, November 15th, 1944, I would highly appreciate it if your representative would be kind enough to attend the said meeting and give our Executive Committee a full and confidential report of the Jewish situation in Hungary.

Our General Executive Committee is composed of twenty-one members, and I wish to assure you that the information given at the meeting will be held strictly confidential.

Thanking you for your kind cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

✓ LOUIS SEGAL  
 General Secretary

LS:PMK  
 AFOE

000768



## Jewish National Workers' Alliance



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45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

October 23, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle,

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of - *see Private messages*  
October 20th, 1944, addressed to our Mr. Louis Segal,  
who is at present out of town, containing an important  
message from Mr. M. Neustadt of Tel Aviv, Palestine.

Thanking you for your kind cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,  
*Pauline M. Kaplan*  
PAULINE M. KAPLAN, Secretary  
to Mr. LOUIS SEGAL

SS:PMK  
AFOE

000769

## Jewish National Workers Alliance



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R. TEMPER

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

October 20, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle,

*Called - but  
Legal out of Town -  
Told Miss Young I'd  
be glad to tell her*

At the last meeting of the General Executive Committee of the Jewish National Workers' Alliance, the following news item which appeared in the Metropolitan press of October 18th, was considered with grief and anxiety:

"About 200,000 refugees in Hungary, nearly all Jews, may not live through the next few weeks, John W. Pehle, executive secretary of the War Refugee Board, said today."

The present confused military and political situation in Hungary, where German troops have taken over the reins of government, endangers the lives of these refugees -- about a fourth of those originally in the country, he said."

The Executive Committee of the Alliance has instructed me to communicate with you and determine what steps the War Refugee Board has already taken, or is about to take in connection with this tragic situation. The Executive Committee has, also, instructed me to seek information from you concerning the direction in which the War Refugee Board will continue its activities in the way of rescuing those who can still be rescued from the hands of the Nazi murderers.

Expecting to hear from you and thanking you for your kind cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL  
General Secretary

ls;pmk  
afce

enc. P.S. Enclosed herewith please find a copy of a letter we have recently received from our beloved President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

000770

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 30, 1944

My dear Mr. Segal:

I am cheered by your splendid letter of September twenty-fifth, advising me of the action of the Jewish National Workers' Alliance in adopting that resolution at their annual conference, in support of my Administration. It is a source of real strength and encouragement in this hour of crisis in world affairs to know that I have the confidence of your steadfast and patriotic group. In return I give my solemn pledge to carry on to victory and a lasting peace.

Please express my deep appreciation and thanks to your fellow members as I want them to know how grateful I am to them, individually and collectively, for their loyalty.

Very sincerely yours,

*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

Mr. Louis Segal,  
General Secretary,  
Jewish National Workers' Alliance,  
45 East 17th Street,  
New York 3, N. Y.

000771

MAR 14 1944

Dear Mr. Segal:

Thank you for your letter of March 2, 1944, and its enclosure.

Dr. Margoshes' article in The Day for March 1, 1944, obviously is based on the report of a purported conversation between representatives of an anonymous organization and myself which appeared in The Forward for February 26, 1944. Since no such conversation ever took place, there is no occasion for me to comment on the inferences, deductions and arguments that Dr. Margashas makes on the wholly erroneous assumption that it did. I might add that neither Dr. Margoshes nor any other representative of the Jewish press has made any effort to check with me the authenticity of the conversation which I am alleged to have had with persons, who for reasons that must appear clear to all, remain unnamed.

Sincerely yours,

*(signed) J. W. Pehle*

J. W. Pehle  
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Louis Segal, General Secretary  
Jewish National Workers' Alliance  
47 East 17th Street  
New York 3, N. Y.

*LSL* *J.M.M.*  
LSLesser:als 3/8/44

000772

## Jewish National Workers' Alliance



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Filing Department

To: Files

Ans.

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y.

Initial

Date

March 11, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle,

I wish to refer you to my letter of March 2nd,  
in which I enclosed a column written by Dr. S. Margoshes  
in connection with the availability of funds to the War  
Refugee Board for rescue activities.

Your comment on same will be highly appreciated.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL  
General Secretary

LS:PMK  
AFOE

000773

ADDRESS: "JEWNAWALL"

TELEPHONE: STUYVESANT 9-4677

# Jewish National Workers' Alliance



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DR. D. Y. BORMER  
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329

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK, N.Y.

March 2, 1944

Ans. \_\_\_\_\_  
Initial \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dear Mr. Pehle,

I am enclosing herewith a column written by Dr. Samuel Margoshes, which appeared in the New York Jewish Day on March 1st, discussing the possibility of the War Refugee Board to finance the rescue work of the Board.

Since the questions raised by Dr. Margoshes are of great importance, I would highly appreciate receiving your comment on the subject matter.

Thanking you for your kind cooperation, I am

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL  
General Secretary

LS:PMK  
AFOE  
ENC.

CC: Chauncey (for Secy.), Paul, White, Luxford, DuBois, Hodel, Lesser, Friedman, Stewart, Bernstein, Gaston, Pollak

000774

# NEWS AND VIEWS

The President's Refugee Board.  
The Plea of Poverty.  
The Fount of Futility.  
Making Washington See.

—By Dr. S. MARGOSHES—

I see where the President's War Refugee Board, when, when interviewed by a number of Jewish organizations about the failure to act quickly in the rescue of Jews of Europe, has pleaded poverty and inability to get on funds, and particularly the large funds that are required for the huge task, unless these funds be supplied by the Jewish organizations themselves. To me this is no more than an alibi.

I don't care to keep on saying "I told you so" while quoting my own remarks. I cannot help, though, pointing out that while everybody was rejoicing over the President's Refugee Board, I asked for some kind of guarantee that the Board will be more energetic or wise or interested than, say, the Intergovernmental Committee in London or the Bermuda or other conferences that were similarly halled and that brought us only bitter disappointment. Not a long prophet but only an analyst of events, mainly Jewish, I predicted that the Board will turn out to be another Intergovernmental Committee unless clothed with more power and, what is still more important, armed with a real desire to save Jews, no matter how great the obstacles and how enormous the cost. It was, I pointed out, the

reluctance of the Intergovernmental Committee to overcome obstacles—not its indifference to Jewish suffering or lack of humanitarian impulse—that stymied all efforts to save the Jews from what was admittedly a tragic situation, and until clear directives are issued from the highest executive authority to override difficulties in a concrete manner, such as, for instance, to set aside the immigration restrictions in the United States and to remove all obstructions to large-scale Jewish immigration into Palestine, no change from the old program of futility is to be expected. It is this what Dr. S. S. Wise had in mind when, appearing at the hearing on the Refugee Bill before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, he pleaded for inclusion in the measure of a clause providing for the open door in Palestine. With this plea unheeded and the President's Board having been created without any special directive other than a general reference to the desirability to save as many refugees as possible and in such a short time as possible, it was inevitable that the shortcomings that plagued and all but destroyed the Intergovernmental Committee and all Refugee Conferences I glimpsed with that of Evian and ending with that of Bermuda, should come to plague the Board as well.

We see now that it did, and sooner than we expected. For what does the plea of poverty on the part of the President's Board mean? It can only mean one thing, namely, that there is no inclination on the part of the highest government circles to act in the matter in a way that would justify the hopes of the refugees and their friends who saw in the Board a real attempt on the part of the American Government to grapple at long last and adequately with the problem of rescuing the Jews of Europe. Otherwise how can any one begin to explain why the President's Board, with the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War and the Secretary

of the Treasury as its members cannot find the funds that are necessary to start and continue the work of rescue? And the money, mind you, doesn't run into billions, it begins and ends with millions. When only a few weeks ago the Under-Secretary of State Breckinridge Long wanted to show how good the State Department could be to the Jews, he spoke of some eight million dollars which the government was prepared to spend on feeding the European Jews through the International Red Cross, and now three of the most important government departments put together cannot find enough cash to finance the beginnings of the rescue work in Europe and must come begging to the Jewish organizations for funds!

What I am afraid of is that even should the Jewish organizations pony up the cash which the President's Committee asks of them—a thing which in view of their past obligations is most probable—it will avail them nothing. For what the Board seems to be lacking is not money—the Government of the United States is not quite as broke as the Board seems to imply—but in directives to go the limit or to do the impossible in order to solve the problem facing it. Some one said some time ago—I don't remember who—that the refugee problem will never be solved by the United States as long as the Government will not decide to do for the refugees exactly what it would do if they were American citizens; that means—do everything possible, even if it entails difficulties and the smashing of old, time-honored formalities and conventionalities, even prejudices. Well, it would seem that we are still far away from that way of viewing the refugees, now in their last life-and-death struggle. We are standing at the water's edge, watching men drown, and what bothers us is who will pay for the fire-line.

000775

In reply please  
refer to: 193

FEB 25 1944

Dear Mr. Segal:

Thank you for your letters of February 10 and February 19, 1944, in response to my recent request for advice and suggestions to aid the Board in formulating its rescue programs.

The proposals to be submitted by the American Jewish Conference will be carefully studied and, in accordance with your letter of February 19, 1944, 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.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Louis Segal,  
General Secretary,  
Jewish National Workers' Alliance,  
45 East 17th Street,  
New York 3, New York.

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000776



## Jewish National Workers' Alliance



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CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR  
S. M. AND LEE J. WOLFE  
ACTUARIES AND AUDITORS  
SHERMAN AND GOLDRING  
ATTORNEYS

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WM. GELBARD  
I. HAMLIN  
H. HERRINGMAN

INITIALS  
DATE  
DR. PERLMUTTER  
DR. D. M. BROWNE  
M. SILVERBERG  
R. THENPER

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

February 19, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Acting Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Office of the Executive Director  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle,

In further reference to your letters of February 8th, and our reply of February 10th, I am pleased to inform you that the proposals and plans for the consideration of the War Refugee Board are being submitted by the Jewish National Workers' Alliance to the Rescue Commission of the American Jewish Conference, of which our organization is a part.

The American Jewish Conference, representing the great majority of organized Jewry in the United States, is authorized to speak and act in behalf of our organization and all the other organizations represented in said Conference on all matters pertaining to the rescue of the unfortunate Jewish victims under Nazi rule.

We are informed that the Rescue Commission of the American Jewish Conference is doing everything possible to gather the necessary material and ascertain all the facts in connection with the possibility of an extensive program of rescue activities. We are sure that the Rescue Commission of the Conference is in constant contact with you and your Board and are cooperating in every possible way to achieve the highly humane objectives of your Board.

Please be assured of our readiness to cooperate with you in every possible direction.

I am,

Most sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL  
General Secretary

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## Jewish National Workers' Alliance



אגודת העובדים הלאומיים היהודיים

DAVID PINSKI, PRESIDENT  
J. ENTEEN, VICE-PRESIDENT  
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45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

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February 10, 1944

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

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ANS. See reply to letter 193  
NJ ANS. R.G.  
INITIAL  
DATE 2/25/44

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Dear Mr. Pehle,

Many thanks for your letter of February 8th, 1944 and for the enclosure reciting the Executive Order #9417, issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt on January 22nd, 1944, setting up the War Refugee Board to take action for the immediate rescue from the Nazis of as many as possible of the persecuted minorities of Europe, etc.

Your letter will be brought to the attention of the General Executive Committee of the Jewish National Workers' Alliance, which will meet within the next two weeks. We shall communicate with you further in reference to the matters suggested in your letter immediately after the meeting of the General Executive Committee.

Assuring you of our fullest cooperation in every way possible, I am

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL  
General Secretary

LS:PMK  
AFOE

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